



Newsletter

*'I have come that they may have life,
and have it to the full'* John 10v10

10th December 2025

Last Sunday was the 2nd Sunday of Advent
Matthew 3:1-12

Dear Parents

Nativity

A huge thank you to our wonderful EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 children. On Friday, they brought joy to our Advent season by reminding us of the events of the first Christmas. The children brought the story to life, acting out scenes beautifully and reminding us of the true meaning of Christmas. The significance of each of the candles on the Advent wreath was explained as they were lit, and the children sang their hearts out and led us in prayer. What a wonderful way for us to prepare together for the coming of Jesus!



A virgin will give birth to a son named Emmanuel, which means "God with us" Matthew 1:23

Christmas Fun Day – Friday 19th December

We are busy planning our Christmas Fun Day on the last day of term. All children will be able to wear one Christmas item or a Christmas jumper over their uniform. Please bring a £1 donation for CAFOD. Thank you.



CAFOD
Just one world



Tickets for Advent Liturgy

This year our Advent Liturgy will again be held in St Stephen's Church on Tuesday 16th December and as before there will be two opportunities to be a part of this delightful Liturgy. We do have to limit numbers, for safety reasons, so our first Liturgy will be at 2.30pm and our second will be at 6pm.

Tickets are now available via Ticketsource, please see the link below. If you do want tickets, then please be aware that they are on a **first come first served basis**, and a **maximum of two per family**. If we have any spare tickets then these can be booked in the same way from 9am on Friday 12th December.

Years 3 – 6 will be actively taking part in the Advent Liturgy in the afternoon as well as the evening. All children are expected to attend the evening.

As always, there is no charge for the Liturgy, although we are collecting for Friends of the Family. Friends of the Family covers Winchester and its surrounding villages. They offer families a range of support services and friendly guidance, to overcome challenges and turn their lives around - <https://www.fotfwinchester.org/>

Arrangements for the evening Liturgy are as follows:

Year 6 and School Band: drop off your children at their classroom door at 5.30pm. Years 3 to 5: drop off your children at their classroom door at 5.45pm.

Children who are booked into After School Club will be taken from the hall to their classrooms by ASC staff at 5.30/5.45pm, to be registered by their teacher.

At the end of the Liturgy, collect your children from their classroom door at 6.45pm.

When dropping off your children by car, please use the turning circle to drop off BEFORE PARKING or do please use the Park & Ride.

The back Romsey Road gate will be open from 5.25pm and it will be opened again at the end of the Liturgy. It will not be open for the afternoon Liturgy.

It is expected that all KS2 children attend both the afternoon and evening Liturgies, wearing their smartest uniform.

Thank you for your support. We look forward to welcoming you and praying with you on Tuesday 16th December.

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-peters-catholic-primary-school>

CAFOD World Gifts

<https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>

So stuck for Christmas present ideas? It is always lovely to receive a card that lets you know someone has gifted to CAFOD on your behalf as your present from them. CAFOD is the Catholic Fund for Overseas Development. It funds projects including training that helps communities become self-sufficient as they develop.



We will be doing collections after the Nativity and Advent Liturgy in aid of CAFOD. If you would like to donate then please bring cash on the day. Thank you.

Christmas Lunches

Wednesday 17th December

Children in Years R, 1 and 2 (KS1) can order a Christmas lunch. Children in Years 3-6 (KS2) can order either a ham or cheese sandwich picnic or bring a packed lunch from home (no hot food from school for KS2).

Thursday 18th December

Children in Years 3-6 (KS2) can order a Christmas lunch. Children in Years R, 1 and 2 (KS1) can order either a ham or cheese sandwich picnic or bring a packed lunch from home (no hot food from school for KS1).

All meal options must (and can now) be ordered via the SwiftKitchen app.

School Library

As the festive season approaches, our library is brimming with holiday spirit and opportunities for all our pupils to engage with the joy of reading. This year we have focused on traditional tales that celebrate the values of kindness, compassion, and community - principles at the heart of our Catholic faith. We also have a special focus in our storytelling area, with children encouraged to tell the story of the birth of Jesus, which is set alongside our wonderful, handcrafted nativity scene.

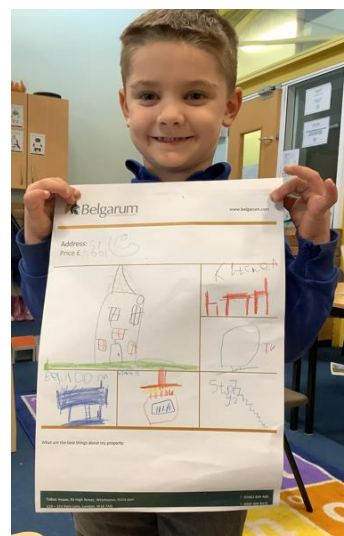
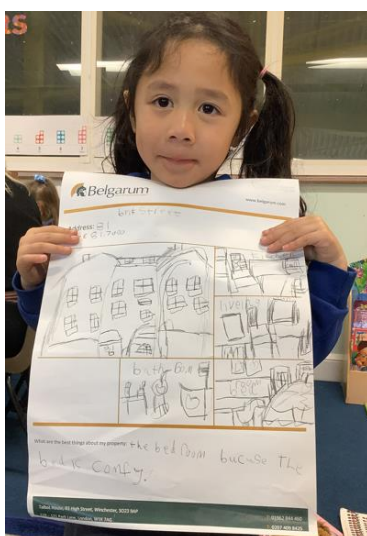
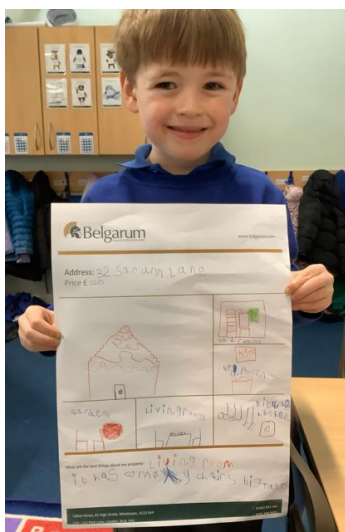


Exploring Homes and Houses in Year R and Year 1

This half term, our Year R and Year 1 children have been learning all about different types of homes and houses. To make the topic even more exciting, we teamed up with Belgarum Estate Agents, who set the children a series of creative challenges: to design and build their very own houses for sale!

The children thought carefully about what rooms a house needs inside and how it should look from the outside. They then described the best features of their designs - some even added gardens, balconies, and special spaces to make their homes extra appealing!

We are so proud of their imaginative ideas and hard work. Take a look at some of their fantastic designs in the photos below!



Year R/1 Donations for Food Bank

As you know we regularly ask one year group each half term for food donations for our local food bank at the Carroll Centre. This half term we are asking Year R/1 to bring in donations. The Carroll Centre request tinned food, cereals, biscuits, tea, coffee etc, all donations appreciated. **Last day for collections is Friday 12th December.** Many thanks for your support.



Tesco Community Grants

We are delighted to share that we have been selected for a Tesco Stronger Starts community grant. This grant will go towards sensory activities for all pupils, with the focus of providing children with a way to talk about their worries and concerns. This was introduced last year and has already been a great success for a number of pupils and is just one of the supports in place at school to help your child with their mental health. Please help to support by using your blue token to vote for us when you shop at one of the following stores:

2782 Kings Worthy Express SO23 7ND
3406 Winchester Extra SO23 7RS
3455 Harestock Express SO22 6JN
4893 High Street Winchester Express SO23 9AS
5058 Alresford Express SO24 9AQ
5862 Market Winchester Express SO23 7BT



Voting will commence in store from the first week in October 2025 until 12th January 2026.

Picture News

Picture News is a new whole school project that we started last year to improve our oracy. Each week the picture that we have looked at in class will be sent home with a key question to aid some discussion on a piece of current news.

TAKEHOME



How might challenges help us grow?

In the news this week

An adventurer named Darren Edwards, who is paralysed from the chest down, is preparing to travel 137 miles across Antarctica using a sit-ski. If he succeeds, he will break the world record for the longest sit-ski journey to the South Pole. Darren hopes his challenge will raise money for charity and show that his injury does not limit what he can achieve.

Things to talk about at home ...

- How do you think Darren will feel at each stage of his challenge (before, during, and after)?
- What kinds of challenges do you think can help you grow the most – something physical, emotional, or trying something new?
- Can you recall a challenge you have set yourself and achieved? Ask others at home about their experiences.

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

© Picture News 2025

Stella Maris Seafarers Christmas Chocolate Appeal

Stella Maris are again appealing for Christmas gifts for seafarers who will be away from home at Christmas. This year they are asking for chocolate gifts. Please send any chocolate into school during December and no later than **Monday 15th December**. Thank you for your generosity to this worthwhile cause.



Job Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a Higher Level Teaching Assistant. Please see our website for further details and an application form: <https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/page/?title=HLTA&pid=122>

Music Notices

The music room is BUZZING this week as we make our final preparations for the Advent Liturgy. It is VERY important that pupils all arrive on time for rehearsals (see times below).

Rehearsal Times

St Peter's Singers: Thursdays 8.15 - 8.45 am

School Band: Thursdays 3.30 - 4.15 pm

Worship Band: Thursdays 3.30 - 5.00 pm (please bring a small healthy snack).

Worship Band

You will need to bring your instruments into school on:

Wednesday 10th, Thursday 11th, Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th December.

Beginner Trombone lessons from January

Our trombone section is going strong and they are really looking forward to the Advent Liturgy. If you would like to join the 'Trombone Team' then you're in luck. There are a couple of spaces remaining for beginner trombone lessons from January. Email music@st-peters.hants.sch.uk for more information.

HMS Music Lessons

Mrs Liddle's (piano/voice) last lessons will take place on Monday 15th December.

Mr Potter's (brass) last lessons will be this week, Wednesday 10th December.

Any questions at all related to music at St Peter's, please email music@st-peters.hants.sch.uk.

Miss Owens

Year 4 Listen to Me

Yesterday Year 4 filled the church with music, excitement, and a lot of proud smiles at their newly acquired ukulele skills. After weeks of practice, the children showed just how much they've learned. From steady strumming to confident singing, their enthusiasm shone through every song. Families and classmates clapped along as each class performed pieces they had worked on in their music class. For many of us, this was their first time playing in front of an audience - and they did brilliantly! A big thank you goes to everyone who attended the concert. We can't wait to hear what they'll be playing next! Watch this space for the next Listen to Me concert.



Future School Dates

Event	Date
Show Around 7	Friday 12 th December, 9.30am
Last day for Stella Maris chocolate gifts	Monday 15 th December
KS2 Advent Liturgy	Tuesday 16 th December, 2.30pm and 6pm
EYFS/KS1 Christmas Lunch	Wednesday 17 th December
KS2 Christmas Lunch	Thursday 18 th December
Christmas Fun Day- wear something Christmassy and pay £1 to CAFOD	Friday 19 th December
Christmas Holiday Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January	
Everyone returns to school	Monday 5 th January
Show Around 8	Thursday 8 th January, 9.30am
Everyone invited to Mass for the Epiphany	Friday 9 th January, 2pm
Bikeability – Year 5	w/c Monday 12 th January
Multiplication Test Check – Year 4 parents information session	Tuesday 13 th January, 3pm
Year 6 SATs - parents information session	Thursday 29 th January, 3pm
Year 6 Mass – Year 6 parents invited	Friday 30 th January, 2pm
Parish – School Mass, St Peter's Church	Sunday 1 st February, 10.30am
Year 6 residential trip - Avon Tyrell	9 th – 13 th February
Half term 16th – 20th February	
Inset Day 3 – school closed to children	Monday 23 rd February

Inset Days 2025-26

Here are this year's school closures for staff training.

Monday 23rd February 2026
 Friday 20th March 2026
 Friday 22nd May 2026

Attendance

In 2018/19 just 40% of persistently absent (PA) children in KS2 achieved expected KS2 standards compared with 84% of pupils who regularly attended school.

Year R/1	90.68%
Year 2	94.35%
Year 3	94.39%
Year 4	94.36%
Year 5	94.89%
Year 6	96.12%
Overall school Attendance	94.00%

Well done Year 6 for having the highest attendance. An extra 5 minutes' break for you!

See the NHS website for advice on when not to send your child to school when unwell:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Show Around dates

If you have a child due to start school in September 2026, we have the following dates available for you to come and look around the school:


Friday 12th December 9.30am

Thursday 8th January 9.30am

Please contact the school office if you would like to book onto any of these tours.



Christingle Service



Christingle Service
Sunday December 14th
4pm - 4:30pm in St Peter's Church

Suitable for families with children of primary age and younger, but all are welcome!
Come and join this beautiful, gentle liturgy celebrating Jesus as the Light of the World.
No need to book or bring anything, just yourselves!
Why not invite a neighbouring family or a friend from school?

Class Assemblies 2025-26

All families are invited to celebrate Mass with us. Families of children in individual classes are invited to attend class assemblies. Please wait outside the church door for 3pm.

Month	Friday (class/teacher Assembly)	
January	9 th	Epiphany Mass
	16 th	2EK Class
March	6 th	6SK Class
	13 th	KS1 Liturgy
	20 th	INSET
	27 th	Holy Week Liturgy
April	3 rd	Easter Holiday
	10 th	Easter Holiday
	17 th	5AH Class
	24 th	4RS Class
May	1 st	3GD Class
	8 th	2EW Class
	15 th	R/1 MR Class
	22 nd	INSET
	29 th	Half Term
June	5 th	Corpus Christi Mass
	12 th	R/1MB Class
	19 th	R/1NT Class
July	3 rd	Peter and Paul Mass

Nurturing Programme Spring Term 2026

The 10-week Nurturing Programme for parents will be running during the Spring term at **Winchester Salvation Army**, Parchment Street, SO23 8AZ on Thursday mornings 9.30 am - 11.30 am from January 15th - March 26th (excluding half term). The programme is free, however we do ask for a voluntary contribution of £10 towards the costs of the very helpful book for parents, covering all the topics and tools. One parent attending the programme felt they were "Building a toolkit to give me plenty of strategies to try and explore".



Come and Find Out

HOW TO GET THE BEST OUT OF
FAMILY LIFE



The 10-week Nurturing Programme for Parents
will be running during the Spring Term at:
Winchester Salvation Army, Parchment Street

To find out more or to book a place,
please email nurturingprogramme@scwinch.org.uk
or phone 07942 284611

We look forward to hearing from you.

PTA News

PTA New Website

The PTA has a new website at the following link:

<https://stpetersschoolpta.my.canva.site/stpeterspta>



The image shows a spiral-bound notebook with a blue cover. The cover features the St Peter's School PTA logo, which includes a shield with a cross and a heart, and the text 'St Peter's School' and 'PTA'. The main title 'PTA NEWS' is written in large, bold, yellow letters with a blue outline. Below the title, it says 'NOVEMBER '25 EDITION'. The notebook has several pages with text and images. The top page is yellow and features a blue banner with the text 'Bonfire Night £4,669 raised!'. Below this, there are two photographs: one showing a group of people at a table, and another showing a person in a yellow jacket. The text on the yellow page reads: 'The event was a great success, bringing school families and community together for a relaxed evening of family fun, great food, and a fantastic fireworks display!' and 'A HUGE thank you to all the volunteers who made it possible, especially the set up and clear up crews!'. There is a red 'A+' grade stamp next to the thank you message. The bottom page is white and features a green holly border. The text on the white page reads: 'Christmas is coming! And the PTA committee has been busy planning some exciting festive fun! Thank you to everyone who took part in the Christmas Drawing project, helping to raise an amazing £328,68 for our school! Look out for our annual Christmas Ornament Competition, PTA Christmas Tree and Nativity Scene to get you in the Christmas spirit!'. There is a small photograph of a group of people on the right side of the white page. A yellow banner at the bottom right of the white page says 'Save the Date!' and lists two events: '7th Feb '26 Winter Dance with International Food' and '20th June Summer Fete'.

PTA NEWS
NOVEMBER '25 EDITION

Bonfire Night
£4,669 raised!

The event was a great success, bringing school families and community together for a relaxed evening of family fun, great food, and a fantastic fireworks display!

A HUGE thank you to all the volunteers who made it possible, especially the set up and clear up crews!

Christmas is coming!
And the PTA committee has been busy planning some exciting festive fun!

Thank you to everyone who took part in the Christmas Drawing project, helping to raise an amazing £328,68 for our school!

Look out for our annual Christmas Ornament Competition, PTA Christmas Tree and Nativity Scene to get you in the Christmas spirit!

Save the Date!
✓ 7th Feb '26
Winter Dance with International Food
✓ 20th June
Summer Fete

Does your child love to Dance, Act and Perform? THEATRE KIDZ ARE IN YOUR SCHOOL!

Our TPA Academy classes provide the most magical and exciting environment for children to develop their stage skills. From building confidence, to using their big loud voices and expressing themselves through our fun games, exercises and performance pieces. We encourage every student to blossom in their own unique way and achieve things they never thought possible.

TPA
Theatre Performance Academy

TELEPHONE: 07930 980 038
EMAIL: INFO@TPAACADEMY.CO.UK
WEBSITE: WWW.TPAACADEMY.CO.UK

INTEGR8 DANCE **FREE TRIAL**

STREET DANCE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB
St Peter's Primary School
Mondays 3.30-4.30pm
Years 2 - 6

No dance experience necessary!
Learn new skills, increase confidence and HAVE FUN!

BOOKING DETAILS
EMAIL: INFO@INTEGR8DANCE.COM
CALL: 0762 808798
WEBSITE: WWW.INTEGR8DANCE.COM

Relax Kids

ACTIVITY & RELAXATION CLASSES FOR KIDS

Relax Kids classes improve:

- improved sleep
- concentration
- self-esteem
- confidence
- focus, creativity
- listening skills

Your child will enjoy:

- Games and songs
- Storytelling
- Movements
- Stretching
- Breathing exercises
- Phone/text message
- Affirmations
- Relaxations

360 FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

Fun and engaging sessions designed to develop the basics of football whilst building their skills, confidence and love for the game.

SESSIONS INCLUDE

- Professional Coaching
- Individual and Team Practices
- Positive Environment
- Fun and Engaging

When: Friday Evenings 6-7
Where: Ganger Farm 4G (SO51 0EE)

Book via our website:
000http://www.stpetershants.co.uk/bookings

For More info or enquiries
01629 520000 or 01629 520001

Otterbourne Theatre Company
PRESENTS OUR FAMILY FAVOURITE

Jack and the Beanstalk

Tickets from £10
9th - 18th January 2026
Otterbourne Village Hall, SO21 2ES
01256 350000 or 01256 350001

WE NEED YOU!

pre loved uniform

If your child has grown out of their uniforms sizes
9-10 11-12 13
Donate them to the PTA and we will give them new life.

ptouseduniform@gmail.com **ST PETER'S PTA**

BUSKING WEDNESDAYS

RAISING MONEY TOWARDS
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

SCAN TO DONATE

THANK YOU

Best wishes
Louise Buxton



Newsletter - past bits that may be useful

Safeguarding Quote of the Week

'If I could give my child three things, it would be the confidence to always know their self-worth, the strength to follow their dreams, and the ability to know how truly, deeply loved they are,' Anon

Safeguarding is our absolute priority. Please act on concerns that you have about any children that you know. If you have a concern about the safety of a child or young person and you want someone to find out what is going on, contact the Hampshire Children's Services Department. Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm, phone 0300 555 1384. At all other times, contact the out-of-hours service, phone 0300 555 1373. **Anyone can make a referral.**

At St Peter's Miss Buxton is our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL), while Mrs Blake, Mrs Pestana and Mrs Foster are the Deputy DSLs. Mrs Ricketts is DSL for Little Fishes Pre-School, with Mrs Church and Mrs Hudson being her safeguarding deputies. Please remember anyone can make a referral and safeguarding is everyone's concern!

Is your child eligible for Pupil Premium Funding?

Does your child qualify for free school meals? If you are in receipt of: Income Support, Jobseekers Allowance, State pension credit, Child tax credit (as long as you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, working tax credit run on or universal credit) you may be eligible for a free school meal.

Even if your child has the universal free school meal (Year R, 1 and 2) please apply for this benefit. The school receives money from central Government to support a variety of school initiatives that would be of benefit to your child. If you have any questions please speak to Mrs Lane in the school office and you can apply through <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>.

Facebook

Facebook:<https://facebook.com/St-Peters-Catholic-PrimarySchool107010431022990>

Hants LA signposting websites

These websites may be a helpful resource should you need a bit of help or advice as a parent.

<https://fish.hants.gov.uk/kb5/hampshire/directory/family.page?familychannel=2>

<https://documents.hants.gov.uk/childrens-services/sfyc/ProviderBulletin-March2025-ParentCarerUpdate.pdf>

Penalty Notice Fines

Please see below the latest guidance from the DfE. We think it important to share with families these changes to the fining.

How much could I be fined if my child misses school?

In the majority of cases, schools and local authorities will try and provide support to help you improve your child's attendance first, but if this isn't effective or the absence is for unauthorised term time holiday, parents may face paying a fine.

Currently, it's the responsibility of the local authority to decide when to issue fines to parents, meaning the process varies from council to council. However, under the new national framework, all schools will be required to consider a fine when a child has missed 10 or more sessions (5 days) for unauthorised reasons.

Since August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country is **£80 if paid within 21 days**, or **£160 if paid within 28 days**. This rate is in line with inflation and is the first increase since 2012.

In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160.

Fines per parent will be capped to two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action like a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.

If you're prosecuted and attend court because your child hasn't been attending school, you could get a fine of up to £2,500.

Nut Free School

Just a reminder that we remain a nut-free school due to serious allergies.

Also we encourage breaktime snacks to be healthier choices – fresh fruit and vegetables, bread sticks, raisins.... no crisps or chocolate please.

Extra-curricular clubs- AUTUMN

Please see below details of clubs being offered this term.

Year group	Club	Day of the week	Year group	Club	Day of the week
YR	Relax Kids Theatre Kids	Wednesday Friday	Y4	Comic Club Intergr8 Relax Kids Theatre Kids	Monday Monday Wednesday Friday
Y1	Relax Kids Theatre Kids	Wednesday Friday	Y5	Football Intergr8 Comic Club Relax Kids Theatre Kids	Monday Monday Wednesday Wednesday Friday
Y2	Integr8 Relax Kids Theatre Kids	Monday Wednesday Friday	Y6	Intergr8 Football Comic Club Relax Kids Theatre Kids	Monday Monday Wednesday Wednesday Friday
Y3	Comic Club Intergr8 Relax Kids Theatre Kids	Monday Monday Wednesday Friday			