



Newsletter

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

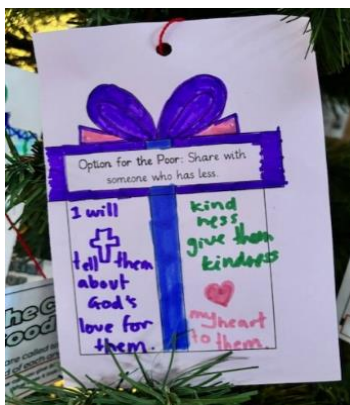
21st January 2026

Last Sunday was the second Sunday of Ordinary Time
Matthew 4: 12-17

Dear Parents

Epiphany Prayer Space

Last week, each class visited our special Epiphany Prayer Space to reflect on the story of the Magi and the meaning of Epiphany. The children prayed together and responded to the Gospel through quiet reflection and creative activities. They thought about Jesus as the Light of the World and how He guides us in our hopes and dreams for the year ahead, writing their own hopes and placing them on a string of lights. As they followed footprints to prayer stops, carrying candles, they prayed for guidance and peace. At the manger, they offered their names to Jesus and reflected on the Holy Family's journey as refugees, praying for those in need and for our world today. Finally, they considered the gifts God has given them and how they can use these to make the world fairer and kinder by using Catholic Social Teaching. It was a beautiful time of prayer and reflection, helping us begin the New Year with faith, hope, and love.



'Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem,' Matthew 2:1

How we can support you at home with reading

Questions about Fiction Books

Before Reading

Do you like the front cover?
What do you think the story might be about?
Have you read any other books like this one?
Have you read any books by the same author, illustrator?



During and After Reading

Read the beginning of the story...what do you think will happen next?
Which part do you like best? Why?
Did you find anything funny or sad in the story?
Who did you like best in the story? Why?
Was there anyone you did not like? Why?
Did anything surprise you?
Were there any unusual or interesting words?
Did you like the illustrations?
Did the pictures tell you something different from the words?
Did you like the ending? Was the ending what you expected?
Relate the story to your child's/family's experiences.



Questions about Non-Fiction Books

Does the information book have an index/contents page?
What would you like to find out? How can we use this book to find the answers?
What did you find out that you did not know before you read this book?

Useful Websites

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/>

Useful for text recommendations, author interviews and online stories.

<https://www.magickeys.com/books/>

Illustrated stories for all primary aged children.

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsound.org.uk>

Parent advice, including useful videos for supporting our phonics learning.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/skillswise/english/zjq4scw>

Spelling and grammar support

For more information on our approach to early reading and then how we teach reading through the school, along with the books we use please visit these pages on our website...

<https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/phonics/>

<https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/english/>

World Book Day- A Celebration of Non-Fiction Books

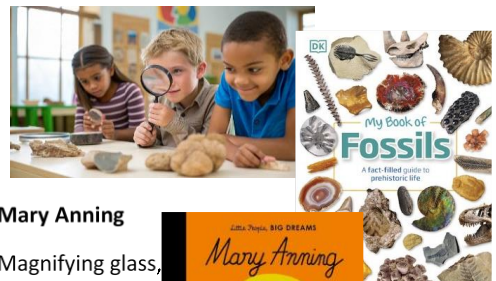
World Book Day is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the joy of reading and to inspire our young learners to explore the vast world of literature. To kick off our World Book Day celebrations and the UK's National Year of Reading, we invite all students to dress up or bring an artefact inspired by a non-fiction book.

This is a fantastic way for children to connect with real-life figures who have made significant contributions to our world. From scientists like Marie Curie to primatologists like Jane Goodall! Not only will this spark conversations about the individuals they choose to represent, but it will also encourage students to delve deeper into the stories behind these remarkable people. Alternatively, children may choose to bring an artefact associated with their favourite non-fiction book such as a model dinosaur or a shell or a fossil that they have found on the beach or in the garden.

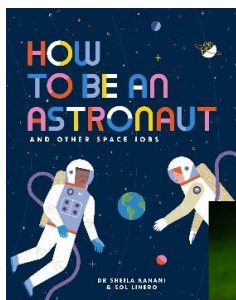
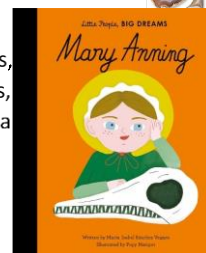
Just a heads up - after many years exploring lots of different themes, we will explore a traditional come as your favourite character in 2027!



Jane Goodall
Binoculars and a toy chimpanzee.



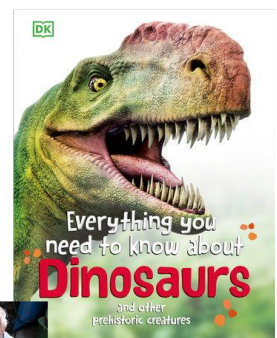
Mary Anning
Magnifying glass, excavation tools, paintbrush and a fossil.



Neil Armstrong
'Bottle' rocket pack.



David Attenborough
Dinosaur model, binoculars, explorers hat.



Mission Ambassadors - Let's go and Fly a Kite!

As we approach 'Kite Flying Day' (who knew?) our Mission Ambassadors spent the afternoon designing kites alongside the residents of St Catherine's View care home. There was lots of laughter and fun, from both children and residents. We look forward to trialling our kites on a clear sunny day when the wind is blowing.



Christmas Liturgy Donations

A total of £257.65 of donations were received from the Christmas Liturgy in aid of Friends of the Family.

Invite to School – Parish Mass

Everyone is invited to our termly school – parish Mass on Sunday 1st February, 10.30am at St Peter's Church. While children sit with their families they are invited to wear their school jumper (if they can bear to do that on a Sunday!).

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 Share with someone at home

In the news this week

Recently a new award, called the Jane Goodall Earth Medal, has been created to celebrate people who work to help others and care for the world. It is named after Dr Jane Goodall, who spent her life protecting animals and encouraging people to look after nature. The award recognises kind and caring actions that make a positive difference, even when people are not looking for praise.

Things to talk about at home ...

- What do you think about the new award? Share with someone at home. Do you believe it's important to recognise kind actions?
- Can you think of someone you know who helps others or cares for the world in everyday ways?
- Can you come up with other ways that people can be recognised for their actions?

Can awards encourage people to help others and care for the world?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others www.picture-news.co.uk/60355

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Little Fishes Pre-School – September 2026 admissions

If you would like your child to attend Little Fishes for the academic year September 2026 - July 2027, please apply for a place as soon as possible. The admissions process will start after 31st January. Parents whose children already attend Little Fishes and who will be returning for their pre-school year from September will be contacted shortly for their requests for places.

The application form is on the Little Fishes page of the school website. We also have paper copies available in the school office.

Little Fishes places are available for children from when they are 2 years and 9 months old. Session hours are in line with the school day:

All day – 8.45 am - 3.45 pm
Morning – 8.45 am - 11.45 am
Morning with Lunch Club – 8.45 am - 12.45 pm
Afternoon – 12.45 pm - 3.45 pm
Afternoon with Lunch Club – 11.45 am - 3.45 pm

There are various funding options available - see <https://beststartinlife.gov.uk> Non-funded hours are charged at a rate of £6.25 per hour (subject to revision).

Little Fishes parent visit dates for the Spring term are: 15th January, 29th January, 26th February and 26th March, all at 2 pm. If you would like to book a place, please contact Toni Hoff in the school office.

Australia Day - Friday 23rd January

Year 2 will be celebrating Australia Day as part of our Geography and English learning. The children are invited to **dress up in anything yellow** if they would like to. We will be taking part in lots of Australian themed activities, writing instructions as well as making and sampling Australian themed food. This will include Anzac Biscuits, Pavlova and Vegemite sandwiches. If your child has any food allergies that we need to be aware of, please inform the school office staff **and** your class teacher.



Year 5 Carroll Centre Foodbank

This half term two Year 5 classes are collecting food and toiletries for the Carroll Centre. Please send in any donations - they are grateful for packets and tins of in-date food. Many thanks for thinking of others in our community.



Dolphins Class Assembly – change of date

We have had to change the date of the Year R/1 Dolphins class assembly in June. This was due to be held on Friday 12th June and will now be held on Friday 26th June.

Music Notices

Instrumental lessons

REMINDER: Please keep an eye on the music noticeboard for your weekly lesson times and remember to bring your instruments and music.

Ensemble Rehearsal Times

REMINDER - please make sure you arrive on time for these rehearsals.

St Peter's Singers: Thursdays 8.15 - 8.45am

School Band: Thursdays 3.30 - 4.30pm

Worship Band rehearsals are on hold for now as we are running longer weekly School Band rehearsals in preparation for the Spring Concert.

Busking Wednesdays

Next date is Wednesday 4th February. Please see Miss Owens if you are keen to participate in a busking event.

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

Miss Owens

PTA Winter Dance

The Winter Dance with International Food family event is selling out **fast!**

Children as young as 2-3 can usually join in. Children younger than 2 do not require a ticket. Think fun, relaxed, warm, Scottish Winter to set the scene. Parents are responsible for their children at all times during the event.

International food can be purchased at the event (£5 main, £3 starter/dessert). So far we have Caribbean curry, a multitude of Filipino dishes, Fairy bread, Pizza, Tortillas, Creole, Tiramisu.....

Tickets £5 per person - purchase tickets here <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/stpeterspta/>

Drinks (alcohol and non) and Sweets stall too. Card payments only.

If anyone would like to make/bake/donate food or volunteer on the evening please email pta.chair.stpeters@gmail.com

The PTA



BAPTISM OF THE LORD - SUNDAY 11TH JANUARY 2026 | YEAR A



A PLACE FOR ALL

ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS

With just over three weeks to go, we are getting ready to celebrate something truly extraordinary - the 100th anniversary of St Peter's Church. This is more than a milestone in our parish... it's a celebration of the people, stories, friendships and community spirit that have shaped this place for a century. And we want everyone to be part of it.

2026 will be a year bursting with life, filled with inspiring events, powerful moments of reflection, joyful gatherings and opportunities to connect. Whether you come every week, haven't visited in years, or have never stepped inside before - this year is for you.

We invite people of all ages, all backgrounds, all nationalities, all experiences - of faith or none - to join us as we honour where we've come from, celebrate who we are today and look forward with hope to the future.



LIGHT OF THE WORLD - SON ET LUMIÈRE

2ND - 4TH FEBRUARY 2026 | 5:30PM - 8:30PM | ST PETER'S CHURCH

St Peter's will be transformed this February as we open our Centenary Year with three extraordinary nights of light, music and celebration. Powerful illuminations will bathe the church inside and out, including a breathtaking beam of light rising into the night sky — a symbol of hope, guidance and the light of Christ shining over Winchester. For the first time, lasers from the church towers will sweep across the skyline, visible for miles around, creating a striking beacon to mark our 100 years at the heart of the city.

Step inside St Peter's to experience stunning interior projections that reveal the beauty and detail of our sacred space as never before, creating an atmosphere of awe, reverence and joyful celebration.

Music Programme - each evening features a different musical theme to accompany the illuminations:

- **Monday 2nd Feb: Gregorian Chant (6.30-7.45pm)**
- **Tuesday 3rd Feb: Contemporary Liturgical Music (7.45-8.15pm) - Praise & Worship**
- **Wednesday 4th Feb: Choir Choral (6:30-7:45) Music throughout the evening**

Let the beauty of live music lift your heart as you explore! Visitors are invited to enjoy exhibits telling the story of our parish, quiet spaces for prayer and reflection and warm hospitality. Refreshments will be served in the Pastoral Centre throughout the event. **This celebration is FREE OF CHARGE and open to everyone - spread the word!**

Thank you to everyone who has already offered to help — we still need a few more Welcomers please!

ST PETER'S CENTENARY PAGEANT - 'LOCUS ISTE'

6TH FEBRUARY 2026 | PERFORMANCES AT 4:00PM & 7:00PM | ST PETER'S CHURCH

As part of our Centenary celebrations, we invite you to a special production, "Locus Iste - A Gathering in St Peter's Church." Through music, narration, dance, scripture, and contributions from parish groups, this unique Pageant brings to life the story of St Peter's its history, its people, and its place at the heart of Winchester for 100 years. The programme includes choral works such as Hymn to St Peter and Locus Iste, dance pieces depicting key moments in our history, scripture readings, parish group reflections, and a joyful finale with all musicians performing the Alleluia Chorus.

Refreshments will be served in the Parish Centre - performance approx. 90 minutes (including interval). This free, family-friendly event is open to EVERYONE. We encourage early arrival to secure seating, especially for the evening performance. Tickets are FREE OF CHARGE for both performances. Please click [HERE](#) to reserve your seat for the 4.00pm performance! Alternatively click [HERE](#) to reserve your seat for the 7.00pm performance.



CENTENARY CONCERT - FR ANDREW MOORE

8TH MARCH 2026 | 7:15PM | ST PETER'S CHURCH

Experience the beauty and power of sacred and classical music at Fr Andrew Moore's Centenary Concert - a highlight of our 100-year celebrations. This inspiring evening will feature exceptional performances in the stunning setting of St Peter's Church, creating an unforgettable atmosphere of reflection and joy. Tickets will be available soon on our website and every penny raised will support Trinity, a local charity dedicated to helping people in Winchester who are experiencing homelessness. Join us for music that uplifts the soul and makes a real difference in our community.

Future School Dates

| Event | Date |
|--|---|
| Australia day – Year 2 | Friday 23 rd January |
| 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 |
| Light of the World at St Peter’s Church | 2 nd to 4 th February 5.30-8.30pm |
| Centenary Pageant at St Peter’s Church | Friday 6 th February, 4pm & 7pm |
| PTA Winter Dance | Saturday 7 th February, 4-6.30pm |
| Year 6 residential trip - Avon Tyrell | 9 th – 13 th February |
| Year 5 Mass – Year 5 parents invited | Tuesday 10 th February, 9.15am |
| Half term 16th – 20th February | |
| Inset Day 3 – school closed to children | Monday 23 rd February |
| Reports Yr 3, 4 and 5 | Friday 27 th February |
| Parents evenings Years R, 1, 2, 6 | Tuesday 3 rd and 5 th March |
| World Book Day | Thursday 5 th March |
| Centenary Concert at St Peter’s Church | Sunday 8 th March, 7.15pm |
| Inset Day 4 - school closed to children | Friday 20 th March |
| Spring Concert | Thursday 26 th March, 6pm |
| Easter Holiday 30th March – 10th April | |
| Welcome all children back from Easter | Monday 13 th April |
| Year 6 SATs | Monday 11 th – 15 th May |
| Inset Day 5 - school closed to children | Friday 22 nd May |
| May Half term Monday 25th – Friday 29th May | |
| PTA Summer Fayre | Saturday 20 th June |
| First Holy Communion | Saturday 27 th June |

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

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Year R/1 | 90.42% |
| Year 2 | 92.93% |
| Year 3 | 94.15% |
| Year 4 | 94.08% |
| Year 5 | 94.63% |
| Year 6 | 95.60% |
| Overall school Attendance | 93.20% |

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/>

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) | |
|-------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| 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 |
| | 19 th | R/1NT Class |
| | 26 th | R/1MB Class |
| July | 3 rd | Peter and Paul Mass |

Weekly On-line Safety Top-tips









YOUNG CHILDREN & SCREEN TIME
– a good start

-  Use digital devices together with your child
-  Create clear family rules for media and technology use
-  Learn more about services, content, technology and age ratings
-  Be a positive role model!



 Adapted with kind permission of the Norwegian Media Authority from the original resource Young Children and Screen Time - a good start

YOUNG CHILDREN & SCREEN TIME
– tips for parents & carers

-  Give your child the best start to digital life by getting involved in their online activities
-  There are options and settings to adapt technology for your child's use
-  Consider the quality of time spent online, not only the amount of screen time
-  You are your child's most important role model - online and offline



 Adapted with kind permission of the Norwegian Media Authority from the original resource Young Children and Screen Time - a good start

When did you last chat to your child about staying safe on-line?

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 46 (SO51 0EE)

Book via our website: www.360footballdevelopment.co.uk
For more info or questions: 360@360footballdevelopment.co.uk

THE MAKE KIDZ

Thanks kids for all the love! - Lots of love from the team!

We're looking for another amazing team of Make Kids at St Peter's School - per month for the month, confidence building and lots of fun engaging sessions!

40 Make Kids
When: 1st Year - 1st Year - 1st Year
Where: 1st Year - 1st Year - 1st Year
Monday to Friday 10:00 - 11:00
If you would like to be part of the Make Kids team please email makekids@st-peters-school.co.uk

What we can offer:
- Fun and engaging sessions designed to develop the basics of football whilst building their skills, confidence and love for the game
- Professional Coaching
- Individual and Team Practices
- Positive Environment
- Fun and Engaging

Sign up now at www.360footballdevelopment.co.uk

1. Sign up now please! Details and details on page
2. Make Kids - Make Kids Right - 1st Year
3. Make Kids - Make Kids Right - 1st Year
4. Make Kids - Make Kids Right - 1st Year

What to bring to school:
- 1st Year - 1st Year - 1st Year
- 1st Year - 1st Year - 1st Year
- 1st Year - 1st Year - 1st Year

For more info or questions: makekids@st-peters-school.co.uk

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
- Movement
- Stretching
- Breathing exercises
- Planet message
- Affirmations
- Relaxations

WE NEED YOU!

we 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.

ptauniform@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>

Extra-curricular clubs - SPRING

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 BSL 360 Dodgeball Puppet Club | Monday Monday Wednesday Friday Monday Friday Tuesday |
| Y1 | Relax Kids Theatre Kids 360 Football/ Handball | Wednesday Friday Wednesday | Y5 | Football Intergr8 Comic Club Relax Kids Theatre Kids BSL 360 Dodgeball Puppet Club | Monday Monday Wednesday Wednesday Friday Monday Friday Tuesday |
| Y2 | Integr8 Relax Kids Theatre Kids Coding Club 360 Football/ Handball | Monday Wednesday Friday Friday Wednesday | Y6 | Intergr8 Football Comic Club Relax Kids BSL 360 Dodgeball Puppet Club | Monday Monday Wednesday Wednesday Monday Friday Tuesday |
| Y3 | Comic Club Intergr8 Relax Kids Theatre Kids Coding Club 360 Dodgeball Puppet Club | Monday Monday Wednesday Friday Friday Friday Tuesday | | | |

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.