

Newsletter

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

11th February 2026

Last Sunday was the fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time
Matthew 5:13-16

Dear Parents

St Peter's Church Centenary Pageant "Locus Iste – A Gathering in St Peter's Church."

Last Friday the parish continued its centenary celebrations of St Peter's Church through music, narration, dance, scripture, and contributions from many parish groups. The Pageant brought 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 included 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 Hallelujah Chorus.

Our children told the story of Catholics and the persecution they suffered in history, and how many become martyrs, dying for their faith. The children then went onto the more joyous event of the design and building of the church in Jewry Street. Thank you to all our children who attended all the rehearsals and to Sue, Julia, Debs and Kate for all their help. The children have so many 'forever' memories now.



PTA Winter Dance

Thank you to our PTA, and especially Charlotte, for organising our Winter Dance on Saturday. The hall was transformed from a school hall to a dance hall, beautifully lit and very inviting. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the international kitchen with a wide range of food that represented many of our communities' heritage. I did enjoy the Sri Lankan curry! Many of our families and children have been enthusing about the winter dance with how much they enjoyed themselves.

Our Friendship with St Catherine's View Care Home

This week we received a lovely email from St Catherine's View Companionship Team:

'I can't thank you enough for the friendship and love we have built between the school and our care home, it really does make a difference to our residents' lives and I'm sure it has helped the children be more comfortable around those living with dementia.'

When you are next in our office foyer please take some time to look at our photos of this friendship we have.



*Be kind and compassionate to one another,
forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*
Ephesians 4:32

INSET Day

Please note the next inset day, when the school will be closed to children, is:

Monday 23rd February 2026

World Book Day - A Celebration of Non-Fiction Books

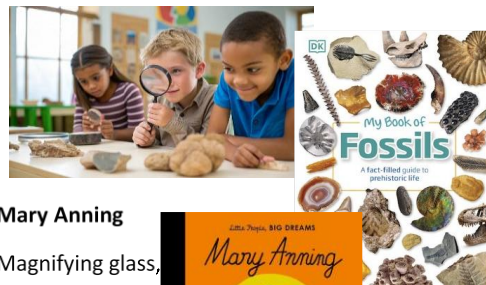
World Book Day is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the joy of reading and to inspire our young learners to explore the vast world of literature. To kick off our World Book Day celebrations and the UK's National Year of Reading, we invite all students to dress up or bring an artefact inspired by a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

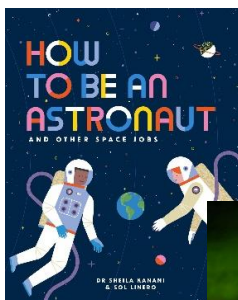
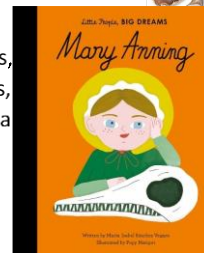
Just a heads up - after many years exploring lots of different themes, we will explore a traditional come as your favourite character in 2027!



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.



Parents' Evenings - Years R/1, 2 and 6

3rd and 5th March 2026

Regarding our Parents' Evening appointment system, all bookings should be made via ARBOR. Class teachers will be available between 4pm and 7pm on both Tuesday 3rd March and Thursday 5th March 2026.

Sessions went live for booking at midday on Tuesday 3rd February 2026 and will close at midday on Monday 2nd March 2026.

Please note that you will **ONLY** be able to book your appointment via the Arbor App or Parent Portal. Please ensure you have registered in good time.

Football

Last week the Year 5/6 boys' football team showed excellent commitment, teamwork and sportsmanship, despite the 1-4 result. They played with a positive attitude and represented the school proudly from start to finish, supporting one another and respecting their opponents throughout. They coached each other from the sideline and suggested improvements in their play during the half time.

A huge thank you to our parents for your fantastic encouragement and for helping with transport - your support is hugely appreciated. Watch this space for news of future sporting events and fixtures.



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.



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



In the news this week

Adults in the UK are talking about whether children under 16 should be allowed to use social media, as the government is considering new rules to help keep children safe online. Some people believe social media helps children stay connected, while others worry it can affect wellbeing and mental health. During Children's Mental Health Week, the story reminds us how important it is to look after our mental health both online and offline.

Things to talk about at home ...

- What rules or agreements can help us feel safe when using technology at home?
- Can you think of ideas for families to help balance screen time and other activities?
- What are some of the activities that you do online? Do you do different things online to others at home?

Should children have social media?



Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

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

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Parent Drop-In Coffee Morning

Supporting Your Child

All parents and carers are warmly invited to join us for a relaxed coffee morning at school. This informal drop-in session is a chance to:

- Learn how we support children with their **learning and development**
- Find out about the **different types of support available to families**
- Ask questions, share experiences, or simply enjoy a cup of tea or coffee

Event Details

Location: Music Room

Date: Tuesday 24th February 2026

Time: 8.45 – 9.45am

Tea, coffee and refreshments provided

You don't need to book – just drop in when you can (babies/pre-schoolers welcome).

Any questions, please ask Mrs Blake or Mrs Foster.



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: all rehearsals will run as usual this week with Year 5 in charge, while our Year 6 pupils are on residential!

St Peter's Singers: Thursdays 8.15 - 8.45am

School Band: Thursdays 3.30 - 4.30pm

Spring Concert - Thursday 26th March 6.00 pm

All members of the *School Band* and *St Peter's Singers* will be performing and are expected to attend this fantastic school event. Please make sure it's in your diary! Soloists/small groups will be confirmed after half term.

Busking Wednesday

Our next busking date will be Wednesday 4th March. Let Miss Owens know if you are keen to perform.

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

Happy half term!

Miss Owens

Please don't walk on the Spring bulbs!

Please do not walk across the grassed area at the front of the school. The Spring bulbs are starting to come through. Last year's display was so beautiful, and we hope it will be the same again this Spring.

Safeguarding – Southern Water's Hardship Fund

Attached to this newsletter is a leaflet from Southern Water with details of their Hardship Fund. Rising living costs have placed extra pressure on vulnerable households. As a business Southern Water recognized that some customers, even those above the threshold for its current support tariffs, may still struggle to afford essentials. To combat this Southern Water's Hardship Fund was created as part of its wider affordability and vulnerability strategy. The aim is to provide targeted, relief and assistance for those in crisis or impacted by exceptional circumstances.

Mass

Please could we respectfully request that hot drinks/beverages are not brought into St Stephen's church when attending any class/school Masses. Thank you.

Future School Dates

Event	Date
Year 6 residential trip - Avon Tyrrell	9 th – 13 th February
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

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
	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

Attendance

Year R/1	90.72%
Year 2	93.32%
Year 3	94.43%
Year 4	94.21%
Year 5	94.46%
Year 6	95.74%
Overall school Attendance	93.40%

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

See the NHS website and flyer below 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/>

UK Health Security Agency **NHS**

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Illness	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

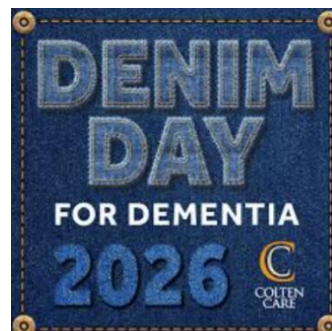
No
but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek

Advice and guidance
To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfoc>

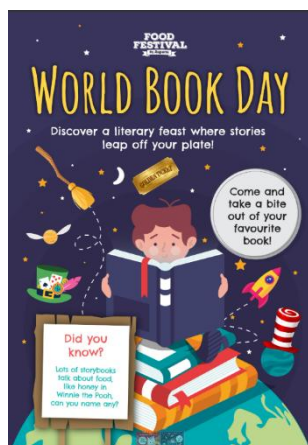
Denim for Dementia

St Catherine's View care home will be celebrating Denim Day for Dementia at the beginning of March and will be making various items of clothing and accessories with denim. If you have any denim in any colours and patterns that you no longer want then please drop off at the school office. Also, if you have any tote bags or hats of any kind that you no longer want that would be great too. Donations preferably before half term please, but if you're having a sort out at half term then the final deadline for donations is **Tuesday 24th February**. Thank you.



Upcoming themed lunches

Aspens will be providing two special menus this term, one for Chinese New Year and the other on World Book Day.



UPBEAT Pop & Rock Easter Camp at St Peter's 7th - 10th April

Miss Owens will be bringing her team of Upbeat instrumental, dance and vocal tutors to St Peter's this Easter for a fun-filled week of Pop & Rock music-making, culminating in a performance in the church. Get your hands on the electric guitars, drums, keyboards and mics (no prior experience needed).

10% discount for all St Peter's Pupils.

Use the code SUB224 when booking via this link.

<https://upbeat-music-courses.classforkids.io/camp/12>

For more information email: upbeatmusiccourses@gmail.com

UPBEAT
MUSIC COURSES
**POP & ROCK
EASTER
CAMP '26**
4-12 yrs
Sing, Play, Record, Perform
10% discount for St Peter's Pupils.
Use code SUB224
Tuesday 7th - Friday 10th April
9.30 - 3.30
St Peter's Catholic Primary
BOOK HERE
07916 901396
upbeatmusiccourses@stps.uk
upbeatmusiccourses@stps.uk
CONTACT
07916 901396
upbeatmusiccourses@stps.uk
upbeatmusiccourses@stps.uk
BOOK HERE
upbeatmusiccourses.classforkids.io
sibling discounts available



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	Intergr8 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			

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.

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.