



Newsletter

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

4th March 2026

Last Sunday was the Second Sunday of Lent
Matthew 17: 1-9

Dear Parents

Mission Ambassadors

Last week 10 of our Year 6 pupils joined the residents of St Catherine's View and made pizzas. I must admit they smelt and looked delicious as they came out of the oven. Our friends who live at the care home really respond to having the children in the same room. Their carers tell us the residents are so settled and calm when the children are present, and that the children make them smile.



Prayer Diary for March

Attached to this newsletter is a Prayer Diary for March which you may like to use with your child at home.

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.

Our Lenten Charities



When considering which charity we support as part of our Lenten alms we wanted to recognise that we have had a number of family bereavements in our school community in the last year. Therefore we wanted to support a charity that was set up by a local family following the death of their son. To find out more about this charity you may like to click on the link below:

<https://thecouragefoundation.uk/>

While the charity recognises that the website needs updating, they wish to share with us that last year they supported 65 families in providing tickets and annual passes to local places of interest, as well as theme parks. This includes Longdown Dairy Farm, Paultons Park, New Forest Wildlife Park, Legoland and Flamingoland. They have many more applications than the 65 and they have to go through a process to decide which families are best entitled. It would be great to raise some money so that more families can benefit from this charity.

Therapy Through Theme Parks

For us we found spending a few days together as a family away from everything incredibly helpful and so we created 'Therapy Through Theme Parks' which offers support for families in similar situations. This will be a way of providing days out, weekends away and annual passes to fun and exciting attractions around the country.

The aim is to support bereaved children and their families to:

- **Have fun!** (provided for you without needing any energy or emotional investment to make it happen!).
- Make new memories!
- Mark and remember their special person who has died.
- Know that as a family you can get through and keep on going.

To raise money for the foundation, that pays for day trips for families to theme parks, we are doing the following:

- **Design a duck** - The Foundation's logo is a duck, as Jethro's favourite toy was ducks for the bath, of which he had many. We are inviting all children to take home a duck template and design their duck, returning it with a £1 entry fee.
- **Guess how many ducks are in the jar** - 50p a guess
- **Doughnut Sale** - £1 a cake, after school sale.

Tuesday 24th March is the final day of judging the duck designs, declaring the winner of the *How many Ducks?* Competition, and our after school doughnut sale.

Our Lenten Charities

Stella Maris Easter Egg Appeal

Can you help us give an Easter egg to Seafarers this Easter? Stella Maris Chaplains and Volunteer Ship Visitors will be visiting ships in our Southern ports during Holy Week and after Easter, and expect to bring this great celebration to many hundreds of seafarers who remain confined to their ships at this time, without the prospect of taking shore leave or visiting a church. Together with faith materials, we would like to offer Easter Eggs and chocolates, the international symbol of celebration of this Solemnity of Solemnities, and would greatly appreciate the support of your school in our Stella Maris Easter Egg appeal. We need to prepare now. Can you help us by donating Easter eggs and chocolates? Your gift may be the only gift a seafarer receives this Easter.

Please bring donations into school by **Monday 23rd March**. Thank you for your generosity for such a worthwhile cause.



PTA Summer Fayre - Save the Date!

The PTA Summer fete will be held on **Saturday 20th June** – save the date!



INSET Day

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

Friday 20th March 2026

Little Fishes Pre-School – places available from September

Little Fishes offers a warm, secure and welcoming environment for our pre-school children to learn and explore. It is based on the St. Peter's Primary School site in a large and sunny purpose-built room with an extensive outdoor area, which is used every day whatever the weather. The Little Fishes team works alongside the Early Years teachers to provide the EYFS curriculum. Have a look at the Little Fishes page on the school website for a virtual tour and information on session times, funding/charges, visits and how to apply:

<https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/little-fishes-pre-school>



Parent Drop-In Coffee Morning

Thank you to the parents who joined us for our coffee morning last Tuesday. It was lovely to have time to chat and look at ways we can work together to support our children. We had a board game and musical instrument library on offer and lots of free library books available to take away. Please join us again on **Tuesday 24th March** for our next coffee morning.



Kim's Corner – a fortnightly update from our School Kitchen Staff

What a busy and exciting start to term it's been for us! We've been hard at work receiving lots of fresh stock ready for our new summer menu, and we couldn't be more excited. The feedback so far has been amazing and it's been wonderful to see so many happy children enjoying their lunches! We also had a huge delivery of fresh fruit, vegetables and joints of meat arrive, giving us plenty to prepare for the delicious meals ahead. We can't wait for everyone to try what's next.



World Book Day - A Celebration of Non-Fiction Books – Thursday 5th March

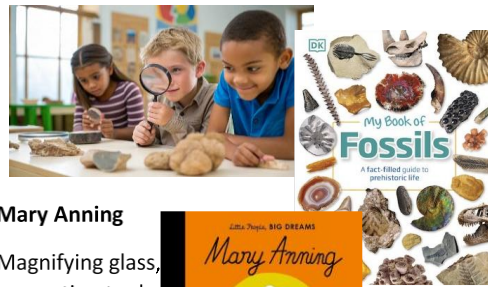
World Book Day is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the joy of reading and to inspire our young learners to explore the vast world of literature. To kick off our World Book Day celebrations and the UK's National Year of Reading, we invite all students to dress up or bring an artefact inspired by a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

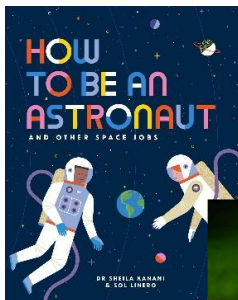
Just a heads up - after many years exploring lots of different themes, we will explore a traditional come as your favourite character in 2027!



Jane Goodall
Binoculars and a toy chimpanzee.



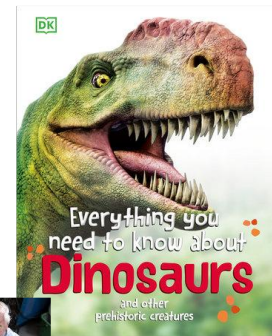
Mary Anning
Magnifying glass, excavation tools, paintbrush and a fossil.



Neil Armstrong
'Bottle' rocket pack.



David Attenborough
Dinosaur model, binoculars, explorers hat.



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.



Do gladiators make good role models?

A new series of the television programme, Gladiators, has recently returned to screens. The show features athletes competing in physical challenges such as strength, speed, and endurance events. The show is broadcast on the BBC and has attracted large audiences, including families and children. Gladiators train for many years to compete at a high level and often speak about discipline, teamwork, and preparation.

In the news this week

Things to talk about at home ...

- ▶ Do you watch Gladiators at home, or are there other TV programmes you enjoy watching together as a family? What do you think makes someone on TV a good role model?
- ▶ What skills or qualities do you believe are most important in a role model?
- ▶ Share and talk about some of the people you look up to at home, and explain why you admire them.

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

Year 6 Carroll Centre Foodbank

This half term the two **Year 6** 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.



Nurturing Programme

The 10-week Nurturing Programme for Parents will be running during the Summer term at St Stephen's Church (next door to our school) on Wednesday mornings from **29th April to 8th July**. To find out more or to book a place, please email nurturingprogramme@ccwinch.org.uk or phone: 07942 284611.

How Nurturing Programme Parent Groups have helped other parents

"I am a much more confident, positive and understanding parent. I feel much more able to cope now!"

"Life are having less family arguments and the household is a lot calmer!"

"The group was fun. It's the only two hours I have for myself each week!"

"The atmosphere was really relaxed. No-one judged anyone and everyone was listened to and respected!"



Check out familylinks.org.uk for more information on The Parenting Puzzle book and the Nurturing Programme

The 10-week Nurturing Programme for parents and carers

Where:
St Stephen's Church
Oliver's Battery Rd North
Winchester
SO22 4JB

When:
Every Wednesday, 29th April
to 8th July
excluding half term
9.05 am - 11.05 am

Contact details:
To book a place, please email:
nurturingprogramme@ccwinch.org.uk
or phone: 07942 284611
Free crèche available

FAMILY LINKS
The Centre for Emotional Health
familylinks.org.uk
Registered charity 1062514

FAMILY LINKS
The Centre for Emotional Health

The Nurturing Programme

Information for parents and carers

How to get the best out of family life



Music Notices

Busking Wednesday

It was so lovely to see so many buskers performing today outside the Music room. What a wonderful last busking session of the term! Next one will be on Wednesday 6th May!

Dates for the Diary:

Listen2Me Brass Concert

Year 4 have been enjoying a whole term of brass lessons and are looking forward to performing at the end of term. The performance will take place on **Tuesday 24th March at 3.00pm** in the church. All are welcome to attend.

Spring Concert 2026

The St Peter's Spring music concert will take place on **Thursday 26th March at 6.00pm**. All members of the School Band and St Peter's Singers will be performing and are expected to attend. It will be a fantastic evening of solo and ensemble performances, which we can't wait to share with you. We will be inviting soloists to perform over the next couple of weeks.

Perfect Pitch Concert at St Cross

We are delighted to let you know that we will be taking the School Band, St Peter's Singers and some selected soloists to St Cross on **Thursday 23rd April** as part of their lunchtime recital programme. The concert will take place at 12.30pm and all are welcome to attend this free performance.

Ensemble Rehearsal Times

The Spring concert is just around the corner so please **ARRIVE ON TIME** for these rehearsals!

St Peter's Singers: Thursdays 8.15 - 8.45am

School Band: Thursdays 3.30 - 4.30pm

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

Miss Owens

Music Practice Challenge 2026

Monday 2nd March - Sunday 22nd March

The practice challenge is now underway! Don't worry if you haven't started - it's never too late. Just join in now!

How to record your practice?

Simply tick off every day you practise in your music note-book and add the number of minutes you played for underneath each day. If you have lost your book then please speak to Miss Owens. A parent/carer needs to initial the page at the end of each week and your teacher will check it (and your progress!) in your next lesson.

Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates will be awarded for our top practisers at the end of the challenge.

What are the aims?

- To increase quality practice.
- To demonstrate that the amount of effort you put into your practice has a direct relation to how quickly you make progress on your instrument.
- To encourage families to take an active role in your child's practice.
- To make practice fun!

Good luck everyone!

Thank you from Friends of the Family

We received the following from Friends of the Family thanking us for our donation of £257.65 from the Advent Liturgy collection.

"Thank you so much for the donation of £257.65 which we received following your Advent Liturgy. We are very grateful to you, your staff and pupils and everyone who attended for their generous donations. Just last week, I was sitting in the office looking out at the garden watching the children playing with the volunteers whilst their mums attended one of our therapeutic sessions. One little boy was enthusiastically waving a watering can around, spraying water all over the snowdrops – and himself! After the session a volunteer told me that he lived in a small flat with no garden, and it was the first time that he had ever watered the flowers. As she described the delight on his face it reminded me that it is often the simplest of things that make a difference – in this case bringing joy. So thank you to everyone involved, it is only because of your help that we can continue to provide a safe haven for the children and their mums during rocky times."



Future School Dates

Event	Date
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
Last day for Stella Maris Easter egg donations	Monday 23 rd March
Year 4 Listen to Me Concert	Tuesday 24 th March, 3pm
Competition deadline for Courage Foundation and doughnut sale after school	Tuesday 24 th March
Parent drop-in coffee morning	Tuesday 24 th March, 8.45am
Spring Concert	Thursday 26 th March, 6pm
Easter Holiday 30th March – 10th April	
Welcome all children back from Easter	Monday 13 th April
Pitch Perfect Concert at St Cross	Thursday 23 rd April, 12.30pm
Nurturing Programme starts weekly on Wednesdays	Wednesday 29 th April, 9.05am
May Day Bank Holiday Monday 4th May	
School – Parish termly Mass, St Stephen's	Sunday 10 th May, 9.15am
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	
Corpus Christi Mass and Procession	Friday 5 th June, 1.30pm
New parent welcome liturgy and supper	Tuesday 9 th June, evening
Class and Year 6 Leavers Photos	Tuesday 16 th June
PTA Summer Fayre	Saturday 20 th June, 12-3pm
First Holy Communion	Saturday 27 th June
Parents evenings Years 3,4 and 5 and Books available for parents	Tuesday 30 th June and Thursday 2 nd July, 4pm to 7pm
Mass for St Peter and Paul, followed by sports day (KS1 am/ KS2 pm)	Friday 3 rd July, 9.20am
Mass for Year 6 leavers	Tuesday 7 th July, 9.20am
End of year production	Wednesday 15 th July, Thursday 16 th July 2pm and 6pm
Transition morning and reports out (Yr R/1, 2 and 6)	Friday 17 th July
Last day of term	Wednesday 22 nd July
Summer Holiday Thursday 23rd July - Monday 31st August (included)	

Inset Days 2025-26

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

Friday 20th March 2026

Friday 22nd May 2026

PTA Used Uniform Sale

The PTA will be holding a uniform sale between 4pm and 7pm tomorrow, Thursday 5th March, during Parents' Evening. A large amount of small sized uniform is in stock so give yourself an extra 5 minutes of time and re-stock your wardrobes.

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	90.58%
Year 2	93.17%
Year 3	94.63%
Year 4	94.39%
Year 5	94.46%
Year 6	95.97%
Overall school Attendance	93.50%

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/>

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

- Chickens** 48 hours from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
- Diarrhoea and vomiting** 48 hours after they last episode
- Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)** 48 hours after their symptoms end and they feel well enough to attend school
- Scabies** 24 hours after being treated and washed, or 48 hours after they have stopped itching
- Measles** 4 days after the rash first appeared
- Mumps** 5 days after the swelling began
- Scarlet fever** 24 hours after the penicillin has been given
- Whooping cough** 48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

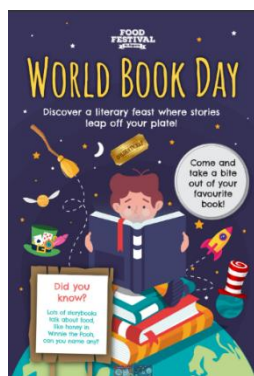
- Head lice** 48 hours after treatment
- Shingles** 7 days after treatment
- Strep throat** 24 hours after treatment
- Strep skin** 24 hours after treatment

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://www.nhs.uk>

Upcoming themed lunches

Aspens will be providing a special menu this term for World Book Day on Thursday 5th March.



Centenary Concert

Fr Andrew Moore's Centenary Concert - A Night of Sacred Beauty Sunday 8th March at 7pm - St Peter's Church

The Winchester Camerata, conducted by Fr Andrew Moore, will be giving a concert in St Peter's church as part of our centenary celebrations on **Sunday 8th March at 7pm**. The programme includes works by Bach, Mozart, Vivaldi, Britten and others, including Fr Andrew, and will reflect the liturgical and spiritual life of a church. Tickets are £20 (£5 for students) and are available by [clicking here](#), scanning the QR code below or purchasing at the door.

NB: evening Mass will be celebrated earlier at **5pm**.

All proceeds from the event will support Trinity Winchester, a charity dedicated to helping people experiencing homelessness. Come and share in an evening of music that lifts the soul and shines light into our community.

WINCHESTER CAMERATA

In support of Trinity Centre Winchester

100 1926 2026

Conductor: Andrew Moore
Leader: David Blunt

Works by:
Bach
Mozart
Vivaldi
Moore
Britten
& others

Centenary Concert
St Peter's Church, Winchester

Sunday 8th March 2026, 7pm
St Peter's Church, Jewry Street, SO23 8RY

Scan to book your tickets

TO BUY TICKETS VISIT
ticketsource.co.uk/winchcamerata
Tickets are also available on the door
winchestercamerata@gmail.com facebook.com/winchestercamerata

Tickets £20 (students £5)

Please note Mass that evening will be celebrated earlier at 5:00PM

Hampshire Music Service Easter Opportunity 2026

Music Production – Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st March 2026
Barton Peveril College, Eastleigh SO50 5ZA

9:30am – 3:30pm (both days)

Suitable for children in Years 5, 6, 7 and 8



Dive into the world of music creation using iPads and GarageBand. Explore remixing, sampling, and live DJing with hands-on experience using professional gear. Discover how chords shape songs, experiment with different genres, and learn to build your own tracks from the ground up. Whether you're into beats, melodies, or mixing, everything you need is provided - just bring your creativity! For queries, please contact music.service@hants.gov.uk

If you would like to come along, please sign up using the following link:
[Music Production Enrichment Days - 30 and 31 March 2026 – Fill in form](#)

For more information: [Holiday Activities - Hampshire Music Education Hub \(hantsmusicclub.org.uk\)](http://hantsmusicclub.org.uk)

Cost: £85 (including lunch)

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	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.