



Newsletter

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

15th July 2026

Last Sunday was the Fifteenth Sunday of Ordinary Time
Matthew 13:1-23

Dear Parents

Centenary Mass

Today we had the honour of being invited to St Peter's Church Centenary Mass. Mrs Blake and I were joined by a number of children who served and others who represented the school.

The Parish welcomed Bishop Philip Egan, Bishop Crispian Hollis, clergy from across the Diocese, civic representatives and distinguished guests. His Excellency Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía, Apostolic Nuncio to Great Britain, joined the celebration, bringing a special message and Apostolic Blessing from His Holiness Pope Leo XIV - a wonderful and historic gift for our parish community.

Cardinal Vincent Nichols preached reminding us all of the importance of kindness as we journey within our Christian lives.

We were really proud of the children that joined us, those that served, along with those that took up the gifts during the offertory.



Feed my sheep - John 21:17

A message from the Governors

What a wonderful summer we are having - I hope that you are all coping with the heat - it brings to an end another wonderful year at St Peter's. On behalf of the Governors I would like to congratulate all the staff and children for their many successes this year both academic and otherwise.

We have enjoyed many celebrations through the year; at the time of writing we are still to appreciate the production of Aladdin which I'm sure will be a terrific culmination of the year.

Our school family has had several periods of sadness too as several children have lost loved ones this year. We continue to keep them, Miss Buxton and all who have been bereaved, in our prayers.

I would like to thank especially the PTA team for all their creativity in planning and executing the Fireworks Night and Fete and for the incredible generosity of all who contributed, leading to amazing 'extras' for the school to enjoy throughout the year.

We have seen changes in the classrooms, especially the new arrangements for Year R/1, and some changes of staff; the introduction of the new catering team we hope will go forward from here with increasing strength.

Finally I must recognise the amazing team who lead our school; from the calm and patient administrative team, always available to address any emergency, to the senior leadership team who work incredibly hard to keep everything working smoothly for the best education of all our students. I especially thank Mrs Donnelly and Mrs Blake who have supported Miss Buxton throughout the year and stepped up to ensure that Miss Buxton could take her compassionate leave knowing that the school was in safe hands.

I wish all our school leavers great success in their continuing education and all our families a lovely summer break.

Mary Alveyn
Chair of Governors

Reuben and Molly

Today we welcomed two of our newer members of our school family back for the Aladdin performance as Molly joined her mum Mrs Lightfoot and Reuben his mum Mrs Keymer.



Transition Day

On **Friday 17th July** we are having our whole school transition morning. Children who are currently in Year R, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 will meet their new teachers for September and will spend the morning in their new classrooms. This will enable children and staff to get to know each other and to familiarise themselves with new spaces.

An advantage of being a 2 form entry school is that we are able to rebalance classes each year thus ensuring consistently good learning opportunities for all pupils. This means that classes do not progress to the next year group as a whole. Teachers spend a lot of time considering the best mix of children for each class. We endeavour to ensure that children are always in a class with identified friends.

On this day, children will start and end the day in their normal classrooms with their current class teacher. Therefore all children will come into school and leave school as usual.

Teachers will give each child a 'welcome card' to bring home. This card will give the name of the class teacher for September and the name of the new class. Please look out for it in school bags on Friday.

Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge is a national scheme run by the Reading Agency with the aim of keeping children reading over the six-week summer break. This year the challenge started on 11th July and continues throughout the school holidays.

Children aged 4-11 are invited to set a reading goal and collect rewards for their reading. It's completely **FREE** to take part. Sign up at your local library or children can take part online.

It is an amazing way to boost children's confidence – last year 72% of children taking part felt more confident reading.

Visit the [official Summer Reading Challenge website](#) for free activities, videos, book recommendations and more.

Any questions please feel free to contact Mrs Pestana via the school office.



School Production

Miss Owens and the staff have been working hard with the preparation for 'Aladdin Kids'.

A reminder that **ALL KS2 children are required to be at ALL performances:**

- **Wednesday 15th July, 2pm (6SK)**
- **Wednesday 15th July, 6pm (6CJ)**
- **Thursday 16th July, 2pm (6CJ)**
- **Thursday 16th July, 6pm (6SK)**

For the evening performances, children will need to **arrive at their classroom door at 5.40pm** (Year 6 lead cast please arrive at 5.30pm). Children who are attending After School Club will be taken by staff to their classrooms and signed out of After School Club from there. All children will be dismissed from their classroom door after the performance at approximately 7pm.

Photos in next week's newsletter.



Empty Bookcase

As we approach the end of the year, there are still many books that need to be returned to school. Please can we ask children to return any outstanding library books or Little Wandle books as soon as possible. If your child does not have access to books over summer, our local library has a fantastic selection to tempt them, and we also have a 'book rescue' in school that enables children to take home and keep previously loved library books.



Water Bottles

PLEASE ensure your child comes to school with a NAMED refillable water bottle every day, especially now as the weather is so hot.

Arbor and text messages

Please note that we do not accept incoming text messages. If you need to respond to a text message from school then please either email admin@st-peters.hants.sch.uk or telephone us on 01962 852820.

First Holy Communion Preparation 2026 - 2027

Applications are now open for the First Holy Communion Preparation for 2027. Please find the link and QR code for the online registration form below. Children who will be Year 4 (or above) next academic year may register, however if your child is presently in Year 2 and you feel they may be ready next year please do get in touch with Rosanne at fhc@stpeterswinchester.org.uk.

[FHC - 2027](#)



Keeping Safe

Our PCSO Rob Windows visited last week to talk to the children about keeping safe. This is particularly important with the long summer holiday ahead of us. PCSO Windows reminded the children of the importance of staying safe around water, being respectful to the local environment and residents and staying safe online.



Universal Credit and Free School Meals

Please see below for upcoming changes to eligibility for benefits based Free School Meals (FSM) and what you need to do to apply or check your child's eligibility.

Upcoming Changes

From September 2026, the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals will change. All households receiving Universal Credit will be included, but eligibility will be divided into two groups:

Targeted Free School Meals - for households receiving Universal Credit with an annual income below £7,400.

Expanded Free School Meals - for households receiving Universal Credit with an annual income above £7,400.

What You Need to Do

If your child already receives Free School Meals and you have applied through the Hampshire portal, you do not need to do anything. If you think your child may now be eligible, please contact the school office.

Please note: children eligible under the expanded criteria will only begin to receive Free School Meals from September 2026.

If You Disagree with a Decision

If you have applied and believe the decision is incorrect, please contact your child's school. The school can contact Hampshire County Council on your behalf to request further advice.

Important Information for Reception and Key Stage 1 Parents

All children in Early Years Foundation Stage or Key Stage 1 already receive free meals under the Universal Infant Free School Meals scheme. However, we still encourage you to apply. This is because schools receive Pupil Premium funding for children who qualify under Targeted Free School Meal eligibility. This funding helps support your child during their time at school.

Transitional Protections (until August 2026)

Transitional protections have been in place since 1 April 2018 and will continue until the end of the 2025 to 2026 school year. During this time any child who becomes eligible for benefits based Free School Meals will continue to receive them until July 2026. This will not change even if household income increases. From September 2026 these protections will end. From this point, all families must meet the new eligibility rules for their child to receive Free School Meals.

For more information on Free School Meals please follow this link to the Government Website - [Apply for free school meals - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/apply-for-free-school-meals)

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Lane in the school office.

Year 2 Carroll Centre Foodbank

This half term the two Year 2 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.



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>



Picture News

Picture News is a 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 can we travel while protecting nature?

People living in remote parts of the Amazon rainforest in Ecuador are using solar powered canoes to travel along rivers. The boats use energy from the Sun instead of petrol, making journeys quieter and creating less pollution. The project is helping people travel while protecting the rainforest and has inspired other communities in the Amazon to try similar ideas.

Things to talk about at home ...

- How do you usually travel to school, work, or the shops? Why do you or the adults you travel with choose those ways?
- Can you think of any journeys that could be different to help protect nature?
- If you could invent a new way to travel that was kinder to the planet, what would it be like?

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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Future School Dates

Event	Date
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
Year 6 Leavers disco	Monday 20 th July, 6-8pm
Year 6 One World day	Tuesday 21 st July
Last day of term	Wednesday 22 nd July
Summer Holiday Thursday 23rd July - Monday 31st August (included)	
First day of term – all children to return except new reception children (No INSET)	Tuesday 1 st September
Home visits to new Reception families	Wednesday 2 nd , Thursday 3 rd and Friday 4 th September
Reception children begin school full time	Monday 7 th September
Show Around 1	Tuesday 15 th September, 10am
New School Year Mass – all welcome	Friday 18 th September, 9.15am
Inset Day – school closed to pupils	Friday 25 th September

Inset Days- staff training with school closed to pupils

Friday 25th September 2026
 Monday 2nd November 2026
 Monday 4th January 2027
 Monday 22nd February 2027
 Friday 21st May 2027

Holiday Dates

School term dates are available on:

<https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/term-dates/>

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schoolholidays>

Important Letters

Important letters are coming home this week. Please look for them in your children's bags:

Attendance certificates: All year groups

Year 1 - Phonics Screening Check results

Year 4 - Multiplication Tables Check results

Friday: Years R, 2, 6 – Reports

Please note that Year 2 reports will contain results of this year's Phonics Screen Checks. Year 6 reports will contain SATs results.

Attendance

Year R	91.08%
Year 1	92.13%
Year 2	93.37%
Year 3	94.64%
Year 4	95.39%
Year 5	94.01%
Year 6	95.06%
Overall school Attendance	93.50%

Well done Year 4 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/>



Show Around dates

If you have a child due to start school in September 2027, we have the following dates available for you to come and look around the school:

Tuesday 15th September 10am

Friday 2nd October 1.30pm

Thursday 15th October 10am

Wednesday 4th November 1.30pm

Thursday 12th November 10am

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

100 Club - the PTA school lottery

Our school lottery is a great way for you to support the children at St Peter's with regular monthly funds whilst also having a bit of a flutter. The more people who join the 100 Club, the bigger the prizes and the bigger the funds for the school. It's £5 per number entered into each monthly draw, with the total ticket sales split evenly between the PTA and the prize fund.

Congratulations to our summer term 100 Club winners:

April draw:

1st prize:	Asia Ennis	£ 25.00
2nd prize:	Kate Whiles	£ 20.00
3rd prize:	Jennifer Mceneany	£ 10.00
4th prize:	Shane Masterson	£ 10.00

May draw:

1st prize:	Georgina Omand	£ 25.00
2nd prize:	Maggie Stretch	£ 20.00
3rd prize:	Catriona Felstead	£ 10.00
4th prize:	Geraldine McElduff	£ 10.00

June draw:

1st prize:	Shane Masterson	£ 25.00
2nd prize:	Maggie Stretch	£ 20.00
3rd prize:	Asia Ennis	£ 10.00
4th prize:	Claire Lane	£ 10.00

July draw

1st prize:	Kate Whiles	£ 25.00
2nd prize:	Kirstie Matthey	£ 20.00
3rd prize:	Paul Barker	£ 10.00
4th prize:	Amy Paterson	£ 10.00

If you'd like to join, or have any questions, please email us at: stpeterspta100club@gmail.com

We'd love to hear from you!

The PTA

UPBEAT MUSIC Pop & Rock Summer Camps at St Peter's

Week 1 Monday 27th - Friday 31st July

Week 2 Monday 3rd - Friday 7th August

Would your child like to play electric guitar or drums in a band? Or do they love to sing or dance? Or maybe they'd like to try writing and recording a song?

Miss Owens will be bringing her team of Upbeat instrumental, dance and vocal tutors to St Peter's this Summer for 2 fun-filled weeks of Pop & Rock music-making, culminating in an end of camp performance! Each week has a different theme. Suitable for children in Year R - Year 7 (no prior experience needed).

15% discount for all St Peter's Pupils.

Use the discount code **MZH577** when booking via this link.

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

To find out more:

Email: upbeatmusiccourses@gmail.com

Phone: 07816 901396

Visit: www.upbeatmusiccourses.co.uk



Kings' School Open Events

We warmly welcome you and your child to attend one of our School Open Events this year. Our Open Mornings will be held on **Wednesday 8th July**, **Wednesday 23rd September** and **Tuesday 6th October 2026**. To secure your place, please book here:

<https://kings.applicaa.com/events/OpenMornings>

Our Open Evening will be held on **Thursday 24th September 2026** and is a bookable event. To secure your place, please book here <https://kings.applicaa.com/events/OpenEvening>

We look forward to hopefully seeing you and your family at one of these soon.



A colorful poster for a Beavers and Cubs Open Evening. At the top, it says 'WINCHESTER 7TH IN ST CROSS' in large, bold letters. Below this, it says 'HAVE BEAVERS AND cubs PLACES FROM SEPTEMBER 2026 ON TUESDAY EVENINGS'. The poster features two cartoon characters: a blue beaver on the left and a brown cub on the right. In the center, there's a blue banner that says 'Beavers' and a green banner that says 'cubs'. Below these, it says '4-10 YEARS (YEAR 1-5)' and '11-16 YEARS (YEAR 6-11)'. At the bottom, it says 'WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS WHOSE PARENTS CAN COMMIT TO ASSISTING THE GROUP'. There are also icons for a calendar, a beaver, and a cub. The bottom of the poster has a dark blue banner with the text 'SKILLS FOR LIFE • MAKE MEMORIES • BELONG' and 'SCOUTS'.

WINCHESTER
7TH IN ST CROSS

HAVE
BEAVERS AND **cubs**
PLACES FROM
SEPTEMBER 2026
ON TUESDAY EVENINGS

Beavers
4-10 YEARS
(YEAR 1-5)

cubs
11-16 YEARS
(YEAR 6-11)

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS
WHOSE PARENTS CAN COMMIT TO
ASSISTING THE GROUP

SKILLS FOR LIFE • MAKE MEMORIES • BELONG

SCOUTS



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!

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>

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 – SUMMER

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 Gardening Tennis Relax Kids Theatre Kids 360 Rounders/ Cricket	Monday Monday Tuesday Tuesday Wednesday Friday Friday
Y1	Relax Kids 360 Football Theatre Kids	Wednesday Wednesday Friday	Y5	Football Intergr8 Gardening Comic Club Relax Kids Theatre Kids 360 Rounders/ Cricket	Monday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Wednesday Friday Friday
Y2	Intergr8 Relax Kids 360 Football Theatre Kids	Monday Wednesday Wednesday Friday	Y6	Intergr8 Football Gardening Comic Club Relax Kids 360 Rounders/ Cricket	Monday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Wednesday Friday
Y3	Comic Club Intergr8 Gardening Tennis Relax Kids Theatre Kids 360 Rounders/ Cricket	Monday Monday Tuesday Tuesday Wednesday Friday Friday			

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.