



Newsletter

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

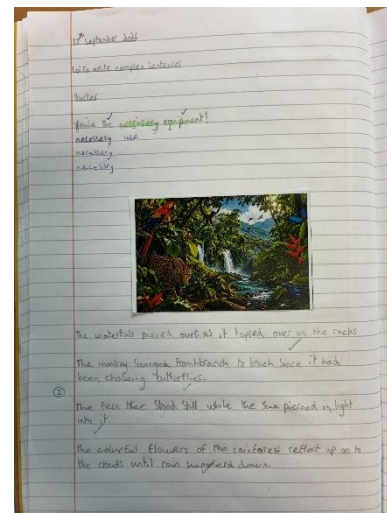
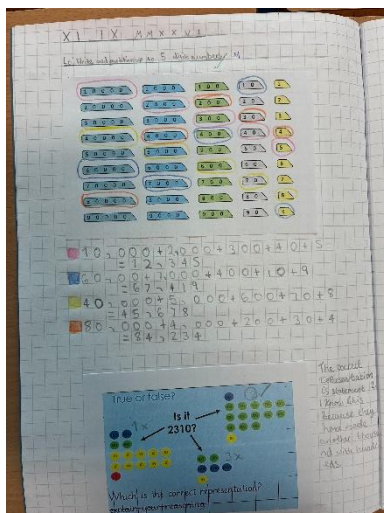
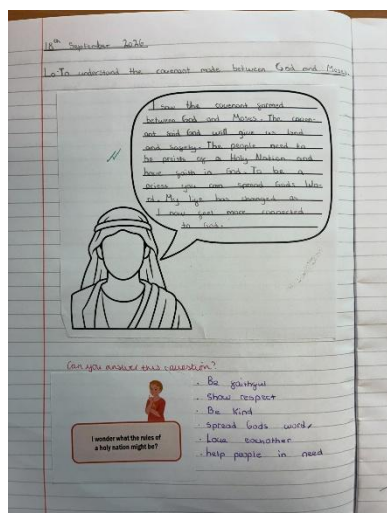
30th September 2026

Last Sunday was the Twenty Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time
Matthew 21:28-32

Dear Parents

Year 5

Year 5 have made a fantastic start to the new school year and have been working hard across the curriculum. In Maths, the children have shown a strong understanding of place value and number. In RE, we have been exploring the journey of Moses and learning about the covenant made between God and the Israelites. In English, we have thoroughly enjoyed reading *The Explorer* and have used the story to inspire our writing, with a particular focus on constructing effective compound and complex sentences. We are very proud of the children's efforts so far!



Girls' Football

Our girls' football team put in a fantastic performance against Western School this week. Despite a 2-0 defeat, the girls showed great determination, teamwork and resilience throughout the match. Their defensive play was a particular strength, with the whole team working hard to make things difficult for the opposition. A special congratulations goes to our goalkeeper, who made some brilliant saves and was deservedly named Woman of the Match. We are incredibly proud of the way the girls represented our school – well done to everyone who played!



Inset Day Learning

Staff had a busy day of learning with safeguarding training, allergy awareness and our annual health and safety sign offs. The highlight was our staff shared lunch as it's always nice to spend time together when we are not racing onto the next thing.

Praying the Rosary during October

Many Catholics pray the Rosary every day, during the month of October.

Why? Because this month is dedicated to Our Lady Queen of the Rosary. Our Lady of Fatima requested this during her apparitions "Say the Rosary every day, to bring peace to the world and the end of war." The Rosary is a sign of peace and a chain of hope. The Rosary, is our chain of prayer. Whether it is a full, a mystery or even a decade this will make an impact on us and the world. Now is the time to prepare for this great opportunity of prayer. It is tempting to march into October promising that we will pray a thousand rosaries only to fall at the first hurdle.

Find some time between now and the 1st of October and decide upon three things:

1. Learn the Rosary – If you're unsure how to pray it, ask someone at church or watch a tutorial online.
2. Choose Your Moment – Decide when to pray, morning, during the day, evening, or with family and friends.
3. Set a Realistic Goal – Will you commit to one decade, one mystery, or several mysteries each day?

Attached to this newsletter is a leaflet with an introduction to the rosary.



Prayer Diary

There is a Prayer Diary for October attached to this newsletter which you may like to share at home with your child.

Message from Grace Foster SENDCo

Mental Health in Schools

In our continual strive to be offering the best support available to all our pupils we have been working closely with the Mental Health Support Team (MHST). If you are concerned about your child's mental health, please do contact us so we can work together and direct you to support available.

The team are in school offering an EBSA workshop on **Tuesday 20th October at 9am**. This is a workshop for any parents of a child with anxiety, separation anxiety or other worries and will last for 90 minutes with time for questions. This will be a very useful session to empower you as parents.

The big drop in CAMHS event in Eastleigh may also be worth exploring.



Thank you

A big thank you to the Stickland family for donating a wonderful array of toy vehicles for our Calm Zone. They were a big hit as you can see! If you're having a clear out we'd love any matchbox size small toy vehicles.



Parents' Evening Bookings – all year groups

We have now set up the Parents' Evening appointment system - all bookings should be made via **ARBOR**.

All class teachers will be available between 4pm and 7pm on both Tuesday 20th October and Thursday 22nd October 2026.

Bookings went live last Friday 25th September and will close at midday on Monday 19th October 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.

RSHE

We have made a wonderful start to our RSHE learning this year, taking part in thoughtful discussions and activities designed to help us feel safe, confident and valued.

Across the school, we have been learning about the importance of safe adults and identifying trusted people we can turn to when we need help, support or advice. We have also been exploring online safety, learning how to make sensible choices online and what to do if something does not feel right.

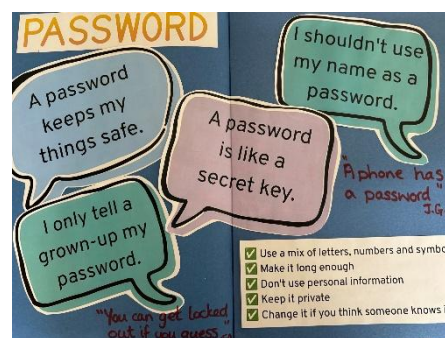
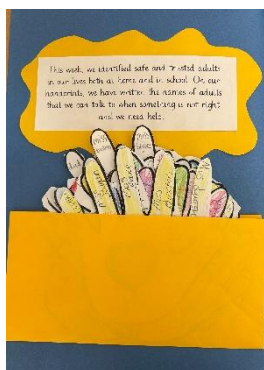
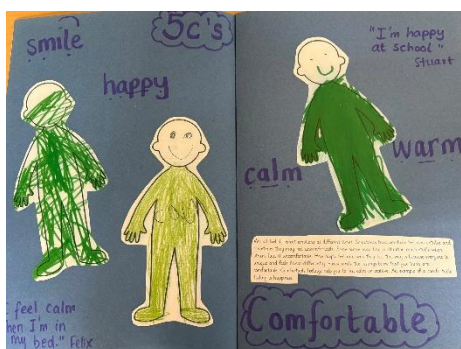
We have also begun introducing the Empowerment Approach, which encourages us to develop the confidence in communicating what we need when things feel difficult. These lessons are an important part of helping us grow into kind, resilient and responsible young people.

We would like to thank parents and carers for their continued support. As previously shared, there are statutory changes to our RSHE provision and updated documents are available on our website. If you would like to share any feedback, comments or questions, please contact Miss Buxton by October half term. Please feel you can come and speak to Miss Buxton should you have any comments to make about RSHE throughout the school year.

Together, we can continue to support our children in developing the knowledge, skills and self-assurance they need to thrive both in school and beyond. We will be inviting parents in to share what we do and to listen to feedback on RSHE.

"RSHE is really important because it keeps us safe." – Amelie

"We have to learn RSHE now so that we can be safe when we grow up." - Anneka



School Council – Harvest Collection

Our School Council have planned our Harvest collection. The student councillors agreed to support our local community in Winchester by donating the food and products collected to the **Basics Bank** and the **Carroll Centre**. A poster is displayed in each classroom window and at the front of the school with suggested items for donation. Please support our local communities by donating – one single item could make a huge difference. Items can be brought into school up until our harvest festival which takes place on 23rd October. Thank you for your support.



Year R Parents' Phonics Session

All Reception parents are welcome to attend our phonics session at **2.45pm, Thursday 8th October** where we share our Little Wandle approach to teaching phonics and the ways in which you can support your child at home with their reading. Please come to the school office where you will be met and taken up to the hall. The session will be finished in time for you to collect your children from their classrooms.

Music Notices

Instrumental Lessons

Please remind your child to bring their instrument and book to their lesson and check the timetable on the music noticeboard for their lesson times. Remember that times change each week on a rotating basis.

Home Practice

Your child has a practice book in which they can record their home practice. Please make sure this is up to date and remember even a 5 minute practice is worth doing!

Busking Wednesday - next week 7th October

Next week is our first busking Wednesday. Please come along to support our younger performers (no Year 6!) outside the music room from just after 8.30am. For many it will be their first performing experience! And remember the busking hat and QR code will be out if you would like to show your appreciation (and help contribute towards music equipment for St Peter's).

Music Ensembles and Clubs

St Peter's Singers

I am delighted by how many keen singers signed up for a trial and am still listening to more this week! I will confirm how many children we can take in SPS by next week and thank you so much to all of you who have popped in for a sing in the music room. It has been lovely to hear you. Please note that any child who is invited to join will need to attend a regular Thursday morning rehearsal from 8.15 - 8.45am.

Worship Band

Thursdays from 3.30 - 4.30pm in the Music Room. Miss Owens will have notified you if she would like your child to attend.

Any questions at all, then please do get in touch with Miss Owens by emailing music@st-peters.hants.sch.uk.

Miss Owens

Holiday Dates

School term dates are available on:

<https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/term-dates/>
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/schoolholidays>

Attendance

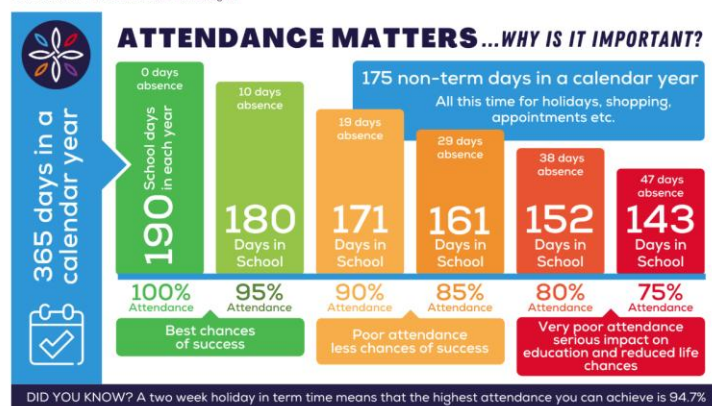
Year R	96.36%
Year 1	96.58%
Year 2	92.94%
Year 3	97.84%
Year 4	96.34%
Year 5	97.56%
Year 6	94.84%
Overall school Attendance	96.20%

Well done Year 3 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/>

If you have any questions or concerns about your child's attendance, please contact your child's form tutor in the first instance. You could also contact the attendance team at attendance@risedale.org.uk.



Supporting Every Child to Thrive

Throughout this year, we will be sharing how Targeted Pupil Premium funding helps support children in our school. This funding enables us to provide additional resources, targeted teaching, wellbeing support and enriching experiences that help children overcome barriers to learning and achieve their potential. We carefully monitor the impact of this support to ensure it makes a positive difference.

If you think your child may be eligible for free school meals or Targeted Pupil Premium support, please either complete the form in this link:

<https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/attachments/documents.asp?id=317>

or contact the school office in confidence. Applying is quick and could unlock valuable support for your child and additional funding for our school. Look out for future updates showing how this funding helps children succeed, grow in confidence and fully participate in school life.

Mrs Blake

**PUPIL
PREMIUM**



Future School Dates

Event	Date
Year 5 Living Rainforest trip	Friday 2 nd October
Show Around 2	Friday 2 nd October, 1.30pm
Year 6 Residential	Monday 5 th to Friday 9 th October
Year R Parents' Phonics Session	Thursday 8 th October, 2.45pm
Year R welcome liturgy, all Reception families welcome	Friday 9 th October, 9.15am
Parish – School Mass, St Stephen's	Sunday 11 th October, 9.15am
Show Around 3	Thursday 15 th October, 10am
Deadline for Shoeboxes	Monday 19 th October
Parents' Evenings – all year groups	Tuesday 20 th and Thursday 22 nd October, 4pm to 7pm
Year 2 Nurses and Soldiers day	Thursday 22 nd October
Harvest Mass, Father Mark's last celebration with us before leaving	Friday 23 rd October, 2pm
Autumn half term Monday 26th – Friday 30th October	
Inset Day – school closed to pupils	Monday 2 nd November
Show Around 4	Wednesday 4 th November, 1.30pm
All Saints Mass, all invited	Friday 6 th November, 2pm
PTA Bonfire Night	Saturday 7 th November
Show Around 5	Thursday 12 th November, 10am
Individual and sibling photos	Tuesday 17 th November
Nativity – Reception, Years 1 and 2 - families invited	Friday 4 th December, 9.15am
Advent Liturgy – KS2 – parents invited	Thursday 17 th December 2.30pm and 6pm
Christmas Holiday Monday 21st December – Friday 1st January	
Inset Day – school closed to pupils	Monday 4 th January
Children return for beginning of term	Tuesday 5 th January

Inset Days - staff training with school closed to pupils

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

Class Assemblies 2026-27

All class parents and family are welcome to attend these. Please wait outside church door for 3pm.

Month	Friday (class/teacher Assembly)	
October	16 th	6SK Class
	23 rd	Harvest Mass - 2pm
	30 th	Half Term
November	6 th	All Saints Mass - 2pm
	13 th	5CJ Class
	20 th	4GK Class
	27 th	3BW Class
December	4 th	KS1 Nativity - 9.15am
	Christmas	Holidays
February	5 th	6DL Class
	12 th	5AH Class
	19 th	Half Term
	26 th	4RS Class
April	Easter	Holidays
	16 th	3GD Class
May	28 th	Corpus Christi Mass - 1.30pm
June	4 th	Half Term
	11 th	Year 2 Seals Class
	18 th	Year 2 Otters Class
	25 th	Year R/1 Seahorses Class
July	2 nd	Year R/1 Dolphins Class
	9 th	Year R/1 Turtles Class

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:

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.

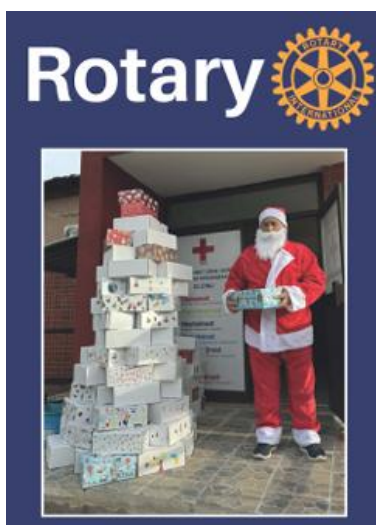
Kings' School Open Events

We warmly welcome you and your child to attend one of our School Open Events this year. Our Open Morning is **Tuesday 6th October 2026**. To secure your place, please book here: <https://kings.applicaa.com/events/OpenMornings>

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

Rotary Christmas Shoebox Scheme

We are supporting Wessex Rotary's Christmas Shoebox scheme again this year. We have a supply of the boxes in school so please come and collect a box if your child would like to take part. Filled boxes need to be returned to school before the half term break, by **Monday 19th October** latest. Thank you for your generosity to this very worthwhile scheme.



Picture News

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

TAKEHOME

How can we share our stories?

In the news this week

The Bayeux Tapestry is a nearly 1,000-year-old very long piece of cloth covered with pictures sewn in colourful thread that tells the story of a very famous event called the Norman Conquest of England. The almost 70-metre-long piece of art has travelled from its usual home in France, to go on display at the British Museum in London. It shows the events leading up to the Battle of Hastings in 1066, and depicts soldiers, horses and ships.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Which stories are important to your family and how have these stories been passed from one person to another?
- Do we have any photographs or objects that tell part of our family's story?
- What do you think we can learn from different types of stories? (e.g., written, photos or ones we retell.)

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

© Picture News 2026

Applying for a Secondary School (Year 7) Place

Applications for children transferring to secondary school in September 2027 opened on Monday.

Applications can be submitted [online](#) or parents can request a paper application form in exceptional circumstances by emailing admissions.team@hants.gov.uk. The deadline for applications is **31 October 2026**.

PTA Bonfire Night - Saturday 7th November 2026 - Addresses needed for Dybles' Board sponsorship!

We have an amazing **sponsorship opportunity** for the PTA Bonfire Night on Saturday 7th November with **Dybles Estate Agents**.

In return for their generous funding, we need 6 more addresses of people willing to have a temporary board outside their house which would advertise the event.

If you enjoy this brilliant annual event, this is a wonderful and easy way to show your support and contribute. If you are happy to have a board outside your house, please email pta.chair.stpeters@gmail.com with your name, address and contact details. We need to confirm the addresses ideally by **Wednesday 30th September**, so please reply as soon as you can!

Thank you so much for all your help - we couldn't do these events without you.

The PTA

First Holy Communion Preparation 2027

Applications are still open however they will close end of September.

Children who are in Year 4 (or above) may apply, however if your child is presently in Year 3 and you are a regular parishioner and feel they may be ready this year, please do get in touch. The compulsory parents' session will be on Tuesday November 3rd at 7pm in the Pastoral Centre adjoining St Peter's Church, Jewry Street.

If you have any queries before completing the form, please email Rosanne Walker at: rosanne@stpeterswinchester.org.uk or fhc@stpeterswinchester.org.uk

Please find the link (or QR code) to register below:

[FHC - 2027](#)



St Peter's Marriage Centenary Mass 3rd October 2026 11.00 am

As part of our Centenary celebrations, a special Mass marking 100 years of weddings is taking place in our beautiful parish church of St Peter's. We warmly invite all couples who were married at St Peter's, whether recently or many years ago - as well as those preparing to be married here - to join us for this joyful celebration. Wherever you are now, in the parish or anywhere in the world, you are very welcome. Please help us spread the word so that everyone who has celebrated marriage at St Peter's feels invited. If you would like to attend please register by clicking:

<https://stpeterswinchester.churchsuite.com/-/forms/fsme7fbd>

Breakfast Club

360° Sports Coaching is our breakfast club provider. The breakfast club runs from 7:30am - 8:45am. See the flyer below for how to book.



Charity Murder Mystery Evening

Saturday 31st October at 7pm at the Weeke Community Centre. Come and join the Geriactors for an evening of mystery, entertainment and good food. Tickets are now on sale and purchase can be made via email to barry.poffley@gmail.com. Please let us know if you have any dietary requirements. Tickets are £20 per person and include a two course meal. All proceeds will go towards the SVP Christmas Parcels Appeal.

Discover the Excitement of Karate with USKO Karate South!

USKO Karate South has been running an incredibly successful karate club at St Peter's School for 10 years. Classes are led by Andy and Rachel Hobday, two highly experienced and passionate instructors. Andy has been teaching karate throughout Hampshire for an impressive 38 years, while Rachel, a former Hampshire primary school teacher, has been inspiring young karate students for the past 16 years. Every session is packed with energy, learning and fun. Children begin with an exciting warm-up game before moving on to a variety of activities, including learning karate techniques, practising katas (structured sequences of movements), developing punching and kicking skills on pads and bags, and exploring basic sparring techniques in a safe and supportive environment. As they progress, children can test their skills through regular gradings, earning new coloured belts and building confidence with every achievement. For many, the ultimate goal is to work towards the prestigious black belt. Karate is a fantastic way for children to develop confidence, discipline, coordination, resilience and respect, all while making new friends and having great fun.

For more details email Rachel on rach.hobday@hotmail.co.uk

INTEGRAL DANCE **FREE TRIAL!**
COME ALONG AND TRY THE TRIAL

STREET DANCE

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

DANCE, GROW, THRIVE

More than just dance — it's where confidence is built, friendships are made and children discover what they're capable of!

- Build Confidence** — We help our club members overcome shyness and build confidence through dance.
- Learn New Skills** — Fun, high energy dance routines that challenge and inspire.
- Meet Friends** — A supportive, inclusive environment where everyone belongs.
- Have Fun!** — Dance to your favourite music and have a great time!

Monday
3:30 - 4:30pm
St Peter's Primary School
Years 2 to 6

SUITS UP FOR ALL! OFFERS AND EXTENSIVE MERCH!

BOOKING DETAILS
CALL: 01252 600000
EMAIL: info@integraldance.com
WEBSITE: WWW.INTEGRALDANCE.CO.UK

360 FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

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

SESSIONS INCLUDE

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

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

Book via our website
01252 600000 / 01252 600001

ST PETER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS!

FUN, ACTIVE, CREATIVE, FOR EVERYONE

We're excited to offer a range of engaging after school clubs for all pupils! Build skills, make friends and have fun!

MONDAY

KS2 DODGEBALL

Full speed fun! Develop your skills and teamwork skills. Suitable for Years 2 & 3.

14.30 - 15.30

TUESDAY

BOARDGAME CLUB

Develop your skills, work with a team and have fun! Suitable for Years 1 & 2.

15.30 - 16.30

WEDNESDAY

KS1 FOOTBALL

Develop your skills, work with a team and have fun! Suitable for Years 1 & 2.

15.30 - 16.30

CLUBS FOR JUST £6 PER SESSION!

REGISTRATION SITE: 01252 600000 / 01252 600001

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 01252 600000 / 01252 600001

St Peter's PTA

Pre-loved Uniform

Helping school families Reducing waste

Wear it forward! Donate your outgrown uniform - simply bring to the school office or uniform shed.

Sustainable savings! Logo and non-logo items available in all sizes for as little as £2!

Pre-loved uniform requests? Want to help? Just email: ptauseduniform@gmail.com

THEATRE KIDZ

Theatre Kids Club at St Peter's Catholic Primary School - Join Us!

Sign up now to get ready for our exciting term of Theatre Kids. Develop your child's skills and get ready for our exciting term of Theatre Kids. Develop your child's skills and get ready for our exciting term of Theatre Kids.

What is Theatre Kids?
Theatre Kids is a club for children who love to act, sing, dance and tell stories. We will be using our imagination to create our own stories and characters. We will be using our imagination to create our own stories and characters.

What will Theatre Kids involve?
We will be using our imagination to create our own stories and characters. We will be using our imagination to create our own stories and characters.

How to Register for new parents
We will be using our imagination to create our own stories and characters. We will be using our imagination to create our own stories and characters.

What to Bring Each Week
We will be using our imagination to create our own stories and characters. We will be using our imagination to create our own stories and characters.

What Other Theatre Day
We will be using our imagination to create our own stories and characters. We will be using our imagination to create our own stories and characters.

01252 600000 / 01252 600001

BUSKING WEDNESDAYS

RAISING MONEY TOWARDS MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

SCAN TO DONATE

THANK YOU

'Introduction to the Harp'

24 October 2026

Workshop for Winchester primary schoolchildren with **Alla Hews - former Official Royal Harpist**

St. Paul's Church, Winchester
Saturday 24th October 2026, at 4.30 pm

Most concert harpists like Alla Hews in the Royal Official Harpist, and performed at the Royal Harpist in the Royal Official Harpist. She will be giving a harp lesson to the children.

Also in the afternoon, children will be learning harp music and playing harp music. The children will be learning harp music and playing harp music. The children will be learning harp music and playing harp music.

One will be playing on a 45-minute free workshop for the primary schoolchildren of Winchester, to introduce them to the harp.

The harp is a wonderful instrument. It is a stringed instrument. It is a stringed instrument. It is a stringed instrument. It is a stringed instrument.

Event kindly supported by Winchester City Council

SOUTHERN VOICES

Book using the QR code or visit <https://www.kidsharpschoolsociety.co.uk>

KINGS'

OPEN MORNINGS OPEN EVENINGS

Join our club for children who love to act, sing, dance and tell stories. We will be using our imagination to create our own stories and characters.

01252 600000 / 01252 600001

UPBEAT

GUITARS, DRUMS, KEYS, VOCALS, BANDS!

BAND CAMP

26th - 27th October

ST PETER'S DISCOUNT 10%

WHEN: 26th-27th October
WHERE: WINCHESTER ST PETER'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOLIDAY CAMP

HALLOWEEN HALF TERM 26th - 30th OCTOBER

ROCK CLIMBING MULTI SPORTS ARTS & CRAFTS SWIMMING (8+)

BOOK ONLINE

FROM £23.50 PER SESSION FULL & PART DAYS AVAILABLE EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT (EARLYBIRDS)

02382 001430 / 01252 600000

ADVANCED TRAINING CENTRE

HIGH INTENSITY TRAINING DAYS TO WORK ON ALL ASPECTS OF THE SOCCER GAME

Daily Session Topics

- Receiving & retaining the ball
- Possession & defending
- Attacking & finishing
- Games sessions

DATES: THURSDAY 29TH AND FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER
TIMINGS: 9:00 - 3:00

GROUP 1: 8-10 years
GROUP 2: 10-11 years
GROUP 3: 11+ years

GANGER FARM SPORTS PARK
Ganger Farm Way, Romsey, SO51 0EE

REGISTRATION SITE: 800gangerfarm.co.uk

For more info: 02382 001430
info@800gangerfarm.co.uk

Best wishes

Louise Buxton



Newsletter - past bits that may be useful

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>

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 Foster and Ms Pestana 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!

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.

We will be sharing our new **Allergy Safety Policy** with you in the new couple of weeks.

Allergy Safety Policy

Our Allergy Safety Policy is now on our website at the following link:

<https://www.stpetershants.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=187&type=pdf>

The school holds emergency adrenaline auto-injectors (EpiPens) in accordance with national guidance. These may be used by appropriately trained staff in a medical emergency where a pupil is experiencing symptoms consistent with a severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis). Parents will be informed as soon as possible following any such incident.

Reporting to Parents 2026-27

Parent and school partnership is vitally important in ensuring the best for each child. We want to share the dates for reporting attainment and progress with parents so you can place them in your diary. Our aim is to ensure that you are kept informed and able to discuss progress at key points in the year as relevant to your child's year group.

As in the past, there is a formal reporting point in each term either via a parents' evening or via a written report. The aim of the initial meeting for all year groups is to ensure the children have settled into their new year groups and their routines.

The timings of parents' evenings and reports for each year group are as follows:

Parents' evenings:

Autumn Term All Year groups:	Tuesday 20 th October 2026 Thursday 22 nd October 2026
Year R/1, Year 2 and Year 6:	Tuesday 9 th February 2027 Thursday 11 th February 2027
Year 3, Year 4, Year 5:	Tuesday 22 nd June 2027 Thursday 24 th June 2027

As in the past, parents' evenings will be held between 4.00pm and 7.00pm. Details of how to book an appointment with your child's class teacher will be shared via the newsletter.

Written reports:

Spring Term Year 3, 4 and 5 – These will be sent out on 26th February 2027
Summer Term Year R/1, 2 and 6 – These will be sent out on 16th July 2027

Reminders of the timings of written reports will be shared in the newsletter nearer the time.

Please remember that if you wish to discuss your child's progress at any point in the year you can make an appointment to speak with your child's class teacher.

Private Fostering

Private fostering is the term used when someone who is not a parent or a 'close relative' (eg. great aunt, cousin, mum's friend or a neighbour) is looking after a child or young person under the age of 16 (under 18 if they are disabled) for 28 days or more in their own home.

In these situations the local council's Children's Services department must be informed. A social worker will visit the home to speak to the carer and the child to ensure the child is safe, carry out background checks and make sure support is being provided.

Extra-curricular clubs – AUTUMN

Please see below details of clubs being offered this term.

Year group	Club	Day of the week	Year group	.Club	Day of the week
YR	Theatre Kids	Friday	Y4	Comic Club Intergr8 360 Dodgeball 360 Board games Theatre Kids	Monday Monday Monday Tuesday Friday
Y1	360 Board games Football Theatre Kids	Tuesday Wednesday Friday	Y5	Intergr8 360 Dodgeball 360 Board games Comic Club Football Theatre Kids	Monday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Friday Friday
Y2	Intergr8 360 Board games 360 Football Theatre Kids	Monday Tuesday Wednesday Friday	Y6	Intergr8 360 Dodgeball 360 Board games Comic Club Football Theatre Kids	Monday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Friday Friday
Y3	Comic Club Intergr8 360 Dodgeball 360 Board games Theatre Kids	Monday Monday Monday Tuesday Friday			

Attendance and requests for time off during term time

At the beginning of another school year may I take this opportunity to remind you about the legislation regarding parents requesting time out of school for their children. The legislation makes it clear that head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. It is extremely unlikely time out of school for a family holiday will be considered exceptional circumstances. It will be the same for requests for time out to spend time with visiting relatives or for birthday celebrations. As a school we fully understand and support the government's drive to ensure pupils miss as little school time as possible. Parents who take their children out without permission may be liable to a financial penalty notice.

I regularly monitor attendance and I write to the parents of any child who falls under 90% (which is the equivalent of a morning off each week). The government views anyone under such a figure as a persistent absentee and I have to follow it up. Obviously some children do at times have more serious illness and time in hospital but some just have poor attendance often due to issues at home and it is my duty to follow this up.

Every year I receive holiday requests as parents say they didn't know the dates for school holidays. These are always on our website and can also be found on the Hampshire County Council website too. Please also inform anyone who is likely to be treating the family to a holiday of these dates - again it is often stated that a family member booked a holiday as a gift. These holidays must also adhere to the same rules. See website details below within inset dates section.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many parents who ensure their children are in school on time every day, ready to learn and would only request time away from school for very exceptional circumstances.

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.

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.

RSHE

Following the publication of the updated statutory Relationships, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) guidance, we have reviewed our provision to ensure that it continues to meet both statutory requirements and the values of our Catholic school. We are pleased to confirm that our RSHE programme, Life to the Full, remains fully aligned with these expectations, providing age-appropriate learning that promotes healthy relationships, emotional wellbeing, personal safety and respect for others within a faith-based context.

Parents can explore the content taught in each year group through the Life to the Full Parent Portal, which provides access to lesson materials and curriculum information to support discussions at home. We greatly value our partnership with parents in this important area of education. Should you have any questions or wish to discuss the programme further, please make an appointment with Miss Buxton, as we continue to work together in supporting the development and wellbeing of every child.

To access the online parent portal please visit: **www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal**

Username: st-peters-so22

School Password: cathedral-south

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

