



HEADTEACHER'S WEEKLY BULLETIN

"For I know the plans I have for you... plans to give you hope and a future"

Jeremiah 29:11

ISSUE NO. 4 : 29 Sept 2023

DIARY DATES

Fri 6 Oct	9am Harvest Service @ St Peter's Church, Tandridge—All welcome
w/c 6 Nov	St Peter's Book Week ** NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS **
Tues 10 Oct	5-6pm Open Evening for Prospective Parents September 2024 Entry
Wed 11 Oct	9.15-10am Open Morning for Prospective Parents September 2024 Entry
Tues 17 Oct	Parent Teacher Consultations by appointment
Thurs 19 Oct	Parent Teacher Consultations by appointment

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a great week and hope you have too!

The week seems to have flown by. On Monday we had a great workshop with Julian from the Cat's Protection League. He talked to each class about cats and how we can keep them happy and healthy. Even if you are not a cat lover, it was very informative. The children had a lovely time, not least when colouring and designing their own cat masks afterwards. They were brilliant when answering the questions to the quiz Julian gave them.

I have been in all classes this week, teaching and hearing all about the children's learning. The children are full of enthusiasm and enjoyment, it is truly brilliant to see and be a part of. They have been, as always, doing lots of exciting activities. The Busy Bees have been learning all about the adventures of 'Traction Man' by Mini Grey, and painting scarecrows for our harvest celebrations. Ladybirds have been doing lots of maths and exploring in Strawson's Field, finding different objects for counting 'more or less'; while the Dragonflies have been engrossed in their Fire of London topic. The buzz of learning fills the air.

THINGS TO CHECK THIS WEEK:

- ☐ School Photograph Order placed
- ☐ Appointment for Parent Evening made
- ☐ Full PE Kit in school at all times
- ☐ Named wellies in school
- ☐ All items of uniform, coats, etc clearly named

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

Felix (age 7)



HARVEST COLLECTIONS

Thank you all for the wonderful harvest gifts we have received so far. I know these will be much appreciated by those who receive them. We still have a week before our donations go to the church, so if you do have anything you would like to give, please do drop them in the boxes outside the library area or in the Busy Bee classroom. Thank you so very much in advance.

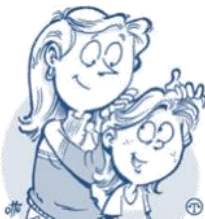


HARVEST FESTIVAL CHURCH SERVICE

A reminder that we will be holding our Harvest Festival service at St Peter's Church next Friday 6 October at 9am. **Please bring children directly to the church** for this lovely celebration and reflection of what Harvest means around the world. The children will sit with their teachers in church and there is plenty of space for our parents, carers and members of the church community to sit in the side pews. The service will be led by Reverend Ashton with prayers, readings, hymns, and thought-provoking passages read and sung by St Peter's children. It is a beautiful service, and the children have been practising really well for this. We welcome all parents and carers to join us for the service. At the end we will ask for volunteers to help walk our children back to school so if you are able to do so please make yourself known to your class teacher either before Friday or on the day.

COUGHS AND SNEEZES...

As is common at this time of year we need to be vigilant and ensure personal hygiene routines remain a priority. There are several stomach bugs and high temperatures going around. Please can we work in partnership to continue to model good behaviours and ensure hand washing routines are a part of a child's everyday practise when they go to the toilet or prepare for meals. Many thanks for your continued support of this. On a similar note please ensure that hair checks become regular practise at home so we can keep these irritating head lice at bay!



ONCE A WEEK, TAKE A PEEK

Unfortunately head lice are a fact of life in schools. They are annoying, but by following advice and being vigilant about checking your child's hair **every week**, they can be successfully treated. However, it requires **all** parents to be **regularly** checking their child[ren]'s hair to ensure that outbreaks are quickly dealt with. Please may I ask **everybody** to check hair this weekend and take any necessary action. We would encourage you to perhaps make Friday evening bathtime the time for a routine hair check. Thank you for your co-operation. >> [Once a week take a peek](#)

TOYS, KEYRINGS...NO THANK YOU!

Please do not allow your child to fill their book bag handle with lots of key rings. A single, small name keyring is fine for identification but book bags are put into the child's trays and these then do not close properly obstructing others access their own trays etc, if there are lots of attachments.

Please may I also ask that children hand their soft toys back to their parent/carer for safekeeping before coming in to school. We are seeing more of our older children bringing toys into school and these are becoming a cause of distraction and upset. We have many toys and equipment for the children to play with at their designated times. Thank you very much for your support here.



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who either attended and/or helped out at our Charity Coffee morning today. This is a brilliant time to get together, have tea/coffee/cake and a natter, as well as raise funds for an amazing cause which is dear to our hearts. We have raised the grand total of £ 103.25 so far. Brilliant! Thank you so very much. **Cakes will also be on sale after school** if you were unable to attend this morning and would like to make a donation, or just fancy a Fri-yay treat.



WORLD'S BIGGEST
COFFEE
MORNING

BUSY BEES

Busy Bees this week have been incredible! We read the story of "Traction Man" by Mini Grey and thought very carefully about the kinds of powers we might have as superheroes. We decided that kindness could be our superpower and we thought about ways to show kindness to others. We used speech bubbles to write words that we might say to comfort someone who is upset. The children have also continued learning the first phonics sounds and should be able to give you all of the actions for the ones we have learned. In Maths we have recapped learning on the number '3'. The children are excellent at counting to 3—forwards and backwards and recognising 3 of something. We took advantage of the autumn sunshine today to find 3 in our outdoor spaces. This is an activity we all really enjoyed. Take some time this weekend, if you can, to find the number 3 with your child[ren]. You'll be amazed at their imaginative ways of showing you this learning!



LADYBIRDS

Ladybirds have had another busy week with topic based learning around seasonal changes. We have been looking at a new book 'Lila and the Secret of Rain' by David Conway and we have been using this story to prompt our writing. We have used our design skills to design rain sticks and we will be making these in class next week. In Phonics we have learnt the meaning of verbs, plurals and nouns—ask us what they mean! In History, we have started to learn about the life of Ruby Bridges. We thought carefully about some questions we would like to ask her, such as, what was it like to go to school and be in a classroom on your own? In Maths we have been focusing on finding one more/one less than any number using a number line to help us with this. We also took our learning outdoors—taking a walk around our lovely grounds to observe signs of autumn and using nature to help us with our understanding of one more/one less.



DRAGONFLIES

Dragonflies have had a great week. The children have really settled into Year Two and are showing a very mature attitude towards their learning. In English we have started looking at Paddington. The children have made marmalade sandwiches, and then written imperative verb instructions to explain how they went about this. They have also written instructions to help Paddington with every day tasks. In Maths we are looking at place value and really investigating the position of number. In History we made model houses to reflect the architecture of London during the 1600's. We made these historically accurate and even used straw for the roof in preparation for our Great Fire of London reconstruction which we will hold very soon.



Have a really brilliant weekend. I know I said at the beginning of the newsletter that this week has flown, but I have also realised that it is only 3 weeks until half term too! Wow! So, enjoy, relax and enjoy your precious moments. I know many of the children are already getting tired, so have a lovely calm weekend (if you can!).

God bless, *Lenia Greenaway*



More fruits from the Gardening Gang Harvest
—For sale after school today—donations welcome

HOUSE TEAM POINTS



11



18



14

HOMEWORK

Busy Bees: Letter formation - sounds of the week

Ladybirds: One more, One less

Dragonflies: Take a photo of reading in weird places



ST PETER'S CHURCH, TANDRIDGE



SUNDAY 1 OCTOBER

11am All Age Worship

4.30pm Café Service @ St Mary's Church, Oxted

6.30pm Evensong

Diary Dates:

Sat 30 Sep 10am St Mary's Open Day
Sat 7 Oct Harvest Supper at St Peter's (Tandridge Village Hall)
Sat 14 Oct Christmas Fair in The Space in Oxted Community Hall
Sun 15 Nov Memorial Service at St Mary's Church
Sat 25 Nov Trivia Quiz evening at Oxted Community Hall

Phone: 01883 714263
Email: stmaryoxted.stpeterandtandridge@gmail.com
https://stpeterandtandridge.uk/Groups/343723/St_Peters_Church.aspx

Lord of creation,
whose glory is around and within us:
open our eyes to your wonders,
that we may serve you with reverence
and know your peace in our lives.
Amen



CHILD PROTECTION CONTACT CENTRE

At St Peter's we take the safety and well-being of every child very seriously. If you are ever concerned about a child please speak in confidence to our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Miss Greenaway or our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads, Mr Atterton and Mrs Vaquinhas.

If you feel you have not had a satisfactory response from us to any child protection issue, please phone the contact centre on:

Tel: 0300 200 1006

"Safeguarding is Everyone's Business"

Emergency information regarding the school
will be announced on HEART RADIO 102.7FM

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about THE DANGERS OF VAPING

Data collected for ASH (Action on Smoking and Health) shows an increase in 11 to 17-year-olds experimenting with vaping: from 7.7% in 2022 to 11.6% in 2023. It's concerning that these age-restricted products are getting into the hands of under 18s as most contain nicotine, which can be detrimental to brain development and cause long-term addiction. Some schools have reported students having their focus in lessons affected by nicotine cravings; vaping in school toilets; and even trying vapes found in their local park. Raising awareness of the risks among young people could help to prevent these problems from escalating and reduce the number of young vapers.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

NICOTINE ADDICTION

Since they were initially developed to help people stop smoking, the vast majority of vape liquids contain nicotine. Not only is this a highly addictive stimulant, but it can also have detrimental effects on brain development in the under-25s. Nicotine can decrease the ability to pay attention, weaken impulse control, affect mood and increase the likelihood of substance addiction as an adult.

WHAT IS VAPING?

Vapes contain a liquid (vape juice/e-liquid) that is heated by a battery and evaporates, creating a chemical vapour which the user inhales. They can be disposable (once the liquid or battery runs out, the vape is thrown away) or rechargeable (the user replaces the liquid and recharges the battery on demand). Most vape liquids contain nicotine and other chemicals.

LACK OF AWARENESS

A proportion of young people tend to view vapes as harmless, mainly because of the products' appearance and the perception (often strengthened on social media) that "vaping is cool" and on trend. In many instances, young people don't fully appreciate the concept of addiction: that is, they aren't adequately aware of the risk of becoming hooked on nicotine before trying a vape.

POTENTIAL TOXICITY

Many vape liquids have been found to contain "heavy" metals such as lead, tin, nickel and (in some cases) mercury – all of which are toxic. These metals often take the form of tiny shards inside a device's liquid tank, which are then inhaled into the body. Some media reports have suggested these metals are particularly prevalent in illegally imported vapes which don't comply with UK regulations.

UNCLEAR LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES

The liquids in vapes also contain solvents, which can create carcinogens at the point of evaporation. Vapes were only introduced into the UK in 2005 – and, because of the relatively short timeframe involved, there is insufficient medical evidence to assess the long-term harms that regular inhalation of these chemical fluids might have on the human body.

ATTRACTIVE PACKAGING

The packaging of many disposable vapes is very appealing to young people, frequently echoing the colours and flavours of the sweets or fizzy drinks they're used to buying. There's a relative lack of regulation around vape marketing, and vaping is often depicted positively on social media – which can lead young people to develop favourable views of vaping and overlook the possible harms.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

In the UK alone, around 1.3 million disposable vapes go to landfill every week. Due to such significant numbers of these products not being recycled, their components – a lithium battery and a chemical liquid – pose a toxic risk to the environment, the ecosystem and wildlife. Vapes are also predominantly made of plastic and metal; materials that, of course, do not naturally decompose.

WIDER HEALTH CONCERNS

Studies are already showing a link between vaping and oral health problems such as tooth decay and gum disease. This is because vaping reduces the amount of saliva in the mouth, while increasing bacteria – resulting in bad breath and a build-up of plaque. There are also concerns that, in some users, vaping could lead to the development of asthma, a persistent cough and breathing difficulties.

UNREGULATED VAPING PRODUCTS

The number of retailers willing to sell vapes to under-18s is a worry, as the chance of these products being unregulated (and therefore containing illegal chemicals and higher levels of nicotine) is high. A related concern is that the mechanisms inside unregulated products are unlikely to have been tested and safety checked – presenting a possible fire risk if the liquid and battery come into contact.

SCARCE INFORMATION

The lack of information about the ingredients and potentially harmful chemicals in a vape is troubling. Some vape fluids (unregulated in the UK) contain traces of nuts, which can cause an allergic reaction or anaphylactic shock. To date, medical warnings aren't required on vape packaging – with only medical disclaimers being found on the websites of the various brands.

VAGUE INGREDIENTS LISTS

Early research has suggested that the chemicals used to produce some strawberry and banana flavour e-liquids can kill cells in the blood vessels and heart. These ingredients aren't identified on the packaging, instead falling under the umbrella term "natural and artificial flavourings". Such vague listings mean that consumers aren't aware of the liquid's content so can't identify potential risks.

Meet Our Expert

Run by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Healthy Schools Service (commissioned by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council), Catch Your Breath is a school-based project aimed at young people. Its goal is to embed a proactive, coordinated approach among both primary and secondary schools in discouraging smoking and vaping behaviours.



Source: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-65809924>



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