



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. 13: 8 Dec 2023

DIARY DATES

Mon 11 Dec	Elfridges Christmas Shop & Class Parties—wear party/festive clothes
Tues 12 Dec	3.15pm FOSP Festive Cinema Night
Thurs 14 Dec	Mufti Day: Festive jumpers/home clothes for School Christmas Lunch
Fri 15 Dec	9am St Peter's Christmas Service @ St Peter's Church, Tandridge—All welcome
Tues 2 Jan	INSET Day—school closed for staff training
Wed 10 Jan	Pied Piper & Deafinitely Theatre Group "Can Bears Ski?"

✓ THINGS TO CHECK THIS WEEK:

- After School Clubs for Spring Term
- All items of uniform, coats, etc clearly named
- Coats in school at all times
- Please send in a named carrier bag for your child to bring home cards, work and belongings next week.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I think this is now the time when we all start to feel a little shocked. Not only does the realisation that Christmas is just around the corner start to hit, but the fact that we are almost at the end of our first full term. The children will have completed one third of their school year by the end of next week!!

This week, I think, sums up the amazing achievements and progress that every child has made this term. They have absolutely dazzled and wowed us with their wonderful nativity performances, showing the fantastic personal development they have all made. School is a place in which our children can flourish as individuals not just academically but emotionally, socially, and physically—and I think each and every one of them has definitely flourished this term.



Wishing you a very Merry Christmas

Everyone is very excited at the prospect of the looming holidays but before then we still have many more exciting things happening at school. The children will be busy rehearsing for their Church service as well as doing lots of 'making' – but we can't tell you any more than that, it's a secret!

MONDAY 11: Elfridges & Class Christmas parties (Party clothes*)

The children will be visiting 'Elfridges' in the morning and then having their school Christmas party in the afternoon. Shhh - They may have a very special visitor coming along too!

THURSDAY 14: School Christmas dinner (Christmas jumpers*).

Claire is gearing up for this special dinner for children and staff and everyone is very welcome to come to school in Christmas jumpers on this day (mufti day). Don't forget to let us know if your child is changing their usual lunch arrangement on this day.

FRIDAY 15: Christmas Church Service at St Peter's Church, Tandridge

This will start at 9am prompt. Please take the children straight to the church as we did for the Harvest festival. You are more than welcome, and we'd love you to join us for this very special celebration at Church. We will be walking the children back to school afterwards, so please let your class teacher know if you are also able to help us with this. The children will not need to bring their book bags in on this day. School will finish at the usual time 3.15pm on Friday.

**As with all non-uniform days please be mindful of appropriate shoes and coats as the children will be going out to play as usual.*

This will be my last 'proper' newsletter of 2023, so I would like to take this opportunity to say some huge 'thank you's. Firstly to all the parents for your support and encouragement over this first term. You are all fabulous with your commitment to your children and the school. It is wonderful to see how you encourage your children with home learning and all the 'extras'. Thank you.

Thank you too to all of you who volunteer your time to do additional things such as reading in school. The staff and children really appreciate it all. Especially to the Friends for the amazing job they have done this year and all the events they have organised or helped us with already. To the children for working so hard and being a credit to us all and finally, but very importantly, to all the staff who have worked tirelessly this term. They go above and beyond 'the call of duty' and it is greatly appreciated. I think you will all agree, the children couldn't do it without them. THANK YOU ONE AND ALL.



Just in case you need a conversation starter over Christmas I have come up with a few facts that you may or may not know:

- The poinsettia, a traditional Christmas flower, originally grew in Mexico, where it is also known as the 'Flower of the Holy Night'.
- In Syria, Christmas gifts are distributed by one of the Wise Men's camels. The gift-giving camel is said to have been the smallest one in the Wise Men's caravan.
- There are 364 gifts mentioned in "The Twelve Days of Christmas": There are the same number of partridges as drummers (12 of each); doves and pipers (22 of each); hens and lords (30 of each) and so on. So the easiest way to count our presents is to add up to the middle of the list and then double the result: $(12 + 22 + 30 + 36 + 40 + 42) \times 2 = 364$.
- The Christmas cracker was invented by a London sweet shop owner called Tom Smith. In 1847, after spotting French bonbons wrapped in paper with a twist at each end, he sold similar sweets with a "love motto" inside. He then included a little trinket and a "bang". His "Bangs of Expectation" included gifts such as jewellery and miniature dolls. By 1900, he was selling 13 million a year.
- According to tradition, you should eat one mince pie on each of the 12 days of Christmas to bring good luck.
- It's technically illegal to eat mince pies on Christmas Day in England. In the 17th century, Oliver Cromwell banned Christmas pudding, mince pies and anything to do with gluttony. The law has never been rescinded.
- US scientists calculated that Santa would have to visit 822 homes a second to deliver all the world's presents on Christmas Eve, travelling at 650 miles a second.
- 6 million – The number of rolls of Sellotape that will be sold in the UK in the run up to Christmas (5.99 million – the number of rolls where you can't find where the tape ends).
- The abbreviation Xmas isn't irreligious. The letter X is a Greek abbreviation for Christ.

CLASS NEWS



Wishing you a very Merry Christmas

BUSY BEES

This week Busy Bees have been really busy. We had our Christmas Nativity performances and all the children were amazing! We have written Christmas cards, made angels and decorated our bags to take home next week. We have also started to write cards and short stories independently, using our sounds knowledge. In Maths we carried on learning the number bonds to 5 so that we are secure in our understanding and ready for the next steps. We are excited about the party on Monday and looking forward to all the fun activities planned for next week.



LADYBIRDS



Ladybirds have had a very Christmassy week! We have been busy rehearsing for both the play and the church service and finally got to perform our nativity for our families. We really hope you enjoyed it as we have loved putting it all together! We have also been making some lovely Christmas stockings, using our sewing skills. They're really nice and we can't wait for you to see them. We have looked at the old John Lewis advert 'Excitable Edgar' and we drew pictures of him using adjectives to describe him.

DRAGONFLIES

Dragonflies have had a very scientific week, full of research and investigation. In English, we have learned all about penguins researching lots of interesting facts about them. We will use our research next week to write a non-chronological report. In Science we have continued our 'Animals including Humans' topic looking at birds, amphibians and mammals. We compared each group looking for similarities and differences between them to enable us to classify different species. In Maths we have continued looking at directions. We had to use our knowledge to help 'Wally' find all his missing items, directing him around a map using the correct mathematical language. The Christmas Show has been truly phenomenal! Well done Dragonflies Class.



FAMILY SUPPORT AND PARENTING COURSES: FREE GUIDES AND ADVICE

Please see below for the link to Surrey County Council on-line guides which are free for Surrey families. If you scroll down to the bottom it has the button to register and the Surrey password for access to the different modules.

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/children/support-and-advice/families/support-and-advice/parenting-courses-and-advice/online-guides>

There is also a very useful page for Parenting Courses, webinars and videos:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/children/support-and-advice/families/support-and-advice/parenting-courses-and-advice>



Have an absolutely brilliant weekend (and one last, school night Sunday!). Thoroughly enjoy!

God bless, *Lenia Greenaway*

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 Vaquinhass. 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"

HOUSE TEAM POINTS



HOMEWORK

Busy Bees: Keep reading with your grown ups

Ladybirds: No homework but lots of reading please

Dragonflies: Reading



ST PETER'S CHURCH, TANDRIDGE



SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER

11am Christingle Service

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

6.30pm Evensong

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS at ST PETER'S

SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER
From 9am church & churchyard tidy up

SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER
11am Nine Lessons and Carols followed by refreshments

MONDAY 18 - SATURDAY 23 DECEMBER @ ST MARY'S
Anytime between 4pm-6pm come & experience the Nativity Journey & enjoy refreshments (free event)

THURSDAY 21 DECEMBER
10am Baby Space Christmas special
7pm Carol singing around Tandridge meet at the Barley Mow
8pm Youth Space Christmas special

FRIDAY 22 DECEMBER
9.30am Meeting Place Christmas special in The Space
Drinks at the Rectory from 4pm

CHRISTMAS EVE
5.30pm Nativity Service optional to come in any nativity costume
11.30pm Midnight Communion

CHRISTMAS DAY
8am Parish Communion
11am Family Communion

Christingle

ST PETER'S TANDRIDGE

All age service. Everyone welcome!

SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER

11am

Dear Father God,
Thank You for the wonderful hope that the Christmas message instils into each of our hearts, and the glorious message of the gospel of peace. Peace with God to all Who believe in His name and the peace with God for all who have become Your children.

Amen.



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

01883 712439 | hello@stpetersinfant.org | www.stpetersinfant.org



Southwark Diocesan Board of Education
Supporting Christian Education



The Walt Disney Company's streaming service, Disney+ combines entertainment from the famous animation studio itself with Pixar, Star and National Geographic, plus the Marvel and Star Wars franchises. With access to the latest releases, Disney classics and original series, there's plenty of content to explore. While parents may have noted that adverts have now been introduced on some versions of the service, the platform is – unsurprisingly for a Disney product – designed to be appropriate for the whole family.

Be especially cautious if you receive emails or text messages purporting to be from Disney+. There have been numerous reports of online scammers impersonating Disney+ staff in an attempt to gain access to subscribers' personal information. Disney+ states it will never email or call customers asking for their payment details, their private information or their password.

Disney+ has introduced a new subscription package – Disney+ Standard with Ads – which plays commercials before movies and during shows (like many TV channels). There are no adverts in Junior Mode, but profiles with a content rating of 8+ years will see ads appropriate for that age category. Adults who give consent will see personalised adverts based on their location and viewing history.

If adults don't set a PIN for their profile, children could access it and encounter content which isn't age appropriate. In the settings, Junior Mode has a toggle titled 'Kid-Proof Exit' which requires the user to read four words (numbers, spelled out) and enter them to switch profiles. For older children who can read, though, this isn't secure enough - so using a PIN for adult profiles is recommended.

When setting up an account, there's an option to create profiles in what's called Junior Mode. This generally covers material that's suitable for children up to age 6 and is therefore fairly limited. You can give older children a wider choice of viewing by building a standard profile, then going into the settings and choosing a content rating from one of the pre-set alternatives: 6+, 9+, 12+ or 14+.

Disney+ enables you to effectively lock profiles behind a four-digit PIN. In particular, some of the shows on the platform's Star content hub are far more oriented to adults (including several hard-hitting dramas from US networks), so protecting parents' or older siblings' profiles with a PIN will help to prevent younger children stumbling across material which isn't intended for them.

When a cartoon, show or movie finishes, Disney+ uses algorithms to identify content with similar themes, which it thinks your child will also enjoy. This suggestion will then automatically begin to play by default. There's an option to turn off this auto-play function in the profile settings, which will encourage your child to take a break from the screen and move on to a different activity.

When your child watches a movie or show on Disney+ for the first time, you may want to sit with them to ensure it's suitable. You could do the same when introducing them to older films that you haven't seen for years: your perception of what's appropriate has very probably changed, and some of the language and attitudes in movies from your own childhood may seem quite shocking today.

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

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