



HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

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

Jeremiah 29:11

ISSUE NO. 4 : 7 Nov 2025

DIARY DATES



w/c 10 Nov	St Peter's Book Week & Anti-Bullying Week
Wed 12 Nov	5-6pm Open Evening for Prospective Parents September 2026 Admissions
Thurs 13 Nov	9.15am Open Morning for Prospective Parents September 2026 Admissions
	3.15pm Bumble Bee Book Shop in school hall—open to all
Fri 14 Nov	Book Character Dress Up Day for Children in Need
	2pm—3.15pm Bring Your Grandparent to School
	3.15pm Bumble Bee Book Shop in school hall—open to all
Mon 24 Nov	3.15pm Dragonflies Friendship Teatime in Tandridge Village Hall—All welcome
Thurs 27 Nov	PAUSE Day: Advent
w/c 1 Dec	Last week of Autumn Term After School Clubs restarting w/c 12 Jan 2026
Wed 3 Dec	9.15am Open Morning for Prospective Parents September 2026 Admissions
Tues 9 Dec	Busy Bees Christmas Play—details to follow
Wed 10 Dec	2pm KS1 Christmas Play—details to follow
Thurs 11 Dec	2pm KS1 Christmas Play—details to follow
Fri 12 Dec	FOSP Reindeer Run
Mon 15 Dec	Elfridges Christmas Shop and Class Parties
Tues 16 Dec	3.15-5pm FOSP Cinema Night
Wed 17 Dec	School Christmas Lunch
Fri 19 Dec	9am School Christmas Service at St Peter's Church—All welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Autumn II. I hope you all managed to take a little break with your wonderful children last week and are ready for a very busy term.

The class topic webs for this half term can be found on the school website and give you an insight into the exciting learning opportunities the children have in store in the coming weeks. I must warn you that—whether you are in denial or absolutely love it—we will be using the 'Christmas' word quite a lot this term. As you can imagine, when most of us are only just thinking about it, schools must start preparations earlier than normal to fit everything in before the end of term. Mind you, there are only 48 days until Christmas Day and we certainly have a lot to fit in this term. Next week is our School Book Week and Anti-Bullying Week, which we are really excited about, but then we have just 3 more weeks before our Christmas Performances. So, when you look at it like that, it is certainly going to be busy – but lots of fun! With this, a little word of caution; the children will get very tired towards the end of the term as they will undoubtedly be doing lots of exciting things outside of school as well as in school. So, please pace yourselves, for your own sanity!

BREAKING MEWS: Cat Steps In for Miss Greenaway, Declares More Naps for Everyone!

You may have heard that we had a little visitor to school on Wednesday. The cutest little cat sat at the school gates in the morning, followed Harry in and then made herself comfy—first in the school office with Mrs Rolfe and then in my office. Needless to say not a lot of work was done that day. With the help of all the staff, who went out of their way to buy cat food, and pop in to give her cuddles, she was very happy. Mr Atterton took her home until she was reunited with her owner. Apparently she had jumped out of a car on her way home at the weekend—yes, I did say 'jumped out of a car'! - and had been hiding out in the fields after being spooked by fireworks. It was lovely to have her with us, but also to see the love and attention bestowed on her by all the staff to make sure she was safe and well. I have to add the kindness of the children and many parents offering to adopt her and look after her was fantastic and I think sums up beautifully the caring and nurturing ethos of the school community.



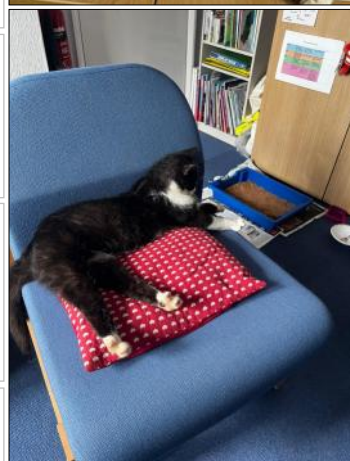
OUR PEACE GARDEN PROJECT

I would like to say a big thank you to all the children who sent in their ideas for our Peace Garden. The designs and ideas are absolutely fantastic. We will be studying these closely to see how we can incorporate as many ideas as possible into the final project.



REMINDER: Bring Your Grandparent To School

A reminder to please sign up grandparents wishing to attend our special event next Friday afternoon. This helps us to plan for a more enjoyable afternoon and ensure we can safely accommodate everyone. If you haven't already, please use the following link: [Grandparent Sign Up](#). Please share information about parking with anyone joining our event so that we can minimise disruption to the wider community. Thank you.



ROAD SAFETY

At this time of year we also ask you to think particularly of road safety. Remember that roads can often be wet and icy making it difficult for vehicles to react quickly and visibility is greatly reduced during these winter months. Please make sure your child is sufficiently visible outside the house and on the school run, particularly if you walk all or part of the route to/from school.

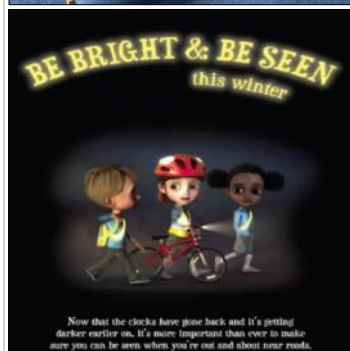
Consider:

Colourful coats: Outer clothing like coats, jackets and hats would benefit from being bright, vibrant colours, ideally with some fluorescent sections to make your child as easy to spot as possible and keep them warm during the winter months.

Reflective materials: Wearing synthetic materials that reflect well like waterproof materials will likely catch light reflected from cars and bikes better than natural fabrics. Most waterproof coats and high visibility jackets will use these fabrics.

Stickers and bags: High visibility bags, bag straps and bag accessories are all available for older children. Placing a couple of badges or stickers on their bags or coats can give a little extra warning to passing motorists.

Flashing lights and torches: When the darkest nights arrive at 4 to 5pm even reflective gear can become hard to see. Having attachable lights that blink using belts, hats or armbands (as you may see on some running gear) can help play an active role in visibility.



BUSY BEES

This week in Reception, our Busy Bees have been buzzing with excitement and learning! The children explored the story of Guy Fawkes and discovered why we celebrate Bonfire Night. They enjoyed talking about fireworks and created some stunning firework paintings using a variety of creative techniques—our classroom is sparkling with colour! They also learned all about firework safety. We had a visit today from members of Surrey Fire Department's Oxted Station. The children explored the fire engine and how everything works in it. They also had a session on fire safety with an opportunity to have a go at using the different hoses. We also talked about using the 999 number for emergencies. In Maths, we continued working on number bonds to 5, using Numicon and writing addition number sentences to deepen our understanding. The children are becoming confident mathematicians, applying their knowledge in practical and fun ways. In R.E., we have been thinking about celebrations—what we celebrate and why. The children shared their own experiences and reflected on the importance of these special moments in our lives.



LADYBIRDS

Ladybirds have had a lovely first week of half term. We started our topic on the Gunpowder Plot in history, looking at what happened and why it happened. We sequenced the events and created 'wanted' posters for Guy Fawkes. We also started to look at Remembrance Day and what this is. We created some lovely 'poppy' art work. In Maths we have started to look at numbers up to 50. We have been working really hard on forming these correctly. We also looked at adding numbers up to 50 using a numberline to help us. In English we have been looking at the story 'The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark' by Jill Tomlinson. We used adjectives to describe the character Plop and we have been planning our own versions of the story which we will be starting to write next week.

Homework: Practise your lines for the Christmas play, knowing when to speak.
Addition to 50 Email your completed homework to: homework@stpetersinfant.org

DRAGONFLIES

Dragonflies have had a brilliant first week back, settling really well into the routines again. In English we have looked at the book "Dirty Bertie" by David Roberts. The children have described the character, sequenced the story then planned their own versions. Their versions are really funny! In Maths we have looked at adding and subtracting 10 from a number. The children have really excelled in this area, picking up the concept very quickly. In Science we have started our new topic 'Animals including Humans'. We started by labelling a human and thinking about which area controls which of the senses. In DT we are designing penguins, which we will make. They can be seen at our 'Teatime' in a couple of weeks: we hope to see you there!

Homework: Please practise your lines for the Christmas play and know when to speak.
 Kahoot Quiz Code 04831539 (kahoot.it)
'10 less 10 more' Number Sentences
 Email your completed homework to: homework@stpetersinfant.org

BUILDING TRUST, TOGETHER

I'd like to take a moment to talk about something that sits at the heart of our school community: trust.

Each year, as we welcome new families to St Peter's, we highlight how important trust is between home and school. You know your children better than anyone, and we trust that you guide and support them with great care to the very best of your ability. In the same way that we hope you will trust us to teach and care for your children to the very best of ours.

I fully appreciate that it can be challenging to hand your child over to someone else for the day, and that you may naturally worry about them when they are out of your sight. That's why, from the very start, we focus on building strong, positive relationships. We help children learn what friendship looks like, who they can turn to for support, and how to treat one another with kindness and respect.

Your role in your child's development is essential. You are their first teachers, and the foundation you lay at home has a huge impact on how they grow and build relationships. We work closely with parents when planning and delivering our curriculum, keeping you informed about what we're teaching and why. We offer opportunities for you to understand our approach, ask questions, and help increase confidence in what we do.

This partnership between home and school is vital. When we work together—with openness, trust, and respect—we create the best possible environment for your children to feel safe, flourish, and achieve their potential. We are honoured to be part of your children's journey and are committed to working alongside you every step of the way. Thank you for the trust you place in us.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

Ellie (age 7); Emily & Imogen (age 6); Olivia G. & Ava (age 5)



I hope you all have a brilliant weekend. 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 Vaquinhos or phone the contact centre on:



Tel: 0300 200 1006



Did You Know? NOVEMBER

11 November was once Martinmas, a now mostly forgotten feast day where people would light candles, feast on goose and hold fairs. It marked the end of the farming year and the start of the long, dark winter.

The British horse weather proverb: "If there's ice in November that will bear a duck, there'll be nothing after but sludge and muck." Translation: If November is cold enough for thick ice, winter will be mild and messy!

Turkeys were once walked to market during November! Farmers in Norfolk and Suffolk would walk thousands of live turkeys to London – often wrapping their feet in little leather booties to protect them on the way. The journey could take weeks, all to ensure the birds arrived fresh for the Christmas markets.

Heavenly Father,

As we begin this new autumn half term, we give you thanks for the changing seasons and the opportunity for new beginnings. We place our school community in your faithful hands, knowing that you go before us, walk beside us, and watch over us always.

May our school be a place where love, joy, and peace flourish, and where everyone feels welcomed and supported. Help us to work together, treat each other with respect and kindness, and to be mindful of the most vulnerable among us.

May all that we do this year be for your glory, as we strive to show your love to one another and bring your light to the world. Amen.



HOUSE TEAM POINTS



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

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

GUIDING YOUNG VOICES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Bullying impacts the lives of many young people. In the UK, one in five pupils aged 10 to 15 report being bullied. The effects can be long lasting, affecting mental health, school attendance and self-esteem, and can impact long-term development into adult life. Adults play a key role in building young people's confidence to speak out, support one another, and stand up to unkind behaviour. This guide offers ways to help youngsters make a positive difference.

1 CELEBRATE DIFFERENCES

Help young people value diversity by showing that what makes us different is also what makes us strong. Encourage them to learn about different cultures, identities, and abilities through books, films, and conversations. By appreciating uniqueness in themselves and others, children can grow into open-minded individuals who build inclusive and welcoming environments.

2 MODEL RESPECT

Children watch and learn from how adults behave. Use respectful language, show patience in disagreements, and treat others with fairness – especially in front of children. By modelling inclusive behaviour and challenging unkindness, adults set a lasting example that respect should be part of every interaction, whether online, at school, or at home. Be the change you want to make.

3 SPOT THE SIGNS

Adults and young people should learn how to recognise signs that someone may be experiencing bullying. This might include withdrawal from friends, hobbies or interests, changes in mood, reluctance to go to school, or unusual injuries. Helping young people recognise these clues ensures that support can be offered sooner and problems do not go unnoticed.

4 VALIDATE FEELINGS

When a child shares something that worries them, it's important to listen carefully and validate how they feel. Respond with empathy – not judgement – and let them know it's okay to feel upset or confused. Offering reassurance and understanding helps young people feel safe about opening up, and builds the trust needed to talk again in future.

5 TEACH ALLYSHIP

Show children how to stand up for others in safe, respectful ways. Allyship might look like sitting next to someone who's been excluded, reporting hurtful behaviour, or speaking up when they witness bullying. By practising these responses together, you're helping children develop the courage to be kind and to take action when it really counts.

6 PROMOTE REPORTING

Ensure young people know how to report bullying and feel confident that they'll be taken seriously. Talk to them about who they can speak to and what to expect when they do, such as reporting school incidents to teachers, and out-of-school bullying to parents or teachers. Reassure them that reporting is a brave and helpful choice – not tattling – and that it plays a vital role in keeping everyone safe.

7 ENCOURAGE KINDNESS

Everyday acts of kindness can make a big difference in creating safer, happier spaces. Encourage children to look out for one another by being helpful, saying kind words, or including someone who feels left out. These small actions set a strong example that kindness matters, and that it can be a powerful response to bullying.

8 USE YOUR VOICE

Encourage young people to speak up for themselves and others. Whether through storytelling, school campaigns, or peer-led projects, children can learn that their voice has power. Support them to express themselves confidently and safely, helping them understand that sharing experiences can challenge injustice and inspire real change in their communities.

9 BUILD COMMUNITY AND BELONGING

Children thrive when they feel supported. Help them build strong friendships, join clubs or teams, and connect with trusted adults who care. These networks offer comfort, encouragement, and protection – particularly during challenging times. Remind children that they don't have to face difficulties alone and that support is always within reach.

10 SUSTAIN THE CONVERSATION

Bullying awareness shouldn't be limited to one week each year. Create regular opportunities to talk about kindness, respect, and inclusion. Use books, news stories, and personal experiences as conversation starters. Embed anti-bullying initiatives into the school, and make tackling bullying a shared, ongoing commitment.

Meet Our Expert

Robert Allsop is an experienced pastoral and safeguarding practitioner, specialising in tutorials, behaviour interventions, and attendance management. A recipient of the Diana Award for Anti-Bullying, he has helped raise standards and improve Ofsted outcomes in some of the country's most challenging schools and colleges.



The National College

See full reference list on our website.



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