



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. 9 : 23 Jan 2026

DIARY DATES



Wed 4 Feb	Ladybirds and Dragonflies Class Trip to Shah Jahan Mosque
Tues 10 Feb	E-Safety Open Morning for parents
w/c 14 Feb	Half Term
W/c 23 Feb	St Peter's Science Week
Fri 27 Feb	Science Dressing Up Day
Wed 11 Mar	Ladybirds Class Trip to Penshurst Place

"From its chamber comes the whirlwind, and cold from the scattering winds. By the breath of God ice is given, and the broad waters are frozen fast." Job 37:9-10

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a great week, and everyone is now back into the routines again after what may now seem a distant memory, the Christmas break!

Our spring term is well under way with lots of exciting learning taking place already and the children have been very busy with many different roles and responsibilities too.

FIRST STEPS INTO LEADERSHIP

Some of our Dragonflies children participated in a great programme delivered by Active Surrey where they were taught what makes a good leader and how to make sure everyone is taking part in the activities whilst having fun. They explored the skills and qualities of a good sports leader, learnt why teamwork is important and how to ensure everyone is engaged and having fun. They also explored the importance of warming up the body and the mind ready for physical activity and understood ways to improve activities by using the 'Mr NEED' principle (Name, Explain, Demonstrate, Deliver).

Finally, they led a 'PhysiFUN' game for the rest of the group. Their next task is to complete 3 challenges which will be set over the next term. These will be completed in school with Miss Saines (our P.E. Lead), using their newly learned leadership skills to work with each of the classes.



FAITH GROUP NEWS

The Faith Group met at the end of last week with me, Claire Roberts (our Faith Governor), Reverend Ashton and June (a trainee Vicar who is shadowing Rev. Ashton this month). We had a great discussion about the 'Reflection Corners' in our classrooms and our prayer books. And we delved further into spirituality which we have all been exploring this term.

SPIRITUALITY:

Spirituality helps us think about big questions

It helps us understand ourselves and the world around us

It's about wondering, thinking deeply, and growing as a person

This can be a very hard concept for adults let alone children to grasp; but they have been very impressive in their thinking. 'Spirituality is not something we can see; it is something we feel inside ourselves and it is bigger than ourselves. It is about awe and wonder, asking questions, inspiration and can be shared or be very personal.'

We introduced this as 'Windows', 'Mirrors' and 'Doors' to the children.

What are Windows?



Windows help us look OUT at the world

They help us see God's world in new and amazing ways
They help us notice things we've never seen before

Examples: Looking at nature and seeing God's creation
Learning about different people and places
Discovering new stories and ideas

What are Mirrors?



Mirrors help us look INWARD at ourselves

They give us time to think and reflect
They help us ask big questions

Examples: Who am I?
What do I believe?
How do I feel?
What matters to me?

What are Doors?



Doors help us step FORWARD into action

They give us chances to respond to what we've learned
They help us put our beliefs into practice

Examples: Being kind to someone
Helping in our community
Standing up for what's right
Making a difference in the world

If you would like to find out more, please do look on the school website: <https://stpetersinfant.org/spirituality/>



ECO COUNCIL NEWS

Our Eco Council have also been in action this week, meeting to discuss the responsibilities we take on at home to support our planet. We had a fantastic discussion about electricity, recycling and water. The children were very keen to write a little article about how we can conserve water rather than waste it. I have included it here so you can see how you can support the work they are doing. We look forward to hearing any other suggestions/tips you might have for conserving water.

"We forget that the water cycle and the life cycle are one." — Jacques Yves Cousteau



Saving Water: A Message from Our ECO Council

Hello from St Peter's School ECO Council!

We've been learning all about how precious water is and why we need to look after it. Did you know that even though water covers most of our planet, only a tiny amount is safe for us to drink? That's why we need to be really careful not to waste it!

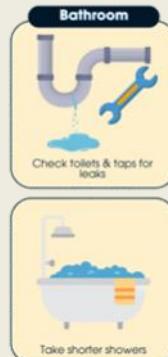
💧 WHY IS SAVING WATER IMPORTANT?

Water is essential for everything – drinking, washing, growing our food, and keeping our planet healthy. When we waste water, we're also wasting the energy needed to clean it and pump it to our homes. By saving water, we're helping to look after our environment!

OUR TOP TIPS FOR SAVING WATER AT HOME:

In the bathroom:

- Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth – you could save 6 litres of water every minute!
- Take shorter showers instead of baths (or share bath water with siblings if you do have a bath)
- Tell a grown-up if you spot a dripping tap – even small drips waste lots of water over time



In the kitchen:

- Only fill the kettle with the water you need
- Use a bowl to wash fruit and vegetables instead of running water
- Wait until the dishwasher is full before running it (if you have one)



In the garden:

- Collect rainwater in a water butt to water plants
- Water plants early in the morning or late in the evening so less water evaporates
- Use a watering can instead of a hose



Around the house:

- Only run the washing machine when it's full
- Keep a jug of water in the fridge instead of running the tap until it's cold
- Use leftover water from water bottles to water houseplants



Our ECO Council challenge!

This week, we challenge every family to try at least three of our water-saving tips.

Can you spot any water being wasted at home? Talk to your family about how you can save water together!



Remember: Every drop counts!

Thank you for helping us look after our wonderful planet.

From

St Peter's School ECO Council.



CLASS NEWS

BUSY BEES

Busy Bees have continued their exciting learning about 'Space', with a special focus on the Solar System and the planets. The children have really enjoyed exploring the different planets and the unique features of each. We shared the story *"Man on the Moon"* by Simon Bartram, and the children then wrote about their favourite part of the story and designed their own alien characters—their creativity really shone! Our artist focus for this half term is Vincent van Gogh. The children learned about his life and some of his most famous artworks. They were particularly inspired by The Starry Night and enjoyed creating their own beautiful versions of this swirling night-time scene. In Maths, we moved on to exploring more complex patterns. The children had a wonderful outdoor session where they worked with natural materials to deepen their understanding of repeating patterns.



LADYBIRDS

Ladybirds have been fantastic this week. In Maths, we have been learning how to add a one digit number to a two digit number using a variety of methods to help us with this. In Science, continuing our 'Animals including Humans' topic, we studied the five senses. We conducted a food tasting experiment and described the foods using all five of our senses. In English, we have been looking at the story *'Meerkat Mail'* by Emily Gavett. We completed some research on meerkats using the Chromebooks and created a fact file to incorporate the information we had gathered. We also had our first computing lesson using our Purple Mash software. You will find log in details stuck in the back of the children's reading record books. If you log into Purple Mash and click on the '2do' section, some spellings and various activities have been set for the children to complete. Any questions about this, please let me know.

DRAGONFLIES

Dragonflies have had a very busy week. Our Titanic history topic is proving to be hugely popular with the children and it is lovely to hear them sharing their amazing knowledge with each other. In Maths we have continued to look at fractions—finding fractions that aren't just one part. We have also started to explore the concept of remainders and using multiplication to check answers. In Science we have conducted another material hunt around school, this time looking for items of metal. We then compared and contrasted this to other materials to understand why some objects might be metal and others not. In English we have started to write our own versions of parts of the film "Up!" using our individual planning.

Please make sure full PE Kits are in school at all times. There were a number of children still without kit this week. Thank you

Homework: >>[Homework 22.1.26 maths fractions.doc](#)

ZOOM!

Each year we are treated with a visit from the Pied Piper Theatre Company. Last week we got to enjoy their performance of 'Zoom!' which is a gorgeous tale about an alien visiting Earth when his spaceship failed. It is a story about how he, and we, learned the importance of recycling and protecting our planet as well as our friendships.

If you would like to watch the production with your child[ren] it can be viewed on the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJDA1mixi2w>

An enormous thank you to the Friends of St Peter's for providing this wonderful treat for us all.



A NEW HOLIDAY CLUB IS COMING!

We are excited to introduce our new holiday club, launching this Easter at the school. The club will provide a safe, welcoming and engaging environment where children can relax, play and learn during the holidays. Sessions will be run by familiar Kids Club staff, within the school setting, and will focus on learning through play, including creative activities, games and opportunities to build friendships.

Please email info.holiday@theholidayclubs.com for more information.

I hope you all have a truly brilliant weekend.

God Bless, Lenia Greenaway

"One thing about January—it sure makes you feel every one of its 31 days!"



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

Tel: 0300 200 1006
"Safeguarding is Everyone's Business"

HOUSE TEAM POINTS



70



58



78



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 or phone the contact centre on:

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is an online platform where users can play and create games known as 'experiences' made by other users. Roblox has a large UK audience. ITV News has reported that millions of people in Britain use the platform regularly, with children forming a significant proportion of its users. The sheer scale of it makes it extremely difficult to moderate effectively, creating risks for unsupervised children.

A PLATFORM RATHER THAN A GAME

Roblox differs from traditional video games in that it hosts millions of user-created experiences rather than a fixed set of developer-produced content. Each experience is self-rated by its creator rather than independently age-rated in advance, as is the case with PEGI-rated games. With millions of user-created experiences, moderation is largely automated which means that inappropriate content may reach younger players and have a harmful effect.

MATURE CONTENT

With much of Roblox's moderation automated through AI and creators self-certifying suitability, inappropriate content frequently appears on the platform. Some experiences may include content intended for older players. While Roblox has tools to restrict access based on age settings, these systems are not always perfect. Younger players are likely to encounter content you may deem unsuitable.

IN-GAME SPENDING

Roblox is free to play, but many experiences and cosmetics include optional purchases using Robux, the platform's virtual currency, to get advantages in games. This business model is common across online games, but reporting has highlighted cases where children have spent large amounts of money unintentionally or without understanding the real-world cost.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox encourages repeated and extended play. Many experiences are made of short tasks, rewards, and progression systems that can prompt users to keep playing for longer periods of time. Some games also use reminders, daily rewards, or timed events to encourage frequent logins. These designs can make it difficult to stop playing. Spending long periods online may affect sleep, schoolwork, or other activities if boundaries are not in place.

COMMUNICATION WITH OTHER USERS

Roblox includes text and voice features that allow players to chat in shared game spaces. While the platform uses automated filters and moderation tools, media investigations have found that inappropriate and potentially harmful messages can still get through. There are risks that children could be targeted by groomers. In response, Roblox has announced changes to how chat works. The platform plans to use facial age-estimation technology to restrict chat access between adults and children they do not know.

Advice for Parents & Educators

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox's parental controls provide an important starting point. Linking a child's account to an adult account allows parents to apply spending controls, limit communication features, and review recent activity. Regular supervision, use of parental controls, and conversations with children about what they see online can help reduce the risk of exposure to inappropriate content.

CONSIDER LIMITING OR DISABLING CHAT

Although Roblox is introducing tighter age-based chat restrictions, some parents and educators may prefer to disable chat entirely for younger children. Children can still play games while communicating with friends they know through other supervised platforms.

PLAY TOGETHER WHERE POSSIBLE

Playing Roblox with a child can help adults understand the types of experiences available, how monetisation works, and how children interact online. This shared engagement can also make it easier for children to raise concerns if something feels wrong. Parents and educators should monitor all games played on Roblox due to its self-rating nature.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Many Roblox experiences are creative and age appropriate, and for many children, the platform is an important way to socialise with friends. Rather than banning it outright, parents and educators should talk openly with children about online safety, spending, and how to respond to inappropriate behaviour.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a technology journalist who has written for publications including *Wired*, *TechRadar*, *The Telegraph*, *The Evening Standard*, *The Guardian* and *The New Statesman*.



See full reference list on our website

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