



# 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. 12 : 13 Mar 2026

## DIARY DATES



Tues 17 Mar	Parent Teacher Consultations
Thurs 19 Mar	PAUSE Day: EASTER Parent Teacher Consultations
Fri 20 Mar	MUFTI Day: Red Nose Day for Comic Relief/Odd Socks Day
Thurs 26 Mar	2.30pm FOSP Bunny Hop
Fri 27 Mar	9am St Peter's Easter Service @ St Peter's Church—All welcome
Mon 13 Apr	Start of summer term
Tues 28 Apr	Class Photographs
Wed 29 Apr	Dragonflies Class visit to BigWood Estate



Dear Parents and Carers,

How lovely the school looks now that the scaffolding has come down and the sunshine has given us a chance to admire the newly painted fascias and windows. It has been wonderful to see the building revealed again. With spring finally beginning to blossom, we are hoping to make the most of our fantastic outdoor spaces and enjoy using the field and surrounding areas once more.

It has been a very busy week, with rehearsals having been in full swing for our Mother's Day assembly, which took place yesterday. The children truly shone and demonstrated so many of our Christian values, including respect, perseverance, love, friendship and thankfulness. They were absolutely superb. Mother's Day is always a special time for our mums, nans and grandmothers, and we hope that all our mums feel thoroughly spoiled this weekend.



*"As a mother comforts a child so will I comfort you, says the Lord"*

Isaiah 66:13

## OUR COMMUNITY AT ITS BEST

I would also like to say a huge thank you to all the parents and children who spoke with the inspectors last week and shared your views about the school so positively during our SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspection. Moreover, I want to thank you all for your ongoing support each day to ensure that our staff can work in partnership and enable all children here to flourish, whether of Christian faith, another faith or not of faith. The final report will be published after the Easter holidays, and we will of course share the link with you as soon as we receive it. It was a wonderful opportunity to showcase all that our children and staff do to make our school such a special place. Thank you so much for your support.

## LEARNING THROUGH EXPERIENCE

Our Ladybirds Class enjoyed a wonderful trip to Penshurst Place on Wednesday and had a truly fantastic time. The toy museum at Penshurst has recently been renovated, and it was such a highlight that they could easily have spent hours exploring it! When they returned, they were full of excited stories about their day and represented the school beautifully with their impeccable behaviour. We are so pleased that you all had such an excellent day and would like to say thank you so much to the Friends (FOSP) for covering the full cost once again. Parental support for all FOSP fundraising activities enables us to be able to provide these lovely and memorable 'extras' for the children and we are grateful to you all for this.



## BUSY BEES

It has been a vibrant and busy couple of weeks in Busy Bees as we continue our journey as Rainforest and Savannah Explorers. The children have been captivated by the story of "Handa's Surprise" by Eileen Browne. To bring the book to life, the children have been exploring the various fruits Handa carried on her journey. We introduced the concept of adjectives and the children used their five senses to describe the fruits, writing wonderful sentences like "The pineapple is prickly" and "The mango is sweet and soft." In our Maths sessions, we have been strengthening our "number sense." The children used physical objects and number lines to identify one more and one less than a given number. The children have been working very hard on their Mother's Day presents. We've kept things top-secret to ensure a wonderful surprise, but we can tell you that a lot of care, and heart went into every single creation and we hope you like them. In RE, we explored the importance of the cross symbol—discussing what it represents and how it is a special symbol for Christians. To reflect on this, the children practiced their threading and weaving skills to create beautiful crosses using cardboard and wool.

## LADYBIRDS

Ladybirds have had a fantastic week! Our school trip to Peshurst Place was a wonderful experience. The children had the opportunity to explore a variety of old toys and compare them with modern ones. We visited the toy museum, which sparked lots of curiosity and discussion, and the children particularly enjoyed the chance to play with some traditional toys before creating their own. I am incredibly proud of all the Ladybirds. They demonstrated excellent behaviour throughout the day and were a real credit to the school. A big thank you as well to our parent volunteers for their support. In Maths, we have begun learning how to tell the time to o'clock and half past the hour. The children have picked up this new skill very quickly, which has been fantastic to see. We have also been very busy preparing some lovely things for our tea time on Monday—but we won't give any surprises away just yet!

**Homework: Reading**

## DRAGONFLIES

Dragonflies have, amongst other things, been great mathematicians this week, learning their 2, 5 and 10 times tables to support their understanding of the inverse operation of Division. They have worked extremely hard with this, and I am very proud of them all. They have been so enthusiastic about our dance/movement sessions in PE, that we sneakily moved things around to fit one in this week. They also blew us away with their learning and singing of the song 'This little light of mine'. Wow! You are all amazing. I did say that as a reward for all your hard work you only had to do plenty of reading over the weekend, but so many of you loved our Division maths work (lots of lightbulb moments) that, if you would like to 'create your own Division worksheets' you are very welcome – the children will explain what this means, as they decided upon it! No other homework will be set his week. Enjoy!

## STILL TO COME...

Over the next couple of weeks, we have lots of exciting events happening for the children. On Monday we have the **Ladybird's Friendship Teatime**. We hope lots of you will be able to come along to the Village Hall after school to support the children with this. They have been busy making things to sell, and all funds raised (after hall hire costs are taken out) go towards little extras for the class. We really do appreciate your support at these events as they are such valuable experiences for the children.

We are also looking forward to our **Pause Day** and another exciting Immersive Arts Project with the whole school next Thursday. We will bring you lots of photos in the following week's newsletter. Friday is our **MUFTI day** raising funds for Comic Relief and Odd Socks (wear RED and/or Odd Socks with a donation for charity), and then, unbelievably, it will be the last week of the spring term. How is the time going so quickly? – the days/weeks are just flying by.

A quick reminder too that next week we are holding our **Parent Teacher Consultations** for you to catch up with your class teacher and discuss your child's progress thus far. Please remember to check your time slot and ensure you arrive in plenty of time. Unfortunately, late arrivals may need to be rescheduled to avoid knock on effects for other parents. For the same reason, we ask you to please be mindful of the 10 minute allocation. If you feel you need to discuss any issues further please email the school office to request a meeting with your class teacher outside of the scheduled appointments next week.



## HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS TO...

Oliver (age 5); and Floss (age 7)



Dear Father God, we lift up all mothers to You.

**Grant them the strength to face the daily challenges with courage and the wisdom to guide their children towards a life of faith and service.**

**Encourage them when they are weary and inspire them when they feel overwhelmed.**

**Bless them with Your peace and love, now and forever. Amen**



## ST PETER'S CHURCH

### LENT & EASTER 2026

#### Shrove Tuesday 17th February

Pancakes & Prayers in The\_Space

#### Ash Wednesday 18th February at St Mary's

11am & 8pm Holy Communion services with ashing

#### Lent Community Lunches all Wednesdays in Lent

12noon in The\_Space

#### Palm Sunday 29th March at St Mary's & St Peter's

8am, 9.30am, 11am, 4.30pm & 6.30pm services

#### Holy Week Prayers at St Peter's

7pm - Mon 30th March, Tues 31st March, Wed 1st

#### Maunder Thursday 2 April

7pm Christian Passover Meal in The\_Space with communion 8.30pm Stripping of the Altars in St Mary's

#### Good Friday 3rd April

10am - 11.30am Craft Morning for all in OCH

9.30am - 11.30am The Meeting Place in The\_Space

12noon Seven Words on the Cross at St Peter's

12noon Walk of Witness (Council offices to the war memorial)

2pm An Hour at the Cross at St Mary's

#### Easter Sunday 20th April

6.15am Sunrise Service in St Mary's Churchyard

followed by breakfast in The\_Space

8am Holy Communion at St Mary's

8am Holy Communion at St Peter's

9.30am Family Communion at St Mary's followed by

Easter Egg hunt

11am Family Communion at St Peter's followed by

Easter Egg hunt

6.30pm Holy Communion at St Peter's

**St Mary's Oxted & St Peter's Tandridge**



## 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:

**Tel: 0300 200 1006**

"Safeguarding is Everyone's Business"

## HOUSE TEAM POINTS



115



52



57

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

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about STREAMING SERVICES

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Streaming services are platforms that allow users to watch cartoons, documentaries and movies online immediately (often referred to as SVoD: streaming videos on demand). Ofcom reported that children and young adults prefer streaming services to traditional TV. With two-thirds of UK households subscribing to at least one streaming service, parents must understand how to manage screen time, set age restrictions and ensure safe viewing.

### COSTLY

Subscription services can be costly. As the main source of entertainment, most households have at least one streaming platform, and each platform has its own monthly subscription fee. Services are charging more for ad-free viewing, and better quality and resolution; however, there is a cheaper option with adverts. Due to price increases, Netflix and Disney+ reported a sharp increase in users subscribing to their ad-supported tier in 2025.

### ILLEGAL STREAMING

Sharing passwords or using modified Fire Sticks to access streaming content without permission is illegal. Most streaming services have now put measures in place to detect account sharing. When account sharing is identified, platforms will offer an opportunity to pay for an added member or will ask the user to verify who they are.

### AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Most streaming platforms allow users to set up a profile for each family member, with the option of putting specific restrictions in place. These include adding a profile lock or PIN, controlling autoplay of previews and next episodes, and limiting content based on age ratings. Nonetheless, these restrictions aren't foolproof. Content which is rated as suitable for an age group may still include themes, language, or images which children and families find inappropriate.

### EXCESSIVE SCREEN TIME

Excessive screen time contributes to sedentary behaviour and can negatively impact physical and mental health. Ofcom found that 4- to 15-year-olds averaged 2.5 hours per day across all video-sharing platforms, not including gaming. The vast range of content available, combined with features such as autoplay, makes it easy for children to watch for extended periods of time.

### BINGE WATCHING

Features such as autoplay make it easy for viewers – especially young people – to continue watching episodes without a break. This can foster unhealthy and addictive patterns, such as consuming a vast amount of content in one sitting. With binge watching come a lack of social interaction, lack of physical exercise, and often late nights and sleep disruptions which impact their mental and physical wellbeing.

### HARMFUL STEREOTYPES

Many platforms track viewing habits, time consumed, and preferences, and generate recommendations to encourage your child to keep watching. This results in your child being in a 'loop' whereby they think the 'recommended' shows would be something they would enjoy rather than thinking critically for themselves. This can shape their beliefs, values, and understanding of the world from a young age without even realising it.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### SET UP INDIVIDUAL PROFILES AND ADD PINS

Almost all streaming services allow users to set up individual profiles where each family member can have age restrictions put in place for the content they can view. Adult profiles can be protected through the use of PIN. Keep this private. Use the options of putting specific restrictions in place such as controlling autoplay of previews and next episodes, and limiting content based on age ratings.

### MONITOR AND TALK OFTEN

Discuss with your child what they are watching, find out which programmes are trending, and watch them yourself. Have a little look at their watch history to check the content of what they're watching. Some platforms have been known to recommend or autoplay older or graphic content after a child's movie has been played. While some TV shows or movies may have a suitable age rating, your child may still find the content scary, or it may explore themes you don't want to explore with your child yet.

### TALK ABOUT ALGORITHMS

Talk to your child about how streaming services track what they watch, and base adverts and recommended shows/movies on previous viewing. Encourage them to critically think about whether the recommendations are suitable and how they want to spend their time. Discuss stereotypes with your child and challenge them to think about what they watch and how this may influence their beliefs.

### SET TIME RESTRICTIONS

Many streaming services offer the opportunity to buy movies, or add additional features to your subscription such as sports channels, as well as play games. This can increase the amount of time young people spend sitting idly in front of the screen. Some platforms (e.g. Apple TV+) allow you to set screen time restrictions. If the streaming service doesn't allow you to set screen time limits, set a family rule and stick to it.

### Meet Our Expert

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.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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