



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. 16 : 21 MAY 2026

DIARY DATES



Fri 22 May	INSET Day—school closed for Staff Training
Mon 1 Jun	INSET Day—school closed for Staff Training
w/c 15 Jun	St Peter's Health & Wellbeing Week with Dance Workshops; Skipfit; and Health & Wellbeing Workshops
Fri 19 Jun	9am – 12noon "Bring Your Dad to School" & 1.30pm Sports Day - weather permitting
Thurs 25 Jun	9.15am Open Morning for Prospective Parents Sept 2027 Admissions
Fri 26 Jun	MUFTI Day: Fete donations
Mon 29 Jun	3.15pm Busy Bees Friendship Teas in Tandridge Village Hall
Tues 30 Jun	Transition Day
Thurs 2 Jul	Pause Day: St Peter
Fri 3 Jul	Busy Bees Class Trip to Gatton Park
Sat 4 Jul	St Peter's School Summer Fete
Wed 8 Jul	Ladybirds Class Visit to the Big Wood Estate
Thurs 9 Jul	Dragonflies Class Visit to Tilgate Park Nature Centre
Fri 10 Jul	Reserve Sports Day
Wed 15 Jul	FOSP Cinema Night
Thurs 16 Jul	2pm Leavers Assembly for Year 2 children and parents
Tues 21 Jul	9am End of Year Celebration Service at St Peter's Church—All welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have made it to the May half term and now the last half term of the school year looms. How did that happen so fast? Although the weather has teased us considerably with its "it is summer, no it's not summer yet" routines, the term has been a lovely one filled with lots of exciting learning and different experiences for the children. I know, for example, they loved meeting the Nite Owls and participating in our fun whole school activities such as our bug hotel making project last week. It is always such a joy to see the children working so well together and collaborating on these types of activities when joining children together from across the classes. We saw some truly fabulous and creative ideas.

I want to give a whole school shout out to the children who have all been absolutely brilliant during our Collective Worships recently, showing wonderful curiosity and thoughtfulness as they have explored different parables. It has been wonderful to see them listening so attentively and engaging with the timeless messages these stories contain. The children have asked insightful questions and made meaningful connections between the parables and our school values, demonstrating a real depth of understanding. Their enthusiasm for discussing what they have learned has been fantastic, and we have been very impressed by how they have reflected on how these teachings can guide us in our daily lives. Well done to everyone for their excellent engagement and thoughtful contributions.

The final half term is always a very busy one for everyone, so please do keep a close eye on diary dates. One of our first important dates is **Sports Day** and **'Bring Your Dad to School'** morning which will be held on Friday 19 June – please do save that date if you can. A letter was sent by email this morning with further details about these two events.



Important Date Change: **BUSY BEES FRIENDSHIP TEATIME**

Monday 29 June 3.15pm in Tandridge Village Hall

Due to some transition activities happening outside of school for our Year 2 children, we have changed the date of Busy Bees Teatime to allow as many families as possible to attend. More details to follow nearer the time.

OUR MEGA MARATHON MAN

Congratulations and a huge thank you to Eleanor in Ladybirds' daddy, Vinny, for running the London Marathon and raising an amazing £430 for our school! What an incredible achievement, well done Vinny and thank you to all those who sponsored his efforts!

CLASS NEWS

BUSY BEES

This week, the Busy Bees have been busy exploring the life and work of Sir David Attenborough. The children showed great enthusiasm when learning about his role in raising awareness about our natural world and the importance of animal conservation. They enjoyed discussing a range of animals and wrote about their favourites. The class also designed eye-catching posters to help raise awareness of endangered animals, showing creativity and a growing understanding of how we can help protect wildlife. We also had a lot of fun designing scarecrows to protect the seeds and plants from the birds. In Maths, we revisited the days of the week, focusing on ordering them correctly and understanding how time is measured in different ways. The children explored units of time including months, days, weeks and hours. We worked on recognising o'clock times on both analogue and digital clocks. The children practised matching these times to key events in their daily routines and in familiar stories, helping them make meaningful connections with time in everyday life.



LADYBIRDS

Ladybirds have been very busy, re capping their learning on money. We have been learning what each coin is worth and adding coins together. We learned there can be more than one way to make a total amount. In English, we had the opportunity to show off our amazing writing skills. We planned and wrote a story based on a topic of our choice. These stories were lovely to read.

Homework: reading - lots of it please!



HOUSE TEAM POINTS



51



47



43

DRAGONFLIES

Dragonflies have had a fantastic week, demonstrating their excellent skills through a variety of Maths and English challenges. They have also been thoroughly enjoying learning different maypole dances with Miss Saines. The children have become so wonderful that I asked Miss Saines to choreograph an additional dance for them! She has risen to the challenge brilliantly and is clearly enjoying the creative process just as much as the children are enjoying learning the dances.

Homework: Please continue to do a wealth of reading of all different genres over the half term and keep learning your common exception words.

We know that the children are definitely ready for their half term break, so we hope they thoroughly enjoy their adventures over the week. We also hope that you are able to enjoy this time too or at least have a thoroughly brilliant Bank Holiday Weekend! Enjoy!

God Bless, *Lenia Greenaway*

Dear Father God,

We thank you for guiding us through the busy weeks that have passed.

As we step into this half-term break, we ask for your calming presence to fill our minds, our homes, and our schedules.

Please grant us the quiet rest we so deeply need.

Pour out your patience and grace over our relationships, that our time together may be filled with joy, laughter, and refreshing connections.

Guard our steps as we travel or embark on new adventures and keep us safe in Your care.

Help us to step away from our worries, to enjoy the present moment, and to recharge our spirits.

May we return to our daily routines renewed, strengthened, and grateful for the gift of rest.

Amen.



REMINDER:

Tomorrow (22 May) and Monday 1 June are INSET Days.
We look forward to having the children back in school on Tuesday 2 June.



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"



Friends of St Peter's News:

St Peter's School Summer Fete
Fun for all the family!
Saturday 4th July 12-4pm
Tandridge Lane Oxted RH8 9NN

BBQ & Pimms Tent and bar
Live performances
Traditional fete games
Local Produce
Vintage tractors
Tombola
Face painting
Pony Rides
Maypole
Crafts
Tea & Cake

SPONSORED BY **Robert Leech**

ST PETER'S FETE 4TH JULY - WE NEED YOU!

It's all systems go for our Fete on 4th July, with a huge amount of work being put in by the planning team to pull this off. Here's where we need your help- let's make this a fun-filled event for everyone and raise lots of money for our school!! Thank you!

HOW YOU CAN HELP....

Help us at the "Get-In"

On Friday 3rd from 4.15pm we'll need c4 people to help unload cars, prepare equipment and prizes, store cakes and label items in the school hall. Please message Victoria if you can help on 07932 681140. (No children, sorry)

Volunteer on a stall

Please have a look at the document here to see where you can help:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1mBP3knOCGvWdxXQZHXJdQCSMIO5aZ5JOGd-HA/edit?usp=drivesdk>

Why not get together with friends and family to run a stall, it's great fun and just for an hour, leaving the rest of the day for you to enjoy all the activities we've planned! Or help us to set-up or clear-up at the end of the day.

Follow, and like our Fete page on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61575126051577>

The more people attending our fete, the more money we'll raise for our school!

Bake for the tea and cake tent!

Please see separate Bake Off details.

Donate toys and books - collection day Friday 5th June, drop-off and pick-up

Have a clear out over half term and recycle your unwanted toys and books. We also need small plastic toys that we use as prizes; think party bag offerings such as snap bands, fidget toys, stationery, kinder egg toys, key rings etc

Help us with some equipment

Do you have any inflatable bouncers/hoppers we can borrow or keep? All shapes and sizes needed, please message Victoria on 07932 681140

Can we borrow your gazebo? We are in need of a few more gazebos for fete day, please message us if you can help

Donate unwanted gifts or bottles for our tombola stall!

26 June - MUFTI day and tombola donations at drop-off and pick-up



THE GREAT Tandridge Bake Off
at St Peter's School Fete
Saturday 4th July, 12-4pm

ENTER OUR COMPETITION AND DAZZLE THE JUDGES!

- Best 4 decorated cupcakes age 7 and under
- Best 4 decorated cupcake age 8 and over
- Best Victoria Sponge

FOLLOW THE LINK IN THE POST FOR ALL THE INFORMATION ON HOW TO ENTER

Or just bake something yummy for our tea and cake tent!
Donations can be brought to school between 4.30-5.30 on Friday 3rd or on fete day from 10am

The Great Tandridge Bake Off!

We're delighted to announce The Great Tandridge Bake Off, taking place at St Peter's Fete on 4th July! We invite you to enter one of 3 categories:

- All age traditional Victoria Sponge cake
- Best decorated 4 identical cupcakes age 7 and under
- Best decorated 4 identical cupcakes age 8 and over

Entries should be brought to the Bake Off tent by 1pm on fete day. Full details can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/TV-Bake-Off>

And if you don't fancy entering the competition, we would love your bakes for the tea and cake tent please! All cakes, cookies, traybakes and cupcakes welcomed! Contributions can be brought to the school at drop-off or pick-up on Friday 3rd July, or the morning of the fete from 10am. Thank you!

Every raffle ticket bought, cake sold and fete stall attended helps Friends of St Peter's raise vital funds that directly benefit *YOUR* child – join in, support the fun, and make a real difference together.



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

01883 712439

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Southwark Diocesan Board of Education
Supporting Christian Education



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MINECRAFT

As the best-selling game in history, Minecraft has made a name for itself by empowering audiences of all ages to harness their creativity. Originally an indie hit, it's become a cultural phenomenon with merchandise, spin-off titles, and wider media adaptations. Even if you don't know your Creepers from your Endermen, this guide will explore the risks of Minecraft in 2026 and explain how to support a safe gaming experience for the children in your care.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

PUBLIC SERVER COMMUNICATION

Many players enjoy Minecraft with others, including friends and unknown players online. In-game text chat is commonly used to coordinate building projects and gameplay, and this can extend to adding friends to voice chat. While often harmless, this creates risks around contact with strangers, and in some cases server hosts may expose IP addresses (if hosting independently), which raises privacy and security concerns.

GRIEFING BEHAVIOUR

Some players deliberately damage or destroy other players' creations. This behaviour, known as 'griefing', is a form of bullying that can undo hours of effort and cause frustration or distress to affected players. Although many servers treat griefing as a serious offence, enforcement varies. Children who prefer to build independently may feel safer working on private worlds or controlled servers.

ADDICTIVE GAMEPLAY LOOPS

Minecraft's creative focus can make it easy for players to lose track of time. The cycle of gathering resources and building projects can be highly engaging, which may challenge agreed screen-time limits. If not managed effectively, this can impact children's sleep, schoolwork, and real-world social interaction.

SCARY GAME ELEMENTS

Although often compared to digital construction toys, some gameplay modes include hostile creatures with unsettling sounds and sudden encounters. While there is no graphic violence, younger players may still find zombies, spiders, or dark environments frightening. These experiences can lead to anxiety or reluctance to play, depending on the child's age and sensitivity.

IN-GAME SPENDING

Minecraft requires a one-off purchase after a free trial, usually around £15, but additional spending is possible. Players can buy cosmetic content or subscribe to Minecraft 'Realms' for private servers. Without supervision, children may make unintended purchases. Subscription services and add-ons can also increase overall costs over time if not monitored.

ONLINE INTERACTIONS

Playing with others can introduce broader online safety concerns, including exposure to inappropriate language or behaviour. Some players may attempt to move conversations beyond the game, which can increase risks to children's safety and welfare. Children may not always recognise these situations, meaning guidance and ongoing conversations about safe interactions are essential.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHOOSE SUITABLE GAME MODES

Creative or Peaceful modes remove hostile creatures and reduce the pressure during gameplay. These options allow children to focus on building and exploration without fear of attack. They are also ideal for shared play between adults and children, creating a calmer environment to learn the game and enjoy collaborative projects.

USE PRIVATE SERVERS

Setting up a private server helps control who can join a child's game. Access can be limited to trusted friends through passwords or invitations. This reduces the likelihood of unwanted interactions and gives adults greater oversight. While some options involve a subscription fee, they offer a safer and more controlled multiplayer experience.

DISCUSS ONLINE STRANGERS

Children should understand that not everyone they meet online is who they claim to be. Clear guidance about not sharing personal information is essential. Encourage children to report any worrying or uncomfortable interactions and reassure them that they can seek help without fear of punishment. Open, ongoing conversations help build their confidence and awareness of these issues.

SET SPENDING BOUNDARIES

Agree on clear rules around purchases before letting children play, and use device settings or platform controls to restrict spending within agreed limits. Explaining that in-game currency uses real-world money can help children make informed decisions. Regularly reviewing purchases together can also prevent unexpected costs and encourage responsible behaviour.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes spent 7 years in games media, before moving into the games industry via PR and marketing. A parent himself to a Minecraft-loving son, he understands why it's so important to stay safe online.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

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