ST PETER'S NEWSLETTER

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"For I know the plans I have for you... plans to give you hope and a future" Jeremiah 29:11

Welcome to the second half of the autumn term. This is always a wonderfully busy time of year as we build up to Christmas, with lots of exciting events and learning opportunities for the children.

Everyone is very excited about the up-coming events this half term, not least this week, being our fantastic Book Week.

To give you a flavour of the term's learning for each class you can find the new class topic webs on the school website.

Next week we will be celebrating Anti-Bullying Week and Road Safety Week. We will also be engaging in further drama workshops, an in-person Kindness workshop with Grieg Trout, one of the directors from the '52 Lives' charity, and later in the term, a sponsored Reindeer Run (kindly organised by 'The Friends') as well as rehearsing for our Christmas plays.

But first, I hope you enjoy hearing about what we've been up to so far.

Have a really fantastic but relaxing weekend.

God bless, Lenia Greenaway

Eco Council News

This week the EcoCouncil met with me and our Eco governor David Ledesma. They thought about road safety and sustainable travel in the lead up to Road Safety Week.

Luca and Clara in Year 2 wanted to share some messages that they thought about:

Car Sharing: Can you share your car with another family going to St Peter's? In this way we can save fuel and create less pollution?

Park and Stride: Can you leave your car in the Barley Mow and walk the rest of the way to school?

When thinking about the environment, the team also wanted to share the message about **turning your car off** in the carpark or when you are waiting anywhere so your car is not idling. This will help reduce pollution in the atmosphere!



Make sure cars are not parked on the **zig zags** outside school as these are for there for emergency vehicles.

When crossing the road always **look right, left and right again** to make sure you see any cars coming. You might not always be able to hear them (especially if they are electric) so always keep checking both ways.

Always walk across the road, never run!

Safeguarding at St Peter's

The safety and well-being of our children is our highest priority. Our safeguarding team is here to listen to and respond to any concerns about a child's welfare. Our Safeguarding Lead (DSL) is Miss Greenaway. If you have any concerns about a child, please speak to her. In her absence, please speak to Mr Atterton, our Deputy DSL, or phone the contact centre on:

Tel: 0300 200 1006

Safeguarding is everyone's business

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REMINDERS:

w/c 16 Nov
Anti-Bullying Week

Wed 18 Nov
Open Morning for Sept 2027 Admissions

Wed 25 Nov
Dragonflies Class Trip to Big Wood Estate

Thurs 26 Nov
PAUSE Day: Advent

ST PETER'S BOOK WEEK 2026

This week we have been enjoying the most phenomenal Book Week:
On Monday the children started the day with Drama4All workshops centred around superheroes and saving the planet by re-using, refilling and recycling. The children were extremely enthusiastic and thoroughly enjoyed the very active sessions. In the afternoon they enjoyed a wonderful session sharing books and reading with their peers from all classes.

On Tuesday the whole school engaged in a wonderful immersive arts project. Although the main theme was centred around 'Books build bridges' each class had their own subtheme within this. The Busy Bee Class thought about 'What makes me, me', the Ladybirds thought about how 'We All Fit Together' and the Dragonfly Class had the more challenging theme of 'Books Sheltering Us'. Each class produced very creative pieces, using many different resources from natural materials to paper mache. They came together to share their creations, and we are hoping to display these in a book arch in the library (once the paper mache pieces have dried!). Throughout the rest of the week, the school has engaged in visits from members of Oxted library reading them delightful stories in their classes, a carousel of learning whereby the children spent time in a different classrooms as well as becoming authors and illustrators.

Throughout the week all the children showed wonderful creativity and collaboration, and it was lovely to see them making connections between books and the wider world.

The week finished with a delightful array of book characters invading the school. It was wonderful to see, not only the engagement, but the excitement of the children as they ventured into school.

Thank you to all our parents and carers who have spent days/nights/weeks working out with their children what they would wear. The children definitely loved it!










WILLIAM
WINTER
WISH

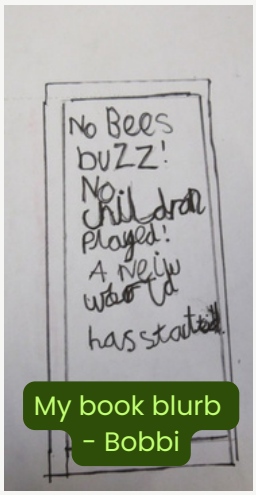

"People think that stories are shaped by people. In fact, it's the other way around."
~ Terry Pratchett







"We All Fit Together" book cover designs



My book blurb - Bobbi



"Recycling Superheroes" drama workshops

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you will go"

— Dr. Seuss

We Will Remember Them



Observing a 2-minute silence in thought & prayers

THE RED POPPY

A poppy grows in a field of green.
The brightest red you've ever seen.
It sways and nods in the morning air.
A tiny flag that says "we care."
We pin it close, over heart or sleeve.
For those we honour, and those who grieve.
We wear it proudly, we wear it true.
To say: "We remember, and thank you."

Dear Father God,
We thank you for the night,
And for the pleasant morning light;
For rest and food and loving care,
And all that makes the day so fair.
Help us to do the things we should,
To be to others kind and good;
In all we do, in work or play,
To grow more loving every day.
Amen.

ST PETER'S CHURCH, TANDRIDGE

WORSHIP - SUNDAY SERVICES
8.00 AM (1st Sun of the month only) Holy Communion
11.00 AM Family Communion (2nd & 4th Sun)
11:00 AM All Age Worship (1st, 3rd & 5th Sun)
6.30 PM Evensong
(With Holy Communion every 3rd Sun.)

Team Rector: Rev James Ashton
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WEBSITE - www.stpeterstandridge.uk
FACEBOOK - St Peter's Church Tandridge

"A grandparent's love is strong and deep, filled with memories to treasure and keep."
– Unknown









CLASS NEWS

BUSY BEES

Book Week Fun

We have had such a wonderful week celebrating books, sharing stories and discovering lots of exciting authors. One of our favourite moments was joining the whole school for shared reading. It was so special to have the older children come and read stories to us – we loved listening to them!

On Tuesday, we got creative for our Immersive Arts Day, using beautiful natural materials to make our very own self-portraits. We were so impressed with how these turned out and couldn't wait to show off our masterpieces!

Wednesday brought even more excitement as we went on a story adventure around the school! We visited different classrooms, where we took part in lots of fun activities inspired by different books. We were bursting with excitement to show Mrs Brice and Mr Atterton all the wonderful things we had been getting up to!

A real highlight of the week was joining thousands of children from across the country, alongside the wonderful Michael Rosen himself, to celebrate Michael Rosen Day. We listened to him perform some of his brilliant poems and share funny stories from his own school days. There were lots of giggles as we watched and listened – what a treat!

And, as if all that wasn't enough, we have also begun rehearsing for our Nativity! We are very excited to get started and would really appreciate it if you could practise the children's lines with them at home to help them learn their parts and feel confident. Thank you so much for your support – we can't wait to share our performance with you!



"This is me" - nature inspired art

Ladybirds

Books Build Bridges in Ladybirds

What a wonderful Book Week we have had in Ladybirds! This year's theme, Books Build Bridges, has inspired us to celebrate friendship, kindness, imagination and the joy of reading.

We began the week with "*How Many Legs?*" by Kes Gray, turning our maths lesson into a fun animal investigation. The children became mathematical detectives, finding different combinations of animals and using addition to work out how many legs they had altogether.

On Tuesday, we became book cover illustrators for our immersive art day! Inspired by "*The Same But Different Too*" by Karl Newson, we explored how our differences make us special and how everyone can belong. The children designed their own "We All Fit Together" book covers, using colourful fabrics, patterns and textures to create beautiful, individual collages.

Wednesday brought a fantastic opportunity to work with children from other year groups. Using "The Smeds and the Smoos" by Julia Donaldson as our inspiration, we designed our own wonderful alien friends and explored the importance of accepting others, even when they are different from us. We also became researchers, finding out about some of our favourite authors.

Thursday was all about chocolate cake! We enjoyed Michael Rosen's hilarious *"Chocolate Cake"* poem and were lucky enough to join his special online author talk. We then tackled some deliciously tricky cake-themed addition and subtraction problems, swapping our usual maths counters for real cupcakes! Maths has never looked quite so tempting! We also became authors ourselves, writing imaginative recounts about a rather naughty chocolate cake adventure.

We rounded off our celebrations with a fantastic dress-up day and a lovely afternoon sharing stories and games with grandparents.

It has been a week full of creativity, laughter, teamwork and wonderful storytelling. Most importantly, Ladybirds have discovered that books really do build bridges, bringing people together through stories, friendship and imagination!



Dragonflies

Lost in Books, Found in Imagination

What a magical week we have had celebrating Book Week and this year's theme, Books Build Bridges! The children have thrown themselves into every activity, and it has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm, creativity and love of reading shine through.

We began on Monday with drama workshops and continued our Dirty Bertie story writing. Following our Book Week launch assembly, the whole school enjoyed some reading-for-pleasure time in mixed House groups, sharing favourite books. Our Year 2 children were fantastic role models, reading with the younger classes.

Tuesday was our Immersive Arts Day, themed "Getting Lost in Books". Inspired by C.S. Lewis's "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe "and artist Andy Goldsworthy, the children created 3D papier-mâché book covers with magical portals into their own story worlds. We undertook a nature hunt around the school grounds, collecting leaves, twigs and seed heads to add natural textures and patterns to our creations. We finished with a whole-school gallery walk to admire everyone's work.

On Wednesday, teachers shared their favourite stories during our Book Carousel, before the children worked in groups to research and create profiles of their favourite authors. Thursday brought an exciting online visit from author and poet Michael Rosen, who inspired us to write our own "When I Grow Up" poems. We also welcomed the Bumblebee Bookshop, with the Usborne Book Fair open for families after school.

We finished the week with a fantastic dress-up day and a special afternoon of shared stories and traditional board games with our grandparents. We also enjoyed a visit from Oxted Library – a lovely way to round off our celebrations!

A little reminder: Please could any books borrowed from classrooms over recent weeks be returned to school, as many are used regularly in our English lessons. Thank you for your help.

At The National College, our Wake Up Wednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP

AGE RESTRICTION 13+ In the UK

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

WhatsApp is a free messaging app owned by Meta, that allows users to send messages, share multimedia, make calls, and participate in group chats. In September 2026, WhatsApp announced new optional parental controls for teenagers, including privacy settings, group notifications, and restrictions on AI content, which parents and educators should be aware of.

GROUP CHAT PRESSURES

Group chats help young people stay connected, but they can also leave them feeling excluded or overwhelmed. Negative comments can escalate quickly, and frequent notifications can create a sense of needing to be constantly available. WhatsApp's new parental controls notify parents when teenagers join or leave groups, or when a group grows significantly in size.

HARMFUL CONTENT ON CHANNELS

WhatsApp Channels allow users to receive updates from public figures, organisations, and content creators; however, some Channels may expose young people to misinformation, harmful ideologies, or age-inappropriate material. New optional parental controls allow adults to restrict which Channels teenagers access, including limiting them to approved Channels.

SCAMS TARGETING YOUNG USERS

Scammers may use WhatsApp to trick young people into sharing personal information, sending money, or sharing security codes. They may impersonate friends or family members, using convincing stories about emergencies or urgent requests for help. New parental controls can help manage who contacts teenagers; however, they cannot prevent all scams or fraudulent messages.

UNWANTED CONTACT AND LOCATION SHARING

WhatsApp allows users to share their live location, profile information, and Status updates. Without appropriate privacy settings, this information could expose young people to unwanted attention or reveal their whereabouts. New parental controls enable adults to manage certain privacy settings, including who can view account details and add teenagers to groups.

DISAPPEARING AND HIDDEN MESSAGES

WhatsApp features such as disappearing messages and Chat Lock can make conversations harder for adults to identify. Although these tools are designed to protect privacy, they may also make it harder for adults to recognise inappropriate exchanges or harmful behaviour. WhatsApp's new parental controls do not give adults access to teenagers' private messages or calls.

COMMERCIAL AND AI CONTENT

WhatsApp includes advertising in parts of its Updates section and offers Meta AI, an integrated AI assistant. Young people may encounter sponsored content, misleading AI responses, or information which is unsuitable for their age. New parental controls offer a stricter 'Limited Content' setting for Meta AI; however, this cannot guarantee that every response will be accurate or appropriate.

ONLINE

Advice for Parents & Educators

EXPLORE NEW PARENTAL CONTROLS

WhatsApp's new optional parental controls are being rolled out gradually, giving families more ways to manage teenagers' privacy and interactions. Teenagers will need parental approval using a parent-set PIN to relax any protected settings. Keep the conversation open and set up the controls together, remembering that parents can adjust or switch them off at any time.

MANAGE CHANNELS AND AI

Explore the new settings for Channels, Status updates, and Meta AI. Parents can restrict Channels to approved selections or prevent teenagers from viewing them. They can also choose Meta AI's stricter 'Limited Content' option, which restricts certain topics. Remind young people that AI can produce inaccurate information and encourage them to question responses rather than accepting them at face value.

MONITOR GROUP ACTIVITY SAFELY

New parental controls notify adults when teenagers join or leave groups, or when a group grows significantly in size. These alerts can help identify potentially concerning interactions without revealing private messages. Encourage young people to discuss unfamiliar groups, uncomfortable conversations, or pressure from other members and that they can leave, mute, or report if they feel uncomfortable or unsafe.

PRIORITISE TRUST AND COMMUNICATION

Parental controls should support conversations about online safety, not replace them. Explain that WhatsApp's new features do not give adults access to private messages or calls, helping teenagers understand that their privacy remains protected. Reassure young people that they can speak openly about upsetting content, unwanted contact, or pressure from other group members.

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.

See full reference list on our website

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