



St. Peter's Church of England Middle School

NEWSLETTER

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March 2018



Left: Our new minibuss



Right: Bikeability training

Dear Parents, Guardians and Carers

As another term has drawn to a conclusion and I am happy to write to you to share our wonderful success. As is our custom now both Spring 1 and Spring 2 terms began with our celebration assembly. Students were rewarded with their bronze, silver or gold badges and I am pleased to report that we have been overwhelmed with recipients so far this year. I was also very proud, in February, to be presenting Bikeability certificates to many of our students. We had students gaining certification at level 2 and level 3. The instructors were very keen to tell me how impressed they were with the level of proficiency and behaviour of our students.

We also held our Spring Music concert earlier this year. A wonderful celebration of the vast musical talent that is on show here at St Peter's Middle School. It was really pleasing to see so many young people tread the boards and perform for the audience. Well done to all!

We were sad to say goodbye to Mrs Sydenham-Lockie in early March. Mrs Sydenham-Lockie has been a valued member of staff since 2014, firstly as Clerk to the Governors and then as our School Business Manager. I am grateful for all that she has done for the school in that time. We were pleased to welcome back Mrs Matharu as our new School Business Manager. Mrs Matharu has previously provided cover for the role and we are certain that she will continue the good work that we have seen in the past few years.

Also in early March we took delivery of our new minibuss. This fantastic resource, which has been in part provided by our PTA, will give our students access to more extra-curricular opportunities. It looks magnificent (and drives well) and I know that all who use it will feel an enormous sense of pride as we arrive at our first local fixtures. Speaking of local fixtures, I won't ruin the surprise inside but, I am bursting with pride at the recent success of our Year 7 and 8 boys at the Berkshire School Games!

Lastly I want to say a massive thank you to Mrs Oddy who has been teaching our Year 5 students this term. I know that the Year 5s have really benefitted from her calm and experienced presence. Although they are excited to meet Mrs Dewar, our new Year 5 teacher, they were sad to say goodbye. I would also like to say good luck to Mrs Easton who leaves us to start her maternity leave. We are waiting excitedly to hear her good news.

I'll leave you with a few words from the Bible, as Rev. Adel reminded us in our Easter Church Service of their significance: Matthew 28,6 *"He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay."*

I hope you have a lovely Easter.

Andy Snipp
Headteacher

Please see our Website and www.facebook.com/stpetersoldwindsor for latest news, information and downloads

Medical and other appointments and attendance

Attendance and achievement are closely linked and it is important your son/daughter attends school at all times. Medical appointments during the school day affect a student's attendance. As a school we appreciate that it is not possible for all appointments to be made outside school hours. Wherever this is possible, appointments should be made before or after school.

If your son's/daughter's appointment is taking place during school hours, we ask for them to attend school either side of the appointment, again wherever possible.

Appointments during school hours need to be authorised by the school, in order to do so the school needs notice of the appointment and confirmation of the appointment. As confirmation we can accept a copy of the appointment letter, an appointment card, a stamp in the student planner confirming attendance at the clinic or the text confirmation you may receive for the appointment.

Without confirmation the absence cannot be authorised and the school could refuse to release the student.

It is our aim to clarify the process, be transparent and to be treating all students the same. Any questions please feel free to contact Mrs Hardy at the school.

Request for leave of absence

A reminder that any request needs to be made in writing — a *Request for Leave of Absence* form is on the school website under Parents, Forms/ Letters. Please note that the request should be given in good time, at least 14 days before the start of the absence.

Year 8 girls' retreat day

On the 14th March the Year 8 girls had their retreat day. We had a lovely day together, reflecting on their time at St Peter's, considering their future paths and generally bonding with each other, not least over a delicious three course meal cooked by the girls. We had serious moments but also lots of laughter, especially playing some silly games.



The day included reflections, workshops, silly games, craft, chocolate, cooking together and lots of little extra bits.

It can be valuable to take time out to reflect and meditate, some comments from the Year 8 girls:

"It made me think about how much women can make a difference to the world".

"It was good to have a day without the boys, so we could talk about different things".

"I think that being together as girls was really fun because we got to express how we felt and got to talk".

"It was fun making our own menu and then making our own food".

"Different activities with everyone like making candles and playing in the courts was a kind of stress reliever".

Book Fair

The book fair came to St Peter's at the end of January and was a huge success. We took £788.30 and the rewards to the school library are £412.98. Thank you for your support.



Congratulations to everyone who took part and we look forward to an even more successful and warmer atmosphere next year!

100 Million Minutes

We are also participating in a 100 million minutes reading challenge with schools across the country. Students are recording the minutes they read on book marks and Mrs Hussain is entering this in to a national record of minutes read in March. We are very close to reaching our target. House points are being calculated for the highest number of minutes read by each House.

World Book Day — Wednesday 7th March

World Book Day was celebrated twice this year. On the first occasion a few hardy souls made it in to school dressed as their favourite character from a book, but unfortunately the freezing temperatures and the snow meant the school had to close and so Pippi Longstocking, Elsa, Lady Macbeth, Gangsta Granny and the Wimpy Kid had a very short day.

On the second occasion, the costumes were magnificent and for some forms it was extremely difficult to choose a winner to be sent to the final round of the competition for best costume.

The winners were: 5LSm Dane Ward; 5EOI Theo Thomson; 6LNU Charlie Field; 6ARr Randy Karize; 7JKi Morgan O'Neill; 7IQu Lalita Berry; 8Alm Ethan Tullett; 8PDe Hayden Newell.

Three other students were also awarded prizes for exceptional costumes; they were Millie Edwards, Angel Richards and Isabella Barron-Peat.



United Kingdom Maths Trust Team Maths

The St Peter's team, comprising of Alexandra Elmes, Oliver Lewis, Lydia Sampson and captain Eleanor Elmes came 15th out of 25 schools. This is a super result considering the elite selective schools that were present. The top schools in Berkshire, Wiltshire and Greater London turned up for this prestige event and our boys and girls played and competed so well. I am very proud of their achievement and so should you be.



Lent projects

Over the last couple of weeks, each House has run their Lent Projects, raising money for their chosen charity.

Lancaster House raised £283.60 for Shelter.

Tudor House raised £215.66 for Stroke Association.

Stuart House raised £278.23 for Cancer Research.

York House raised £250.14 for liver Cancer Research.

Well done to all the students who ran the stalls.

Garden news



Star Grower

This term every Year 5 child received a grow pot filled with soil and a runner bean seed to see who can be this year's star grower. The child with the healthiest plant in May will be declared the winner. All the plants will be either planted in the garden or sold at the garden party to raise money for the school garden.



Potato project

The potato project will see each House, Tudor, Lancaster, Stuart and York competing to grow the most potatoes this summer. The potato seeds have been chitting for a number weeks in the food technology room and

volunteers from each House will try and grow the most potatoes.

Each House will grow their potatoes in a potato grow bag using soil contributed from the Crown Estate.

A big thank you to the Crown Estate and to Mr Edwards who helped procure the soil for St Peter's.

Sports News

Berkshire Schools FA Year 8 County Cup

St Peter's 0 v St Bernards 1

In a repeat of last year's SSFA Cup final St Peter's faced St Bernard's in the last 16 of the County Cup. Unfortunately this time the boys could not quite pull off a heroic performance but they came very close.

St Bernard's had the major share of the football but St Peter's had a number of chances with Tapiwa Haruvisi having a shot cleared off the line, Zinedine Sfindla through one on one having his shots saved twice and Joel Conboy coming so close in a goal line scramble. This is only the second time St Peter's has reached the last 16 teams in the County Cup so a fantastic effort from our boys. Unlucky but congratulations nonetheless.

Slough Schools FA Year U13 League match

Langley Grammar 1 v St Peter's 5

Back to the league and St Peter's played some outstanding football to sweep aside Langley Grammar School. Goals from Jack Stevens, Adam Sfindla, two from Finlay Jones and a own goal ensured a big win in their last away game for St Peter's. We have to remember we are the smallest school in the competition and these victorious games should be treasured by all those involved. Well done to all the squad.

Berkshire Schools FA U11 County Cup

Lynch Hill 2 v St Peter's 0

Well having reached the knockout stages for the first time St Peter's were put out of the competition even after a very impressive football performance. A clinical Lynch Hill had only two chances and scored both whereas we created so many chances but could not score.

The football from the St Peter's team was outstanding and after the game the referee, their manager and even the minibus driver commended the team on their superior football and passing game.

So although the team lost we are so proud of the way they played football and if the team continue playing in this manner they will surely have more success in the future.

Football – In2sport football tournament

St Peter's hosted the In2sport football tournament for Years 5 and 6 on Thursday 22nd March. There were 30 children playing from St Peter's comprising a Year 5 boys' team, a Year 6 boys' team and a girls' team.

The Year 6 boys' team won all their group games and then won the semi-final against Holy Trinity. In the final they lost 1-0 but a super display from all the squad showing fellowship throughout and integrity in each game. Congratulations to Harvey Keegan, Joseph Rodgers, Charlie McCreanor, Jack Hollick, Jaye Long, Louis Hunter, Zaki Sfindla, Kumayle Hussain, Finnley Viotto and Max Kaczmarczyk.

The Year 5 boys played up a year against U11 teams and managed to draw a match against Cheapside school and lost only 1-0 in the other two matches. Although the girls team lost their games they almost drew against St Francis losing only 1-0, they also played the eventual champions in their group and lost only 3-0.

All the children enjoyed playing in the tournament and represented St Peter's in the best light. A big thank you to the Year 7 boys, Ben Pleace and Jay Moody who officiated the matches and Year 8 boys Oliver Lewis, Finlay Jones, Leo Ardali and Ethan Tullett who managed the teams and officials. Also thanks to the school ambassadors Ellie Breach, Katie Beale, Amani Mohamed, Saba Bushara, Angel Richards and Liberty Groves who helped ensure the tournament ran smoothly.

Mr Imbastari

Football Coordinator



Berkshire Games

On Wednesday 21st March St Peter's school attend the Berkshire School Games with a record number of teams.

We had two Year5/6 teams in the County hockey tournament and two Year 7/8 teams in the Sportshall Athletics Competition.

The Year 5/6 hockey teams did incredibly well finishing about 8 and 12 in the whole of the county of Berkshire.

The Year 7/8 girls who qualified for the first time came 7th in the County and the boys triumphed over several other very large schools some of them five to six times bigger than St Peter's to win to become the Berkshire School Games County Sportshall Champions for 2018.

Congratulations to all the children and their hard work. CHAMPIONS!



Mr Kirkby

Let's talk about Safeguarding

Peer on Peer Abuse

Peer on peer abuse occurs when a young person is exploited, bullied and/or harmed by their peers who are the same or similar age; everyone directly involved in peer on peer abuse is under the age of 18. 'Peer-on-peer' abuse can relate to various forms of abuse (not just sexual abuse and exploitation), and crucially it does not capture the fact that the behaviour in question is harmful to the child perpetrator as well as the victim.

Research suggests that girls and young women are more at risk of abusive behaviours perpetrated by their peers; however it can also affect boys and young men, those with learning difficulties or disabilities, LGBTQ Children and young people (CYP) and those who are from different communities.

Situations where young people are forced or coerced into sexual activity by peers or associates can be related with gang/serious youth violence activity but that is not always the case. Peer influence or peer pressure is a major factor in the decisions made by young people to join groups.

Many young people see it as a "way out" from their day to day life and feel a strong bond with their peers, one which they may be lacking at home.

Definition

There is no clear definition of what peer on peer abuse entails. However it can be captured in a range of different definitions:

Domestic Abuse: relates to young people aged 16 and 17 who experience physical, emotional, sexual and/or financial abuse, and coercive control in their intimate relationships;

Child Sexual Exploitation: captures young people aged under-18 who are sexually abused in the context of exploitative relationships, contexts and situations by a person of any age - including another young person;

Harmful Sexual Behaviour: refers to any young person, under the age of 18, who demonstrates behaviour outside of their normative parameters of development (this includes, but is not exclusive to abusive behaviours);

Serious Youth Crime/Violence: reference to offences (as opposed to relationships / contexts) and captures all those of the most serious in nature including murder, rape and GBH between young people under-18.

Peer on peer abuse is on the rise or at least being more recognised in its complexity and often takes the form of a combination of the above examples.



SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2017/2018

Autumn 2017

Term 1

INSET day: Monday 4th September 2017

Term starts on: Tuesday 5th September 2017

Term ends on: Friday 20th October 2017

October Holiday: Monday 23rd October 2017 to Friday 27th October 2017

Term 2

Term starts on: Monday 30th October 2017

INSET day: Friday 24th November 2017

Term ends on: Wednesday 20th December 2017

Christmas Holiday: Thursday 21st December 2017 to Wednesday 3rd January 2018

Spring 2018

Term 3

Term starts on: Thursday 4th January 2018

Term ends on: Thursday 8th February 2018

INSET day: Friday 9th February 2018

February Holiday: Monday 12th February 2018 to Friday 16th February 2018

Term 4

Term starts on: Monday 19th February 2018

Term ends on: Thursday 29th March 2018

Spring Holiday: Friday 30th March 2018 to Friday 13th April 2018

(Good Friday – 30th March 2018; Easter Monday – 2nd April 2018)

Summer 2018

Term 5

Term starts on: Monday 16th April 2018

Term ends on: Friday 25th May 2018

May Holiday: Monday 28th May 2018 to Friday 1st June 2018

Term 6

Term starts on: Monday 4th June 2018

Term ends on: Friday 20th July 2018

INSET days: Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th July 2018