



St. Peter's Church of England Middle School

NEWSLETTER

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December 2018



Left: Year 5 Creative Technology

Right: Year 8 Creative Technology



Dear Parent/Guardian,

What a wonderful term we have had! It seems like a long time ago now that we welcomed the new year 5 students into our St Peter's family. I am pleased to report that they have settled in very quickly and are now making a wonderful contribution to our school.

There have been so many highlights throughout the term that I wanted to take a moment to share some of them with you.

I'd like to start by acknowledging and thanking the PTA for their tremendous effort and ongoing support of the students and staff here. The monies that are raised through their valuable efforts will go a long way to helping to provide excellent resources for your son/daughter/s. To all of you that have helped out across this term, thank you!

The students have also been very busy. Just last week it was with great pride that I accompanied a group of year 8 students to the youth centre in Maidenhead in order to collect a cheque for £1500. The students had entered a competition titled *Youth Voice, Youth Choice*. The students had to create a project proposal in order to be considered for the funding. Our environmentally minded young stars came up with a fantastic recycling scheme and were worthy recipients of the funding. My thanks to Mrs Kumar for supporting this project and to everyone that voted.

Staying within year 8, I was very pleased to see that the Student Champions were actively involved in supporting the rest of our cohort during the National Anti-Bullying week. The Champions ran a number of events which were very well organised and received.

Last week students from across the school performed *Matilda the Musical in 20 minutes*. Although we did not have very long to prepare, the cast and crew worked incredibly hard to put on a great show. I am very proud of their efforts.

As you will know, in October 2018 we welcomed Mrs Foakes back to the Music department and we have been very lucky to have her talent and experience once more. However this was always a short term solution and I am pleased to say that from January 2019, Mrs Lucy Stoker will be joining us in the department and we are all very much looking forward to working with her.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas. I reminded that students this morning of one very particular meaning of the word *present*: To be in the here and now. May you all enjoy being in the here and now this Christmas time.

Andy Snipp, Headteacher

Lunch and After School Extra-Curricular & Enrichment Programme

Please check the school website for the lunch and after school extra-curricular and enrichment programme, it can be found under Parents/Information—After school clubs.

Students need to collect a letter and return the completed form as soon as possible for clubs.

Facebook pages

The school has a Facebook page: St Peter's Church of England Middle School, Old Windsor. Please Like our page and follow us.

The school PTA has a closed Facebook group: St Peter's PTA Group. Parents and carers can request to join this group.

PTA

If you would like to join the school PTA, please email the school office: Office@st-petersoldwindsor.org.uk with your child's name.



Children in Need

The students wore funny ties and Pudsey accessories for Children in Need, in November. We also held a cake sale and the total raised was £334.14. A big thank you for your support.



Poppy Appeal

Once again we were invited to sell poppies to our students for this year's Poppy Appeal. We raised £61.35.



Year 7 Bookbuzz

The PTA once again kindly funded the Year 7 Bookbuzz scheme. Students in Year 7 get to choose a book from a selection and can take this book home. Copies of all the books available are in the school library.





Anti-bullying week

National anti-bullying week took place between the 12th and 16th November. Our brilliant student champions organised some activities for us.

The theme this year was *We Choose Respect*. We had thought provoking assemblies delivered and planned by our Year 8 student champions, we had specific PSHE lessons on anti-bullying and a fantastic competition asking students to be creative with song, drama or writing on the theme of anti-bullying. Each class chose a representative who then competed in the finals on Thursday. It was extremely hard to choose a winner amongst so many amazing entries.

In the end, the winners were declared as a team from 5LNu with their mix of acting, rapping and magic. The students involved were Adam Rowley, Ava Peppiatt, Madeleine Lewis and Lexie Howard–Real. Well done!

Students really thought hard about the issue and apart from the formally organised activities there were many discussions and chats.

A big thank you to our student champions for organising!

TTrockstars competition

Your child has a log in for TTrockstars, an internet platform that encourages them to learn their times tables in a fun way.

We are having an inter class competition and this will continue through the Christmas holidays, finishing in the first week of January.



Year 6 Dictionaries

Year 6 students had a visit from Mr Trevor Morgan, from the Rotary Clubs of Windsor. He spoke about the work of the Rotary Clubs and presented illustrated dictionaries to all Year 6 students.



Christian Aid Advent Service

On Sunday 9th December, at 5pm, seven St Peter's students participated in the Windsor Christian Aid Peace Advent Service held in Windsor Baptist church.

The students had been invited to sing and play in the service, as well as participate with the congregation singing hymns, lighting candles, making an Advent Peace dove for the prayers and listening to a brief talk from a Lebanese lady about the work she is doing on behalf of Christian Aid with the Palestinian refugees in her country.

The students were excellent ambassadors for the school. Holly and Poppy Alden played their oboe and flute with the other musicians. Then they and five students from Year 5 went on stage to sing one of our favourite Christmas songs, *Love Shone Down*, which they all sang beautifully. They were very warmly received and many adults commented on how lovely it was to have young people take part in the occasion.

The Year 5 students were: Elliot Whitehorn; Hannah Jones; Ava Peppiatt; Kayla Whitehead; Etta Wadham.

Mrs Foakes

Music Teacher



Year 5 Retreat Day

We had our Year 5 Retreat Day on Thursday the 6th December. We spent the day thinking about what makes St Peter's different from any other school. The students spent the day looking at our school values: fellowship; compassion; trust; wisdom and integrity. As well as exploring these values and what they mean for us as a school and as individuals, they had time to reflect.

We had many practical activities, like games, drama, painting rocks. The rocks are now displayed in the garden by the Key Stage 2 entrance.

It was also a day to develop a better understanding of the St Peter's community and each other; many activities encouraged working together and valuing and respecting each other.

We had lots of fun and the students enjoyed their day, finishing off with reflections, prayer and lollipops.

The Year 5 students were amazing, willing to give everything a go and always trying to do their best. We also had the support of our Year 8 student champions who were a real credit to the school, the way they involved themselves, helped and supported the younger students and took on leadership and responsibility was exemplary.

Some comments from Year 5 at the end of the retreat day: "the best school day ever"; "we need to do this every month"; "I liked the prayer and reflection at the end when the room went dark"; "fun".

Mrs Hardy

Pastoral Lead



Christmas jumper and lunch

The students and staff got into the festive spirit on Wednesday 19th December with Christmas jumper day and the school Christmas lunch.

Thank you to the PTA who once again provided drinks, table cloth and crackers.

We raised £146.65 for Save the Children.

Sports news

Sportshall Athletics competition results:

Year 5/6:

1st – Dedworth

2nd – St Peter's

3rd – Trevelyan

Year 7/8 Boys:

1st – Dedworth

2nd – St Peter's

3rd – Trevelyan A

4th – Trevelyan B

Year 7/8 Girls:

1st – Dedworth

2nd – Trevelyan A

3rd - St Peter's

4th – Trevelyan B

Our Year 7/8 boys' team have gone through to the County finals.

Year 5/6 Hockey Borough Finals

Congratulations to our Year 5/6 girls' team for finishing in 1st place. Our Year 5/6 boys' team finished in 2nd place. Well done to all involved.

Year 5/6 Dogeball Competition

Well done to all who participated. Our teams finished 2nd and third.

Year 5/6 Netball Competition

Congratulations to one of our teams for finishing 2nd and the other for finishing 5th out of 15 teams



Inter-House Rowing Competition

It was a tight competition with Stuart House coming first with 81 points, York second with 78 points, Lancaster third with 72 points and Tudor fourth with 71 points. Well done to all our rowers.



Congratulations

Congratulations to the following students on passing their piano exams this term:

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Ava Peppiatt | Grade 1. |
| George Williams | Grade 1. |
| Madeleine Lewis | Grade 2. |
| Amanda Valenzuela | Grade 2. |

Let's talk about Safeguarding

As parents and as school, we want to make sure that your children develop healthily and thrive and stay safe. It's more than just physical safety. A big part of keeping children safe is making sure we look after their emotional and mental well-being.

A quote from the NSPCC website

“Almost a quarter of 11 and 12 year-olds with a social networking profile experienced something that upset them in the last year.”



Social Media, internet, cyberspace and online gaming is where children and young people spend a lot of their time and keeping them safe whilst they do this isn't always easy.

The NSPCC promote their [Share Aware](#) campaign to help parents talk to their children about how to stay safe on social networks. Keeping Children safe online can be a big concern for parents but the Share Aware guide provides straightforward no nonsense advice for parents of 8 – 12 year old children.

The [Share Aware](#) website has information on Online Safety as well as a guide of what to do if a child is being abused online which is often called cyberbullying and other forms of abuse.

The information covers lots of topics which include:

- The risks and dangers of being online
- Inappropriate content, including pornography
- Ignoring age restrictions
- Friending or communicating with people they don't know
- Grooming and sexual abuse
- Sharing personal information
- How to talk to your children about online safety

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/shareaware>

Why not have a look and chat about some of these issues with your children?

Term Dates for 2018/2019

Autumn 2018

Term 1

INSET Day: Monday 3rd September 2018

Term starts on: Tuesday 4th September 2018

Term ends on: Friday 19th October 2018.

October Holiday: Monday 22nd October 2018 to Friday 26th October 2018.

Term 2

Term starts on: Monday 29th October 2018

INSET Day: Tuesday 27th November 2018

Term ends on: Thursday 20th December 2018

Christmas Holiday: Friday 21st December 2018 to Thursday 3rd January 2019

Spring 2019

Term 3

INSET Day: Friday 4th January 2019

Term starts on: Monday 7th January 2019

Term ends on: Friday 15th February 2019

February Holiday: Monday 18th February 2019 to Friday 22nd February 2019

Term 4

Term starts on: Monday 25th February 2019

Term ends on: Friday 5th April 2019

Spring Holiday: Monday 8th April 2019 to Monday 22nd April 2019
(Good Friday: 19th April 2019; Easter Monday: 22nd April 2019)

Summer 2019

Term 5

Term starts on: Tuesday 23rd April 2019

Term ends on: Friday 24th May 2019

May Holiday: Monday 27th May 2019 to Friday 31st May 2019