



# St Peter's Newsletter

May 2021

Dear Families,

We have had a successful half term with children who have immersed themselves in their learning and once again taken on board all the exciting opportunities for learning on offer. The only thing we haven't been able to enjoy is time together in assemblies, but I know that this will be a joy when we can. We are still very much following the DFE guidance and our own Local Authority guidance regarding the way we move around the school and the activities our children can and cannot take part in.

It is always a pleasure to show prospective parents around our school each week in very small groups (always outside) and we are now operating a waiting list – except in Year 2. We are proud that the reputation of our strong and varied curriculum and pastoral care is a draw for families moving into our area.

I wish you all and all the staff a very restful half term. We look forward to welcoming all the children back on Tuesday 8th June.

Unfortunately, COVID seems to be on the rise in areas close to us and Hampshire County Council has released a list of affected postcodes for surge testing for those living or working in areas (GU11 GU12 GU51 GU52)

Can I encourage you all to continue with the LFT of adults in your family (which are reported to NHS) and that we all work hard to continue to follow the rules in each step of the road map. All adults on site are continuing to wear face masks

on site and in any situation where a 2m distance cannot be adhered to.

If your child has a positive COVID test during the half term holiday please can you alert the school by emailing us on [info@stpeters-farnham.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@stpeters-farnham.surrey.sch.uk).

Thank you for your support

## **BIKEABILITY**

Well done to our Year 6 pupils who have learnt the vital skills of riding their bike on the road and studying all the safety aspects with maturity. The instructors reported they were all excellent, behaved impeccably and progressed well throughout the course.



## **YEAR 4 AND 5 THREE PEAKS AT BARFIELD**

It was wonderful for our children to be able to leave site for an external trip at last and to enjoy the high ropes, quad biking, archery and much more on offer at Barfield School. Once again we received reports of excellent behaviour and we

know many children pushed themselves out of their comfort zone and achieved great things.

### **SUSTAINABILITY FESTIVAL**

Our pupils prepared and delivered an excellent presentation at the Farnham Sustainability Festival last Sunday. This was a big event hosted by Farnham Town Council, which took place in the centre of town with over 30 stalls represented. St Peter's was the only school. Pupils engaged with their audience telling them about why we were awarded the Green Flag and what we do to ensure our school is Eco friendly and sustainable. These included: growing and selling produce within the community, making jam with home grown fruit, using some of the vegetables to cook in the forest area and also reinforcing that everything is grown from seed. Children talked about harvesting rainwater, composting, creating bug hotels and maintaining the natural habitat for wildlife. They also explained that we are a Fairtrade School and that we have also worked collaboratively with similar minded schools abroad.

Pupils from Y5/Y6 also staffed the stall over the course of the day speaking to visitors from varied backgrounds including conservation and sustainability. Everyone that visited was impressed with the work that the children do, and we made so many connections for future work with different organisations. It is impressive what the children achieve but it is down to many years of hard work and building on projects while embracing new ideas and opportunities to improve. A huge thank you goes to Mrs Webzell for leading the tremendous work and to all the staff and parents who supported the stall on a very wet and windy Sunday. We took £130 on produce (including rhubarb jam) made by pupils across the school. This money will go towards the garden and outdoor environment.



### **FRENCH DAY – QUELLE JOURNEE!**

Hopefully your child will have talked about the wonderful day we had as a whole school yesterday! It was formidable! Aside from le fromage, les croissants et les glaces, there was an impressive amount of learning. The sun shone which met so much was able to happen outside. The younger pupils enjoyed a French treasure hunt around the grounds and used their new French words to order a croissant and jus de pomme from the café, which was run by Y6 pupils. Other learning included: focusing on a French artist (including Rousseau and Matisse), writing to penfriends, looking at the weather variations across France, cheese tasting and creating a Tin Tin storyboard (OK - he's Belgian). Several year groups included French songs and drama. It was an exciting (but exhausting) day for children and adults. We did as much as we could while still respecting bubbles - we are so lucky to have such a huge outdoor space meaning throughout day, there was a feeling of 'togetherness'.

CM Sports coaches led sessions in French cricket while others danced Le Can Can!

#### **Comments from children across the school:**

“amazing”, “one of the best days”, “it gave me confidence to speak”, “a blast” “fantastique!”

And from staff: “Une journée mémorable!”

A huge thank you to Lidl's in Bordon for supplying les croissants.



### **ZOOM MEETINGS WITH FRENCH PENPALS**

Yesterday all Y6 pupils spoke to their pen pal in France. We had five separate zoom sessions over the day (which had to be organised to accommodate the hours' time difference). This is such a wonderful opportunity for the pupils as they get to see and speak to the person they've been writing to over the year. It's been a very tricky year for collaborative learning as both countries have been in lockdown at different times. Our pupils were surprised to see the French children wearing masks - this is obligatory all day in French primary schools. However, although the masks made it even harder to decipher what they were asking, it was such a positive experience for children from both schools to speak, laugh and wave to each other. And again, it brings the classroom learning alive and shows children that even though they have a very limited vocabulary, they can communicate and enjoy each other's company.



### **THE BIG ASK**

Thank you to those who took the time to fill in the national survey on children's wellbeing. The plan is that the responses will inform future government policy for children and young people.

### **NUMBER DAY**

Again, a brilliant day which focused on practical maths skills and number games. You will remember that children came dressed as a number.

Thank you for supporting this day. £550 was raised for the NSPCC.



### **PUPIL ORGANISED OUTDOOR LEARNING DAY**

Well done to pupils, Sophie Rushmere and Isabella Taylor who masterminded and organised the very successful outdoor learning day which brought everyone back in touch with nature and

the outdoor environment. This showcased pupils using their voice to motivate others and make a difference. Full marks for initiative and organisational skills. The event raised £261.



## STRANGER DANGER

As everyone is on half-term holiday next week, this is a great opportunity to speak to your child about Stranger Danger.

Calmly explain that a stranger is somebody who your family doesn't know. Explain that while it is okay for your child to talk to someone new if you are with them, it isn't okay to talk to unknown adults on their own. Tell your child if they are

alone and an adult approaches them, to treat the adult as a stranger.

Basic Stranger Danger rules include:

- never go anywhere with a stranger
- never accept gifts or sweets from a stranger
- never get in a car with a stranger
- never go off on your own without telling your parents or a trusted adult

Stay safe everyone

## STAFF CAR PARK AT PICK UP

Please can you ensure that your younger children wait with you at 3.15pm. We are still seeing young children playing around the cars and also hitting the trees and foliage with sticks. I feel it is not a good habit to let them get into to hide and play around cars as it will give them a false sense of safety. Whilst we don't expect the cars to be driven during this time, we cannot guarantee it.

Healthier Together is a new site for Parents, Carers and Young people to access local information:

<https://frimley-healthiertogether.nhs.uk/>

- Clear **traffic light system** for illness advice – 0-18 years
- find help with day-to-day queries such as pregnancy, feeding, sleep and development
- topics from COVID to mental health and emotional well-being.
- **Local services** available in Surrey Heath, Ash area and Farnham (as part of the new NHS Frimley CCG)

