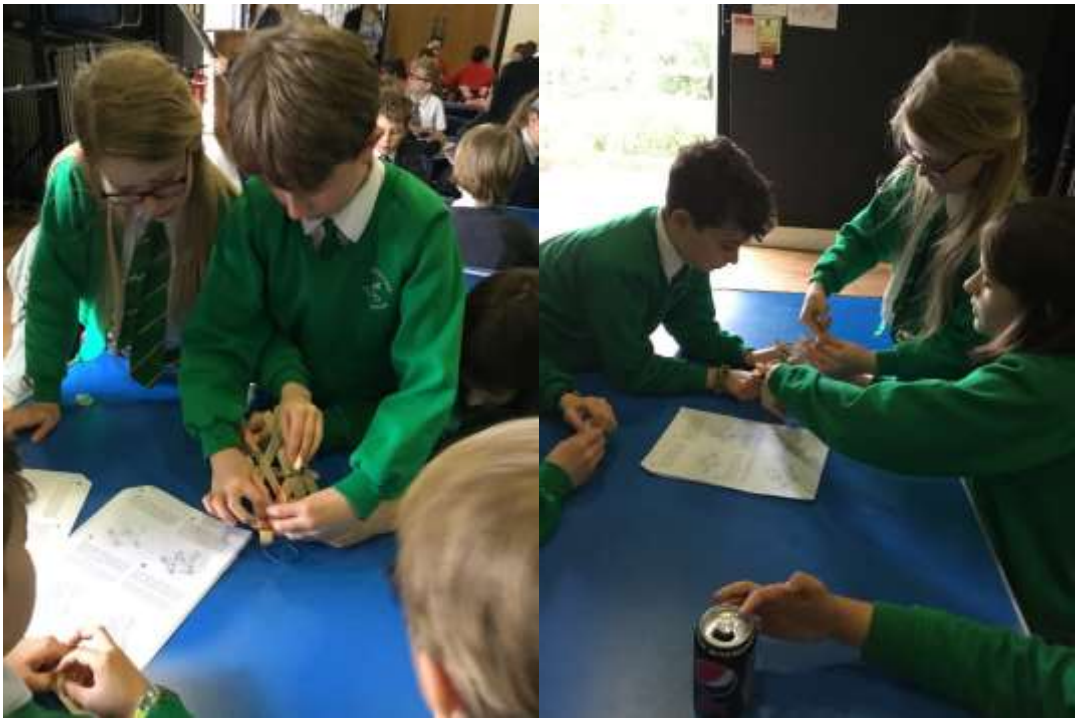
Science

Our Offer

Science at St Peter's school encourages children to make observations and ask questions about the world around them. Their innate curiosity is used and developed to help them explore and make sense of what they see and to begin to understand the increasingly important role science plays in the world today. Stereotypes are challenged and links are made to modern scientists. Working scientifically, skills are developed throughout the school, so the children learn to apply their knowledge when using scientific equipment, conducting experiments and investigations, building arguments and explaining concepts confidently. Emphasis is placed on the correct use and understanding of scientific terminology and our oral curriculum enables pupils to broaden their horizons through questioning.



Pupil Experience

Following the National Curriculum, science topics covering the fundamentals of Biology, Chemistry and Physics are taught in blocks, building on the learning and skills acquired in previous years and with an understanding of what will come next. In EYFS and KS1, children explore their surroundings through play and structured activities to encourage and support questioning skills. They start to make links to the world around them.

In KS2, pupils record their prior knowledge at the beginning of each unit and revisit this at the end to add what they have learnt. Understanding of key vocabulary is assessed throughout each topic and progress is monitored at the end of each unit to ensure both scientific knowledge and working scientifically skills are on track. Lessons are structured to enable pupils to think as scientists. Pupils' recognition and understanding of different

enquiry types will become more secure as they progress through the school and develop more independence in their working scientifically skills. This allows them to plan and carry out independent activities; reporting and recording their findings to their peers and in their books in appropriate ways. Pupils' understanding of concepts is assessed and deepened through a range of questioning. Appropriate levels of challenge and support are provided to enable all pupils to understand how the world around them works.

Cross curricular links enable the children to see how scientific concepts are applied in everyday contexts. Each year pupils are encouraged to enter the Lions' National Roar competition which enables scientific concepts to be combined with design technology to create a prototype which will be of benefit to some sector in society.

The curriculum is enriched with day trips, Forest school, whole school Science days, visits to the local secondary school science laboratories, outreach from an independent school, workshops run by the University of Surrey and other STEM workshops. Y6 science leaders run a weekly lunchtime club, Lab 42, to encourage other pupils' curiosity and application of scientific knowledge

The Science lead worked in a scientific role in industry before coming into teaching and is well placed to support other staff.

What is the impact on pupils going forward?

Pupils are also aware of the great contribution that science has made to society and the way that scientists come together across the world to develop applications and products that contribute to the common good. They are aware of the practical application of science within many modern- day careers. Elements of the science curriculum also support the school's Eco journey and enable pupils to see the role that science plays in the global campaign against climate change. Pupils leave St Peter's with a solid foundation in science in preparation for the secondary curriculum. We have established links with the local secondary school ensure this continuity.