

# St Peter's Newsletter

November 2021

*Dear Parents / Carers,*

*We are looking forward to these three special weeks until the Christmas holidays. The children will be learning about Advent and taking part in many lovely activities which prepare them for both Christmas and the festive season. As a school we will be ensuring that we can be as Covid secure as we can and, in fact, Surrey has directed all the staff in its schools to wear masks in communal areas. Sadly, numbers of Covid cases are on the increase in our area so we must all continue to be vigilant.*

*Mrs Dunning*

## **PTFA events and fundraising**

I wish to extend my thanks on behalf of the school to the PTFA and the wide team of volunteers who have planned some wonderful events for our community. The fireworks were a huge success and it was wonderful to bring back the joy of the community being together. Whilst I appreciate that the cancellation of some indoor events is disappointing, the PTFA have arranged so many fun alternatives. May I politely stress that it is the school management team that have made these decisions and the PTFA have been very supportive to us as we try to minimise the transmission of Covid amongst our community. The school really appreciate the money that is raised but for us the most important factor is creating memories for the children and the fun events that have been planned. The PTFA continue to work tirelessly in promoting and organising the events. If you would like to get involve please talk to Roz Bache or anyone else you know is connected to the committee. We look forward to you being a part of some or all of the activities planned.

## **The British Council International Award**

Mrs Marshall attended an online award ceremony broadcast from Coventry (UK city of Culture) to celebrate the reaccreditation of The British Council's International Award. We celebrated the global links which underpin so much of our creative curriculum and the links that we have with schools in other countries.

## **Trick Box**



Our wonderful team of Trick Box Mentors, from Y6, have been out at lunchtime for a number of weeks now. Their role is to support children from across the school with every day issues such as helping to solve minor disputes, supporting co-operative play, helping children who may be feeling lonely or anxious and encouraging children to think and feel differently about issues that arise. Mentors can be identified by their badges and always have their Trick Box cards to hand to they can help children find the right trick to help themselves. We are fortunate to have such an enthusiastic and committed group of Y6's in this role.

## **Winter uniform**

The children take great pride in their uniform and the KS2 tell me they love wearing the school tie. Please be reminded that we expect all children to now be in the winter uniform. Shorts are allowed all year round for the brave!

KS2: shirt and tie with green jumper or cardigan.

KS1: white polo shirt with green jumper or cardigan.

## **Long hair**

All long hair must be tied back at all times. This applies to all children. Not only is it for health and safety, it is to ensure we can see the child's face when we are communicating together and of course to prevent the nasty headlice issue! Children will be reminded by staff to do this and we expect all children to follow this rule.

## Remembrance day



Y4 attended a small Remembrance Service at St Peter's church. This was the first time the school has participated. It was a moving service which gave children time for reflection and an opportunity to think about the significance of Remembrance Day. Representatives from Y6 also attended the Farnham schools' service with dignitaries in the centre of town.

## COP26 #PromiseToThePlanet

You will remember that the children sent their messages off to the World Wildlife Fund for their forest of promises earlier this month. We have had such positive feedback from national and international organisations. It is great to be part of a bigger movement! Two Kenyan Fairtrade farmers were also in Glasgow (standing next to the tree of promises) and lobbying for a fair deal for the whole world. It is fantastic for children to see how everything we learn in school links up.

## Farnham eco day



Some members of the Eco Committee walked down to central Farnham recently for the event promoting COP26. The children learnt about hydrogen powered buses and also saw how pedal power can be used to generate electricity.

## Big issues assembly – Jeremy Hunt MP



Last Friday the Global and Eco Committees led an assembly in the wake of COP26 to talk about what we are doing as a school to help the fight against global warming. Pupils talked about our garden produce, recycling, our stall at the Farnham Sustainability Fair and our new focus on single use plastic.



The children then had questions for Mr Hunt, asking for his verdict on the progress made at COP26 and also what he felt children could do to help. There was also a question about the lack of vaccines in the developing world because this is preventing schools from opening and these children do not have any opportunity to learn remotely. He was very impressed with the presentation and questions and responded in a way that they could understand. Mr Hunt particularly liked our school value of **Active Citizen** and felt that we are fulfilling this in what we do. He also explained that we are very fortunate to be living in Farnham and to attend a good school. He explained that to a certain extent, where you are born is chance and that children all over the world deserve the same. This is a point which we shall be developing in school.

## Sports round up

*Football seems to have been the sport of choice this month and we've had some fantastic results!*



Firstly, a huge congratulations to our Y4 football team who played outstandingly to win against nine other local schools at Weydon last week. The players were amazing with their skill and enthusiasm, and we are very proud of you Y4.

In Y6, we sent two mixed teams to a Football Festival at Alton School where again there was some amazing football played. Both our teams did well, neither losing a single match.... And we all enjoyed the snack and hot chocolate after!!

Our Y5 & 6 girls team made their debut at Weydon this week in a closely fought tournament, eventually finishing third on penalties but conceding no match goals. Well done girls.



And finally – and I know the boys have been waiting to hear this news for a while – congratulations to our Y6 boys' football team who won their side of the league qualifying for the finals in January. This is a massive achievement boys, and much deserved for your effort, passion and team work.

Netballers, we will hope to find out soon....

Well done to everyone who has represented St Peter's in sports this month!

## Christmas lights switch-on



Young Voices and Junior Choir sang their hearts out at Gostrey Meadows in Farnham on a crisp Saturday afternoon at a special ceremony to turn on the Christmas Lights. They sang a variety of Christmas songs on a special stage in front of the Mayor of Farnham and lots of family and friends. Thank you to all who came to support us and made it a lovely (if early) start to our Christmas festivities.

## Stone Age day

Last Wednesday Y3 enjoyed a Stone Age experience like no other. The day involved much learning as well as plentiful humour thanks to Flint, our caveman for the day. The children experienced a woolly mammoth hunt, learned to make tools out of flint and compared the life of Neanderthals to those of Homo Sapiens. The children looked fabulous in their costumes and a good time was had by all.



## Viking workshop

On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 Y4 took part in a Viking workshop. Children learnt about how far afield the Vikings travelled, Viking invasions and what it was like to be a Viking through lots of interactive tasks and handling artefacts. It was an enjoyable day.



Children's comments:

*We have learnt about Viking invasions. I didn't know that the Vikings invaded so many places. They travelled all the way to North America as well as to Istanbul.*

*Jessica*

*I thought the arrows and handcuffs were interesting to look at. The Vikings used to have so many different varieties of arrow heads.*

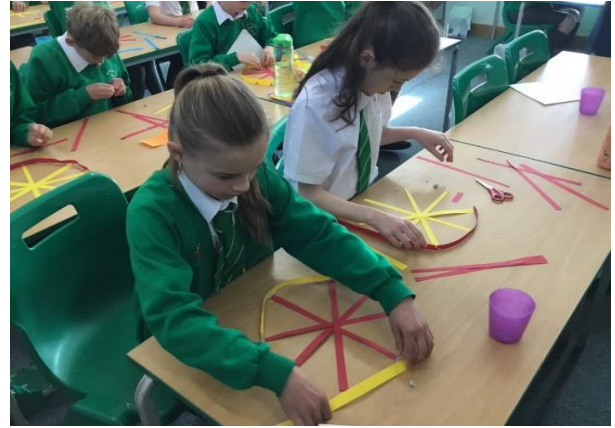
*Athar*

*I enjoyed solving the quiz and afterwards to work out a puzzle written in runes writing.*

*Hattie*

## Maths week

Maths week was held from the 8<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> of November. Children throughout the school read a book and then completed activities based on the book. Year 6 read *Sir Cumference and the Dragon of Pi* to investigate the properties of circles. During the week children were encouraged to ask at home how their adults use maths in their everyday lives.



Comments included:

*I need to work out prices in a shop – will it be cheaper to buy one item or a pack?*

*When cooking and baking I need to be sure that I measure everything accurately, otherwise I will not make a good cake.*

*I use a clock to tell me how long I need to time the cooking.*

*In Mrs Goddin's Y5 math group we read *Bean Thirteen* by Matthew McElligott. We used Mathslink cubes to find factors and multiples of 13. We also found out about famous mathematicians as well as looking at people who use Maths in their everyday lives. Belle and Emily*

## Clubs

We've had a fantastic take up on clubs this term with many children attending several. Research shows that there are huge benefits from participating in extra-curricular activities, not only from the point of view of learning new skills, but also meeting new people and developing social skills. If your child is not participating, please take a good look at the clubs for next term (when it comes out) and consider if there's anything they might like to try. We have this week held an assembly to remind children to thank those who are running their clubs. All adults have noticed that these basic manners have slipped, possibly because of lockdowns when clubs weren't running.

We are currently finalising the clubs schedule for next term. A full clubs list and booking details will be distributed before the Christmas break.

PinPoint Tennis have four spaces available for their Monday after school club, open to Y3 – 6. If you'd like to join tennis club, please book here:

<https://www.pinpointtennisteam.co.uk/schools.html>

## Setting work for children who are isolating with Covid

We will be happy to set work for children who have tested positive for Covid and who are well enough to work. We won't be setting learning for any other reason for absence, without consultation with the Head Teacher. This will now be a consistent across all the classrooms.

## Train to teach

If you are interested in becoming a teacher, please see the attached leaflet.

## Diary dates

*reminder that we break up on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 13.30*

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December  
KS2 advent service @ St Peter's church

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December  
mufti day

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December  
PTFA silly socks day

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December  
Elfridges

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December  
Christmas lunch

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December  
Phyllis Tuckwell reindeer run

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December  
Christmas jumper day (for Save the Children)  
festive family get-together 13.30-15.00

## Forest School Christmas Sale



Twig  
stars £3

Wreaths &  
Hanging  
decorations £5

Made with natural materials

Wednesday 8th December

3.15

School Playground