



ST PETER'S NEWSLETTER

April 2022

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the Summer Term. Are you finding that time is flying by quickly this year already? The Year 6 children are working so hard to prepare for their SATS test which commence on Monday 9th May. They know that all their hard work will be rewarded afterwards with production rehearsals, Bikeability and transition preparation.

The book fair is this week and Year 4 are looking forward to their residential the following week. This week, albeit with very short notice, children in Years 5 and 6 auditioned for Farnham's Got Talent. There were seventeen acts that auditioned and the standard of performance was very good. For some of the acts there will be an opportunity to perform to the school in assemblies and more information will be shared with those children. The winning act is Emilia in Year 5 who will be singing an Ed Sheeran solo. Well done Emilia – that took great courage and you have a stunning voice!

SJDunning

Mrs Sarah Dunning
Head Teacher

Hockey

Well done to all the hockey players who performed brilliantly at Guildford Hockey Club Interschools tournament. A superb effort and great teamwork!



Y2 multi-skills festival at Potter's Gate



Well done to all the Y2 children who took part in the multi-skills festival at Potter's Gate this week.

A big thank you from one of our neighbours

Mrs Ellis, who lives at number 28, visited us this week to ask us to publicly thank the community for all the support and help that she receives from you all. She is grateful that people spend time with her, thread her needles for her and support her as she walks home. She thinks we are a wonderful community and so glad to be a part of it.

Governors column



Hi, I hope you all had a relaxing Easter break and have settled back into the new term!

I am Bart Caines, a PCC nominated Foundation governor appointed by the Diocesan Board of Education initially in 2017. As a Foundation Governor, I play a particular role in upholding the

Christian character and ethos of the school and ensuring that this is worked out with wisdom, creativity and care through all aspects of school life.

I am co-chair with Neil Ambrose, a role we have shared since September 2021. I have previously worked as Vice-chair and chaired the Resources Committee and the Headteachers Appraisal Board.

School governance was a topic I knew very little about – my parents were both teachers and over the years I had picked up snippets but not much.... As Neil said in his profile in the last newsletter, the learning curve is steep but well supported! I really enjoy working closely with the other governors and the school community and I am very proud of everything we have achieved.

Effective Governance is central to school life, with a particular remit of helping schools provide the best possible education for their pupils by:

- *Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- *Holding the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- *Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure money is well spent.

The role of the chair of governors is to :

- *Give the governing body a clear lead and direction, ensuring that the governors work as an effective team and understand their accountability and the part they play in the strategic leadership of the school and in driving school improvement.
- *Build the team by attracting governors with the necessary skills and ensuring that tasks are effectively delegated across the governing body so that all members contribute, and feel that their individual skills, knowledge and experience are well used.
- *Be a critical friend to the Head Teacher by offering support, challenge and encouragement, holding the headteacher to account and ensuring the headteacher's performance management is rigorous and robust
- *Ensure school improvement is the focus of all policy and strategy and that governor scrutiny, monitoring and challenge reflect school improvement priorities.
- *Ensure that statutory requirements and regulations are met, that the school provides value for money in its use of resources and that governing body business is conducted efficiently and effectively

I have a daughter at St Peter's and I am regularly at the school for pick-up. Please feel free to ask any questions you may have or to have a chat about the school!

Easter service

Thank you to the parents who accompanied us to the KS1 and KS2 church services. It would be impossible to get the whole school to church without this support.

Ukrainian fundraiser



What a fantastic outcome for a group of Y5 pupils who organised their own Easter stall at the end of term. Selling home-made crafts and goodies, they raised £108 in 20 minutes for the DEC. What a fantastic way to demonstrate St Peter's school values!

Ukrainian families

If any St Peter's families are sponsoring/hosting Ukrainian refugees, it would be good if you could let the office know if you feel that they would like to link up with others. No doubt the Farnham networks are on to this already, but the visa system does seem to be delaying some Ukrainians' arrivals meaning people will be arriving over a longer period. One of the Scouts groups has posted that they have spaces and will welcome Ukrainian children. If you know of other groups/activities, this would also be good to know.

Food at the end of the school day

In spite of our request in the March newsletter, once again, we have parents feeding their child as soon as they meet them on the playground at the end of the school day. This is almost always cakes/biscuits. Please can we ask families to keep these treats until they are outside the school gates. This will be a wait of a couple of minutes.

Swimming gala

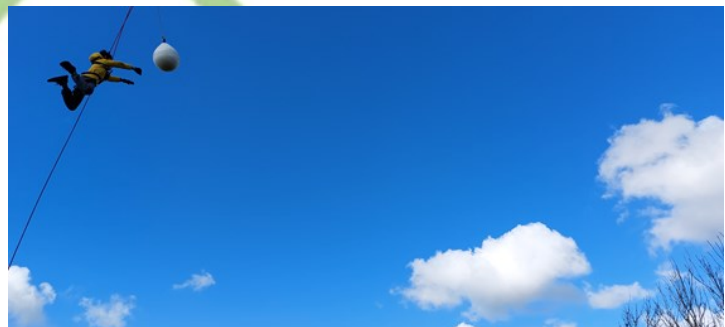
The District Schools Gala will be held on the 9th of June. We shall hold trials for KS2 children on the morning of Friday 20th May - more information to come nearer the time.

Clubs

As always a great take up for school clubs. Please remind your child to thank the person taking the club and also to let them know if they cannot attend for a good reason.

Y6 residential Osmington Bay

Year 6 had a wonderful week away at PGL Osmington Bay in Dorset.



School items



Please make sure your child comes to school with all the items they need for their school day (PE kit, lunch, book bag, musical instruments, forest school kit etc). We aim to make children independent and responsible for their own items, as well as minimise professional time lost delivering items. There is now a trolley in the lobby to drop off any forgotten items;

they will be distributed at 11am and 1pm only. Please make sure any items dropped off are clearly labelled with your child's name and class. Any unlabelled items will remain in the trolley.

Uniform

The children were reminded in assembly last week that the summer uniform is now acceptable to wear. Uniform is not gender specific. The children do not need to wear a shirt and tie but a school logo polo shirt instead. School shoes are vital and children know they must wear them right up until the end of the school year.

Children were reminded of no earrings at any time, no nail varnish and all long hair must be tied back.

Everyone agreed rules were in place to make it fair in our community and that no-one should break the rule and be allowed to get away with it. Our children showed great maturity in the whole school discussion. Thank you for your support as parents to reinforce the uniform expectations

Request for leave

Please be aware that there will be no more authorised holiday request that are due to delayed plans because of Covid. As disappointing as it has been for families to be disrupted by Covid, we need to make a point in time when we will move back to our policy of no authorised leave unless they are really exceptional circumstances. Children have 13 weeks of holiday a year and 5 additional days due to INSET days. Our attendance target for each pupil is 97% which allows for a few days maximum due to illness. Children below 96% will not have their request authorised. For the last two years the school have been very accommodating in authorising leave due to Covid-related delays. We know we will have your full support to ensure that children get the maximum educational opportunities that they can by ensuring full attendance when they are fit and healthy.

Nuts in school

Please do not send your child into school with any products containing nuts. This includes sunscreen with nut oils, thank you.

Dates for the diary

2nd May: Bank Holiday

4th May: Y2 Great Fire of London workshop

4th – 6th May: Y4 residential Marchant's Hill

13th May: SATS week

11th May: Y3 Lego workshop

14th May: Cross Country at Farnham Park (KS2)

18th May: YR Surrey health check

18th May: class photographs + Green Shoots individual photographs

18th May: Y3 trip to Living Forest (Hampstead Norreys in Berkshire)

21st May: PTFA circus

23rd May: Y5 Four Days Hard Labour workshop

25th May: Y5-6 heart start training

26th May: French day

27th May: Jubilee celebrations

30th May – 3rd June: half term

Reception places September 2022

If you have applied for a reception place for your child, please remember you will need to accept the place by Wednesday the 4th May.

Match funding

If your company offers match funding for projects and would like to sponsor our school, please let the office know. For example, our Pilates club, run by a school parent, is match funded by her employer and has already raised lots of funds for the school. All moneys raised this way directly benefit our school community.