

# ST PETER'S NEWSLETTER

March 2023



Dear Parents and Carers,

*I am sure your children are ready for the Easter break after they have been working hard this term. We appreciate that so many of you have had illness in your family and that we all seem to be sharing the germs at present. Let's hope we are through the worst of it and we can look forward to the Summer term and all the exciting activities that we have planned. Covid is still present at school and many staff members this term have been quite poorly with it. I would like to thank our team for their hard work this term and hope they too, get a restful break free of illness.*

*For the Summer term, I will be taking on the role of Interim Head Teacher at St Mary's Frensham in addition to being Head Teacher here. Their HT is leaving at the end of this term and they are in the process of recruiting. I will be on their site the equivalent of 2 days whilst Mrs Marshall is Head Teacher here. We hope that this will be a mutually beneficial relationship with a local, Church Infant school. We feel as a local, large and stable school we are able to support them for the term.*

*I hope you enjoy reading about all our recent events.*

*SJDunning*

Sarah Dunning  
Head Teacher

## **governors' column**

Hello, I am Jane Cook and I am the staff elected Governor for St Peter's. I am a TA in Y6 but have various other roles in school. I am the ELSA, SEN assistant, I regularly take curriculum cooking on a Wednesday afternoon as well as overseeing the parent early morning reading scheme. I have recently gained a Helen Arkell Level 5 Diploma in Teaching Learners with dyslexia/specific learning difficulties.

My working life started in The Middle East, as a Nanny. When I came back to England I found myself working in Farnham, again looking after children. I also trained as a dental nurse before I had my family.

My association with St Peter's started when my two children attended the school many years ago. They still recall and talk about activities, of things they have achieved here. Life-long learning memories have been made.

I feel proud and privileged to work here, as I have the opportunity to be part of your children's lives and help them to be the best they can.

My role as a Governor enables me to share the views and where, appropriate, the concerns of the staff with the governing body. I act as the spokesperson for all members of St Peter's staff. I report back to my colleagues with decisions made by the governing body if appropriate.

In my spare time I like to tend to my garden, which was created during lockdown, go walking and visit our beach hut as often as I can. It's a great place for family gatherings.

**February/March sports round up**

As always, it has been a very busy start to the sporting year at St Peters, and we have had some fantastic results and so much fun.



Firstly, our **Y5-6 indoor athletics** team won the confederation schools event at Weydon. This is such an exciting team event and we were thrilled to win! We have never won before, or at least not for a long time, and it qualified us to represent our district at the County event in Guildford. We were so excited to have this honour and trained hard, learning new techniques (such as using reverse-a boards) and working as a close team.



The **County Event** was amazing. It was so professional with music and commentary and about 300 children cheering and competing. It was a fantastic morning and all the children who represented St Peters should

be so proud of themselves. We had a few falls and not everything went exactly to plan, but we pulled together as a team and showed amazing determination and courage. It was a pleasure for Mrs. Usher and I to take you, and we finished a very respectable 10<sup>th</sup> – out of the 400 plus primary schools in Surrey.

We have also participated in a **Y6 rugby** tournament this month where our mixed team played brilliantly. There was a lot of tough competition, but we fought hard and qualified for the Bowl Final. Your teamwork and commitment was superb so well done rugby players.



We have taken part in two **netball** competitions, both held at South Farnham School. Our Y5 team, some of whom had not played a competitive match before, played amazingly to come as runners up out

of the 9 schools attending. This is great first result and good news for my Y6 team next year!



Our **Y6 netballers**, who are more experienced, played very high-quality netball to win all of their pool matches getting into a final against South Farnham A team. It was nail bitingly close! At the end whistle the two teams were tied on 3 all, and we had to call both sides winners! What an amazing way to finish your Y6 netball girls. Well done to all of you who played.



Finally, I was thrilled to take a small team of our most competitive runners to **county level Cross Country** in Reigate on Saturday. The sun shone and the running was nothing short of spectacular. So fast! A huge well done to Katie, Sophie, Grace, Edward, Milo, Jude, Oscar, Poppy, Alanna and Sophia for taking this amazing opportunity to compete

against Surrey's best runners. A special mention to our three children who have been selected for county training - Oscar, Grace and Milo. I hope you enjoy the training day.

We have kept going with so much sport into March!

We sent two teams to Charterhouse School to compete in a **hockey** tournament last Monday. Our A team played amazingly to finish as runners up, and our B team won 2 of their 3 matches. Well done everyone and thank you to Jay in Y4 who stepped in at the last minute to complete our Y5/6 teams!



Our **netballers** were back in action last week – this time it was the turn of the second team who were determined to be successful. Supported by Mae and Nicole from year 5, they played some fantastic netball finishing as runners up. Well played girls and I hope you all keep your netball up!





Our success at **floorball** continues! We sent two teams to the competition at Farnham Leisure Centre this week. Our A team won – despite a few nervous moments in the finals – which is amazing

and our B team completed the success by coming third. Amazing results and we held on to our trophy!!



Finally – again – we played in the **netball league finals** at Weydon this week. These finals were the culmination of all the league matches we have played, and only 4 schools qualified. Our A team played some fantastic netball, beating Potter Gate in the semi-final, and eventually finishing as runners up. Well done girls.

*Thank you to all the parents who have supported the sport in the school so far this year.*

### Science Workshop at Alton School



On Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March, some Y5 children went to Alton School for a 'Cool Physiology' workshop. After some mind-bending optical illusions and tricky finger contortions, they discovered how amazing our bodies are and how they can sometimes be tricked into behaving in a different way. The children learnt the science

behind each activity and then chose their favourite to try out on their adults at the end of the workshop.

### Y6 trip to Yvonne Arnaud theatre



On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March Y6 visited the very fascinating 'Yvonne Arnaud' to assist them with their Shakespeare learning. We recited and acted out sections from Macbeth, recounting some events of the story along the way. There were many fun, engaging activities like creating a trailer for Macbeth, practicing different Shakespearean insults and acting out other important scenes. I think that overall, everyone had a really exciting and interactive experience, while also learning something important from it. The teachers commented on our good behaviour. Thanks to all the Yvonne Arnaud staff members (Ri, Jess, George, Fiona) and also to our lovely teachers who took us on the trip.

George, 6T

### International Commonwealth Day *Forging a sustainable and peaceful future*



On Commonwealth Day, six pupils from Y5 attended the flag raising ceremony in the town. We joined children from other local schools and heard the King's speech which pledged to promote economic and social development, diversity and respect around the world.



### Spring Concert

The children performed brilliantly last week at the annual Spring Concert. We were all impressed with the quality of their musicianship and the amount of progress each child is making in with their individual instruments.



Both choirs performed to the whole school on Friday and we are hoping more children will want to join the Junior Choir which is led by a professional musician, Mrs Gale.

The family orchestra was a hit and next year we will be encouraging even more adults and past pupils to join us! Thank you to everyone who donated money to the music department – we will be able to enhance our music facilities.



### mobile phones

We appreciate that children need a phone if they are walking home alone to and from school. We are happy to look after the phones in the classroom but we cannot take responsibility for them. Sadly, we have had an incident recently in a class where the mobile phone has gone missing and no one has been able to say where it is. We suggest that you don't keep a lot of personal and sentimental information on the phone in case there is an incident with it. Finally, staff are telling children that they cannot use their phones on school property – many children are walking onto site using their phones. We want children to be talking and engaging with each other – their phones need to be away until handed to the teacher. Thank you for your support.

### lateness

There are a number of children who are arriving late for school, many on a daily basis. Children that arrive late are disadvantaged as they miss the initial instructions, they may miss the start of their extra help group, sometimes parent volunteers are waiting for them and the child doesn't arrive in good time. Please help your child into a strong routine that sets them up for a future of punctuality.

### Important Travel Information

Please remember our voluntary one-way system in Little Green Lane, going **down** the hill past the school. If everyone can follow this system, traffic will flow better and allows the drop-off zone to operate more smoothly in the mornings.

The drop-off zone is very popular and saves having to find a parking space. It operates daily between 8:30am and 8:45am. Volunteers and staff ensure your child leaves the car and makes it into school safely.

If you do need to park, please do so with care and consideration for our neighbours, and avoid parking close to a junction.

Thank you for your cooperation.

### Dates for your diary

3<sup>rd</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> April – Easter Holidays

17<sup>th</sup> April – children back to school

17<sup>th</sup> April – national offer date for primary school places

19<sup>th</sup> April – Y4 residential meeting in hall at 15.30

21<sup>st</sup> April – start swim club

24<sup>th</sup> April – start school-run clubs (ie clubs paid via SCOPay)

26<sup>th</sup> April – class photos

26<sup>th</sup> April – Rocksteady concert in hall at 10.00

Starting after Easter - The Coffee Can Co will be in the school playground (Netball Court) on Tuesday mornings from 8.15am. Please come along and try their great coffee and tasty treats. Check out their website for more details: <https://thecoffeecancompany.co.uk/>

### Summer term clubs

The summer term clubs schedule will be sent out before the Easter holidays and school-run clubs (clubs payable via SCOPay) will be available for booking after the Easter break. External clubs are booked directly with the provider.

