

Jesus said "Love one another as I have loved you" John 13v34

# ST PETER'S NEWSLETTER

November 2024



*Dear Parents and Carers*

*We are so looking forward to commencing our Advent journey next week. We hope you too are enjoying the lead up to Christmas at this special time of 'waiting'. The children have been enjoying learning songs for our Advent service all about light.*

*The next three weeks are going to be exciting but also tiring and maybe overwhelming for some children. We will work hard to give every child a smooth and enjoyable end to the term.*

*ST Dunning*

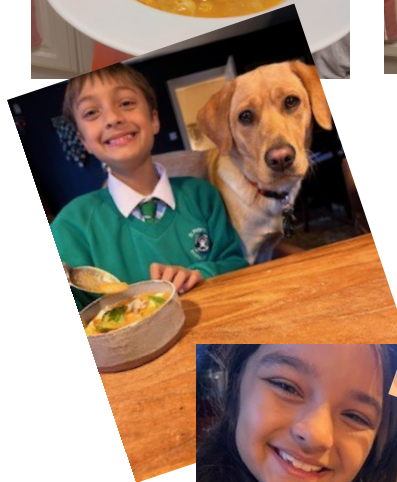
*Sarah Dunning  
Head Teacher*

## **World Food Day 2024**

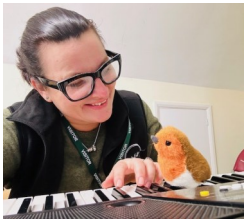
Thank you to everyone who took on the challenge to eat at least one meal containing beans supporting the *Beans is How* campaign.

As a sustainable, healthy and economic food choice, the campaign is on a mission to double bean consumption by 2028. We hope you enjoyed the challenge and maybe added a new dish to your repertoire!

*The Healthy Schools Committee*



### Sapphire the Songbird Mascot



Mrs Sefton sourced a little Songbird mascot for her singing class, to help some of her shy and anxious pupils, whose confidence is growing wonderfully. The children love her and named her Sapphire. If anyone would like to book singing lessons for next term, please contact Mrs Sefton via her website: [melseftonvocalcoach.com](http://melseftonvocalcoach.com)



### Remembrance 2024



We participated in two community Remembrance services in November. Two Y6 pupils accompanied Mrs Dunning to join all of the Farnham schools at the ceremony in Gostrey Meadow and eight Y4 pupils joined a short service down at St Peter's memorial ground. In school, we held a two-minute silence and Mrs Turnball played the Last Post during a whole school gathering to commemorate lives lost through war.

### Floorball



Two St Peter's teams took part in a Floorball tournament in Farnham last week. Both teams reached one their groups, both getting to the semi-finals. One team reached the final but lost to St Polycarp's in a hard fought fight for the trophy. Overall we came 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> out of the eight teams taking part.

### Surrey Schools Skiing Competition



Over 200 children from Surrey schools competed at Aldershot dry ski slope last weekend. Oscar in Y4 was proud to represent St Peter's coming joint 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Junior boys category! While this kind of sport has to be enjoyed outside school, if any other children ski and would like to form part of a team for November next year, please let Mrs Ogorzalek know via the office.

### Farnham Christmas Lights Switch On 2024



Thank you to all the parents, friends and staff who came to support our Young Voices and Junior Choirs at the Farnham Christmas Lights Switch On held in Gostrey Meadows on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November. The children sang their three Christmas songs, Celebrations, Away in a Manger and Jingle in the Halls, beautifully and with great enthusiasm. This was a lovely start to our Christmas countdown.

### Living Our Values



Our pupils have recently received letters from King Charles' office in response to their letters around eco-focused themes. We have read the letters in whole school assemblies so that children can come to understand that they have a voice which they can use to influence and bring about change. We have also had a letter from Keir Starmer which says: "... we have heard you; we have listened. You are the peacebuilders and leaders of the future. You have an important role to play in building a

more peaceful world." This was in response to a competition we entered in the summer term for a movement called "Never Such Innocence", which supports children and young people affected by wars around the world. The song that we entered was a joint entry with our partner school in Greece.



### Vacancies in School Swimming Club

It is a national expectation that all children should be able to swim at least 25m on their front and back by the time they leave primary school. As well as swimming for pleasure, it is a vital life skill for personal safety. There will be occasions in everyone's life when they are either on a boat or at a beach with friends. Such experiences will be so much more enjoyable if an individual is competent in the water.

While many of our pupils take lessons outside school, we are aware that this doesn't work for everyone. If you have not been able to organise swimming lessons for your child, we would encourage you to join the school Swimming Club. Swimming club is held before school on a Friday morning at Farnham Leisure Centre. While we have a waiting list for YR and KS1 beginners, we do have some places for KS2 swimmers of all abilities, including beginners. If your child is a non-swimmer, learning among peers is a great way to gain confidence and develop their swimming skills. Prices are competitive and we may be able to support anyone for whom the cost is prohibitive. Do ask Ms Klimaviciute in the office for details.

## General Housekeeping

The **library** is open after school on WEDNESDAYS



## Forest School



As the weather is getting colder, please provide your child with plenty of extra layers for forest school. Layers are really important as they can be removed or added easily. No jeans and no single pairs of leggings please.

## A reminder

Please do not leave children unaccompanied on school premises before 08.30am. They will not be supervised and the school cannot be held responsible for any accident or injury which occurs before this time.

## School Clubs

We have had to speak to some pupils about standards of behaviour during externally run school clubs. We have liaised with providers and have made clear our expectations for behaviour in before/after school clubs. Providers will inform us if they feel that the club's dynamics are affected by the behaviour choices of one or more children. Please remind your child to show respect and thank the teacher at the end of the club - standard polite interactions.

## Sports Teams



We would respectfully ask that parents do not question the selection of teams for sports fixtures. Many factors come into the staffs' decision. Some events are purely competitive and there are others where the Sports Federation specifically asks schools to select from a wider pool of pupils - those who may not be selected for competitive games. Others may be a mix of abilities/skills levels.

It is not comfortable to be questioned about the selection process and it's not usually done by one person alone. School staff volunteer their time to organise and attend matches and to be constantly cross-examined is not really an incentive. Thank you

## Dates for your diary

4<sup>th</sup> December: KS2 Advent Service at church

deadline for ordering Christmas lunch

5<sup>th</sup> December: forest school Christmas sale @ 3.15pm

10<sup>th</sup> December: KS1 Christmas performance @ 9.15am

11<sup>th</sup> December: KS1 Christmas performance @ 2.30pm

13<sup>th</sup> December: Phyllis Tuckwell reindeer run

16<sup>th</sup> December: KS2 Christmas Carol Service @ St Peter's Church, 6pm

18<sup>th</sup> December: EYFS + Green Shoots Nativity @ 9.15am  
Christmas lunch

Rock Steady concert @ 2.30pm

20<sup>th</sup> December: end of term @ 1.30pm

A big **thank you** to Travis Perkins Farnham for donations to our outdoor areas.



**Saplings**  
At St Peter's C of E Primary School, Little Green Lane, Farnham GU9 8TJ

**Toddler Christmas Forest School Session**  
Thursday 12th December  
Friday 13th December  
9.30-11am

Booking essential - places are limited  
(aged 18months-4 years)  
9.30-11.00am

Christmas nature crafts for you and your toddler and campfire.  
Festive campfire snacks and hot chocolate




Sessions are led by a level 3 Forest School Practitioner with Outdoor First Aid Training. All activities are risk assessed to a high standard whilst allowing freedom for your little ones. Sessions will take place in all weathers (with the exception of lightning storms and high winds) so outdoor clothing is essential. For further information or to book a place, contact [forest@stpeters-farnham.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:forest@stpeters-farnham.surrey.sch.uk)



Forest School Christmas Sale  
Twig stars, swags, gonks, knitted gifts, rustic baubles

Thursday  
5th  
December  
3.15pm

Merry Christmas



01252 714 115

[www.stpeters-farnham.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.stpeters-farnham.surrey.sch.uk)

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