

ST PETER'S NEWSLETTER

July 2025



Dear Parents and Carers

We hope that you have all had a great year with us and have enjoyed the many activities that involve parents and carers. Thank you to all the parents who volunteer for trips, reading and drop off and to the Grandparents who join us to help. Thank you for all your amazing fundraising that allows the children to benefit from things that the budget doesn't stretch to.

We wish you all a very restful holiday doing things that bring you joy. We look forward to welcoming you back in September, along with many new families.

St Dunning

Sarah Dunning
Head Teacher

INTERNATIONAL AWARD 2024 - 2027



You may have seen our school in the printed version of The Farnham Herald last week. It is a piece celebrating our global achievements. If you missed it, the link below takes you to the online version.

<https://www.farnhamherald.com/news/education/farnham-school-wins-top-award-for-bringing-the-world-into-the-classroom-809117>

JAM FROM OUR SCHOOL GARDEN



We try hard to push the sustainability message in school. This comes through Forest School, the school garden, our Eco Award, our Ocean Ambassadors and our Fairtrade Award. Earlier this month, some KS2 children made both raspberry and rhubarb jam from fruit picked in the school garden. Hot weather to be boiling up jam but making sure we used Fairtrade sugar, we were able to sell all 11 jars to parishioners at St Peter's Church.

SPORTS CREW AT ST MARY'S INFANT SPORTS DAY



Our children were perfect ambassadors for our school when they were the helpers at St Mary's Infant's sports day. It has been a tradition of 3 years now for our children to lead the races, reset all the

equipment, give out the stickers and support the children. They were such role models for the younger children. We had a great afternoon. We are sure to be invited back again next year – it really does give the adults a rest from running up and down the track!



Y2 SINGING WORKSHOP AT THE MALTINGS



The whole of Y2 walked to The Maltings and took part in a singing workshop with children from other schools in the Farnham area. The workshop was run by leaders from Farnham Youth Choir. We joined in with lots of singing activities and raised the roof when performing several songs. Following the workshop we went to Gostrey Meadow and enjoyed a picnic and an ice lolly, before walking back to school.

Y2 TRIP TO SIR HAROLD HILLIER GARDENS



Y2 had a wonderful day at Sir Harold Hillier Gardens near Romsey. We spent the day exploring the beautiful gardens, and learning about the plants and animals that live there. We played a butterfly game, dissected a plant, used sweep nets to discover the inhabitants of the meadow and found newts when pond dipping. Thank you to the leaders at Hilliers, and all the parent helpers who supported us during the day.

BRIGHTWELL TENNIS TOURNAMENT



On the 2nd of July, a group of Y3 & Y4 children went to Brightwell's tennis club to take part in a tournament against South Farnham. After we did a warmup the games began. We played really well and Willa came second and Eva came third. We all had a fun time and made new friends from South Farnham. Thank you to all of the teachers and grownups for supporting us.

Ava & Willa

FAIRTRADE COMMITTEE TAKES THE MESSAGE OUT TO THE COMMUNITY



Last Sunday, some of the Fairtrade representatives from across the school gave a presentation on why it is important to think about where our food comes from. This took place during the Sunday service to a full congregation. Children explained how our actions and choices impact communities in other parts of the world. They reminded us how the effects of climate change are affecting communities farming products such as bananas, coffee and cocoa. The more we continue to waste, the greater the impact of floods and drought in other parts of the world.



We were also shown the range of products available so that we can make sensible choices. After the service, the children had a stall selling Fairtrade treats and the school jam. They raised over £130 in just half an hour! Mrs Bryce had such positive feedback from the parishioners who really enjoyed listening to the children. One lady said: "It was so interesting and they were all so confident and clear. It certainly gave everyone something to think about."

We shall continue to look for more opportunities for the children to be ambassadors in the community.



TRICK BOX - FREEFLOW



This card sits in the CREATIVITY set. It is taught in the summer term in YR and then repeated across all year groups as children move up through the school.

The thinking goes: When we feel like we're fully 'in the zone' and performing at our best, we are experiencing 'flow' states. We achieve this when we are absorbed in a task that is: enjoyable, matches our skill set, requires focused attention, has some degree of challenge but is not too hard, allows time for our attention without distractions, can be practised to develop skills and offers rewards.

In the class, children are encouraged to catch a ball (or similar task) and realise that it needs a bit of practice. They talk about how good it feels when we 'get better' at something. They talk about what they like doing (sport, music, dance, reading, puzzles etc). Then the conversation moves onto how exciting and rewarding it is to learn something new. *What new things do you think you might like to do and might be good at doing if you practise them? We can all enjoy practising the things we already like doing and trying new things too.*

This is the psychology of self-praise habits which help to develop motivation around personal goals – works for adults too!

Y1 TRIP TO PORTCHESTER CASTLE



As part of our history topic Year 1 went to Portchester castle. It was a hot day but we managed to stay in the shade whilst we were treated to some excellent role play from the staff at the castle. We learnt how the castle dated back to the Roman times and about how the use of the castle changed over the years, including it becoming a prison. They introduced us to the different people who lived and worked in the castle and taught us some new words such as potage. They even showed us some of the weapons the early English army were famous for and some of the children got to hold a long bow! We had a fantastic time and learnt lots of new facts. Thank you to all the parent helpers who came along and made the trip possible.



UNAUTHORISED HOLIDAYS

At St Peter's we pride ourselves on upholding strong values rooted in honesty, integrity, and respect—principles that align with our identity as a church school. We would like to address an important issue regarding attendance and communication between home and school.

It has come to our attention that some parents may be encouraging their children to provide inaccurate reasons, such as illness, when taking time off for family holidays during term time. While we understand the desire to spend quality time together, we kindly ask that families refrain from asking their children to be untruthful.

Encouraging children to lie contradicts the core values we teach and cherish. Moreover, when the truth eventually emerges, it can cause embarrassment and distress for the child involved. Our aim is to foster a safe and honest environment where children feel supported and confident.

Please be reminded that the school is required to follow strict attendance regulations. Holidays taken during term time of 5 days or more without prior authorisation can result in fines being issued. We strongly encourage parents to plan holidays during scheduled school breaks to avoid any complications.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. Together, we can nurture a community built on trust, respect, and shared responsibility for our children's education.

We have been directed by the Local Authority that if it is brought to our notice that the absent was not due to illness and no medical evidence can be produced then the family will be liable to receive a penalty notice per parent/carer.

If you have any questions or need further guidance regard-



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

3rd September: inset day

4th September: children BACK at school

12th September: YR children starting full-time

17th September: individual photos

24th September: Y3 Butser Farm trip

1st October: Y5 Winchester science trip

EARRINGS

Now is your time! You have 6 weeks for your child's ears to heal. Earrings are not allowed at St Peter's and children will be told to remove them. Thank you for your support.

SMART WATCHES

Children are not allowed to wear smart watches or a similar make. It is very distracting for them and for safeguarding purposes we cannot have children being able to make contact on line or take photos or recording.

BURSARY FUNDED PLACES AVAILABLE

JOIN YOUR LOCAL WORLD-RENOWNED YOUTH CHOIR!

fyc FARNHAM YOUTH CHOIR

TRAINING CHOIR: SCHOOL YEARS 2-4
JUNIOR CHOIR: SCHOOL YEARS 5-7

Free open rehearsals: Wednesdays
9th July, 10th & 17th September
5.15pm Farnham Maltings

To register: fyc.org.uk/joinus
or email joinachoir@fyc.org.uk



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