

07.07.23 Newsletter



St. Peter's Academy Newsletter 07.07.23



Welcome



Dear Parents,

As we approach the last few weeks of term, the children and staff will be turning their attention towards next year and meeting the teachers and TAs that they will be with next Friday. A letter detailing the classes for 2023-24 went out on Monday and is attached below for your reference.

We had our talent show auditions recently - Well done to all the children who took part and especially to the 6 acts that the Year 6 school ambassadors selected to go through to the finals - Kelan, Erin and Emily; Amy and Elle; Luca; Raven; Hettie and Alana; Amelia, Florence, Lily and Leah. The final will take place on Monday 17th July.

As the end of term approaches, I would like to remind you that the last day of term is Friday 21st July. There will be a leavers assembly at 1pm in church - all parents of year 6 children are very welcome. All children will go home at 2pm. There will not be any After School Club on this day.

The KS2 children have been busy preparing for their end of year production - 'Shakespeare Rocks' - we hope to see lots of you at the performances next week!

Gordon Nunn & Mark Everett

Co-Headteachers



3rd July 2023

Class Structure for 2023-24

Dear Parents and Carers,

The class structure for next year will be:

Class	Year Group (s)	Teacher (s)
Explorer	Reception	Mrs Wallis / Mrs Scott
Discovery	Year 1	Miss Flude
Voyager	Year 2	Mrs White
Navigator	Year 3	Miss Keat
Odyssey	Year 4 & 5	Mrs I'Anson
Pioneer	Year 4 & 5	Mr Robinson
Endeavour	Year 6	Mrs Merriman

We are delighted to welcome two new teachers to the school – Miss Ruth Keat and Mr Ben Robinson. We will also be saying goodbye to several members of staff - Ms Tingle, Mrs Gulwell, Miss Barnes, Mrs Hill, Mrs Payet and Mrs Jones are all leaving St Peter's at the end of this academic year. We thank them all for their dedication and service to the children of St Peter's over many years.

Years 4 and 5 will continue in their mixed age classes to provide more balance in terms of the number of children in each class and their needs. Mrs I'Anson will continue teaching the children currently in her class next year.

The children will spend the morning of Friday 14th July in their new classes with the exception of Pioneer Class, who will do so on Thursday 20th July. Pioneer Class will instead be taught by Ms Tingle on Friday 14th. We will be holding curriculum meetings with the opportunity to meet your child's new teacher early in the new academic year.

Kind regards

Mr M Everett and Mr G Nunn

Co-Headteachers

Co-Headteachers: Mr Mark Everett and Mr Gordon Nunn Contact: 01249 653537 admin@st-peters-wilts.sch.uk



Bikeability

Our Year 6 pupils have been working on their cycling skills over the past two weeks on the Bikeability Course.

Well done to everyone who has taken part!





I Can and I Am Bus

Yesterday our Year 5 and 6 pupils had the opportunity to visit the bus situated at school for the day.

The I Can & I Am charity visit schools around the South West on the bus working with pupils and staff, providing valuable tools to help improve self-esteem and maintain good mental health. Presentations from the I Can & I Am team are combined with pizza making and wellbeing workshops on the bus.

Their mission is to enable those they work with to recognise their own balloon and give them the tools to keep it inflated.

The pizza making was very popular and enjoyed by both pupils and staff.





Wraparound Care

Please see below for details of our updated charges for September 2023

ST PETER'S C OF E ACADEMY



Accepting Childcare Vouchers

WRAP AROUND CARE

MONDAY - FRIDAY ALL YEAR GROUPS (Ages 4-11)



Breakfast Club	After School Club Session 1	After School Club Session 2
7:30 - 8:45 am	3:10 - 4:15pm	4:15 - 5:30pm
£6.50	£5.50	£7.50
Breakfast Included	Snack Included	Light Tea Included

**BOOK NOW THROUGH YOUR
PARENT PAY APP**

School and Church Entrance



Please can we remind all parents, that children should be supervised before and after school. The bush at the school entrance is being deliberately damaged daily. If this continues we may need to fence the area off.

Changes to reporting of Minor Injuries

We will no longer be sending home paper slips for minor injuries. Instead, you will receive an email, explaining what has happened and what treatment your child received.

Any injury to a child's head or a serious accident will still receive a call home from the school office during the day.

Breaktime Snacks



Children across the school are learning about healthy eating. Please can we remind you that break time snacks should be healthy, ideally fruit or vegetables. Products containing nuts should also not be brought into school as we have several children with severe allergies.

HomeRun App

HOMERUN APP

St Peter's CofE Academy
SCHOOL TRAVEL APP





Join our HomeRun App network to help us become a greener school AND earn big rewards for our community. Use the link below to find out more:

<https://homerun-app.com/launch/spa1939>

Access school travel information, and connect with families living near you to share travel arrangements, all in one place.

- ✓ *More convenient travel choices*
- ✓ *More time and money back for parents*
- ✓ *A greener school for all*



JOIN OUR SCHOOL NETWORK TODAY!
Use our unique activation link below to get started:

<https://homerun-app.com/launch/spa1939>



ALREADY HAVE A HOMERUN ACCOUNT? Enter school code **spa4914p** in 'My Schools' in your App



Any problems signing up? Get in touch at info@homerun-app.com

Medical Conditions



If your child uses an inhaler, could you please complete the attached form and return it to the school office as soon as possible.

This is to ensure we have up to date records that reflect your child's current needs.

If you require a paper copy, please contact the school office.

School Attendance

A reminder that term-time holidays will not be classed as authorised absences.

We are monitoring attendance every two weeks, focusing on children whose overall attendance is below 90%. We will invite parents to an absence review meeting if the attendance is below 85% and we have not previously discussed it with you.

Any leave of absence during term time will only be granted in 'exceptional circumstances'. In the Education Act the Department for Education states: *every day at school counts enormously and so does every consecutive day attended by pupils. Pupils need to be able to absorb new facts and knowledge, acquire new skills and consolidate before building further and progressing. They simply cannot do so if their structured school terms are disrupted by too many preventable absences.*

If the absence has not been authorised by the school and an absence occurs, where the child's total unauthorised absences amounts to 10 or more sessions (5 school days), continuous or aggregated within the previous six months within the current academic year (including the most recent unauthorised absence), schools are expected to notify the Education Welfare Service.

We will notify you by letter if your child's unauthorised absences amount to 10 sessions or more and a notification has been made. A regular check is made on attendance for all pupils and if a pupil's attendance falls below 90% there will be a follow up from the school.

The Educational Welfare Service have made it clear that if children are taken on holiday in term time because of their need to go on holiday at a quieter time, medical evidence will need to be provided with an application form for absence.

Online Safety

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to help us inform recommendations about online safety with their children, should they need it. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guidance, advice and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about AI VIRTUAL FRIENDS

Artificial intelligence – particularly in terms of how it generates natural language – has seen significant development over the last six months, with companies investing heavily in building natural language processing elements to existing apps (such as Snapchat, for example) (one form of AI to become especially popular has been the AI friend or chatbot). Children's safety is a key consideration in this development, as AI-generated companions, through their ability to respond to children's needs, could potentially be used to exploit children's vulnerability, with the likelihood of it being added to other successful platforms soon.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

AI chatbots may not always be able to recognise when content is age inappropriate or harmful and, although they are designed to be used by children, they could be exposed to inappropriate language or content, potentially leading to them being used to respond to children's needs in a way that is inappropriate or harmful.

REDUCED SOCIAL CONTACT

An excessive reliance on chatbots for emotional support could lead to children being less likely to seek help from their friends or family, potentially leading to them being isolated from their support network.

UNINTENTIONAL BIAS

AI chatbots are only as reliable as the information they have been programmed with. The algorithms that power them, therefore, may unintentionally promote bias, stereotypes or discriminatory behaviour. For example, if a chatbot is trained on data from the UK or the US, for instance, they may not be able to understand or respond to children from other countries.

COGNITIVE LIMITATIONS

Although many chatbots are now increasingly sophisticated, they are still limited in their ability to understand and respond to complex situations, potentially leading to them being used in a way that is inappropriate or harmful.

PRIVACY CONCERNS

Chatbots typically collect data about users, including personal information and preferences. This is often done to improve their performance and to provide a more personalised experience. However, this data collection may be done without the user's knowledge or consent, potentially leading to their information being used in a way that is inappropriate or harmful.

Advice for Parents & Carers

CHAT ABOUT CHATBOTS

If your child is already expressing an interest in AI, it is a good idea to have a conversation with them about the risks of using chatbots. This should include discussing the potential for chatbots to be used to exploit children's vulnerability, the risk of chatbots being used to promote bias or stereotypes, and the risk of chatbots being used to collect data about children without their knowledge or consent.

CREATE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

If your child is keen to engage with AI chatbots, it is important to ensure that they are using them in a safe environment. This should include ensuring that they are using them on a secure device, that they are using them on a secure network, and that they are using them on a secure platform.

TAKE CONTROL

As with any form of app or game, when it comes to AI chatbots, it is important to ensure that you are in control. This should include ensuring that you are aware of what your child is doing, that you are aware of the risks of using chatbots, and that you are able to take control if necessary.

RECOGNISE THE RISKS

It is important to recognise the risks of using AI chatbots. These risks include the potential for chatbots to be used to exploit children's vulnerability, the risk of chatbots being used to promote bias or stereotypes, and the risk of chatbots being used to collect data about children without their knowledge or consent.

Meet Our Expert

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 01.06.2023



St Peter's CE Academy



Online Safety Newsletter

July 2023

Quora

Quora should only be accessed by users that are 13+. Quora is a question-and-answer site. You do need to set up an account to see and post replies.

Due to the nature of the site, users can communicate with strangers, either through the Q&A boards, spaces or via private messages. Private messaging can be turned off in settings and users can block other users.

Quora is a platform where users can post publicly. If your child is using this site, then please ensure your child understands that they should not share personal information. As content is user generated, talk to your child about how information they read online may not be factually correct. Your child may also come across content and topics that are not age appropriate.

You can find out more about the safety and security of Quora here: <https://help.quora.com/en-us/sections/115001205786-Safety-Security>.

Reporting to Social Media Sites

CEOP provide an overview of how to contact several different social media sites: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Reporting-to-social-media-sites>.

Safe Searching

There is so much online that we would not want our child to view and even an innocent search can result in inappropriate content being seen. To make our child's online world safer, we would firstly recommend switching on Safesearch settings for the search engine your child uses. However, as not all search engines allow you to 'lock' Safesearch on (so users may be able to simply turn it off), we would encourage you to apply further parental controls.

For some search engines, for example Google, you can set up a Family management account, which will ensure that Safesearch settings cannot be switched off. We would recommend using a family management account (either Google or Microsoft) so even if your child is using a search engine that cannot be locked, there will at least be an additional level of content filtering provided.

In addition to the above, make sure you have set up appropriate parental controls on your home broadband (and any consoles/ devices/ apps/ websites that your child uses/accesses) for example, to restrict access to explicit websites or access to websites that are not suitable for children.

Please remember that no filtering/ parental control is 100% safe, so it is important that you talk to your child about how they can stay safe online and that they should talk to you or another trusted adult if they need to.

CEOP have produced an article exploring what you could do if your child sees something inappropriate online: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/what-to-do-if-your-child-has-seen-something-inappropriate-online/>.

Further Information

Parent Zone have published an article to help you understand searching in more detail: <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/search-engines>.

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 1.7.23.

Online Challenges

Our children may not have developed the skills and ability to critically analyse all situations yet so it is important to talk to your child about hoaxes and challenges that may appear on the internet. Some challenges are fun and provide no risk, however there will be challenges that are risky/dangerous. Your child may see others complete certain challenges online without being harmed and therefore may want to repeat them and not consider the potential risks to themselves. Make sure they know that they should talk to you (or another trusted adult) about what they see online, particularly if they plan to try a challenge or if something scares or upsets them.



We would always advise that if your child has not heard about an online challenge, then do not draw attention to it as this may lead to them searching for it out of curiosity, so just talk about challenges in a general sense. Reassure your child that challenges that suggest that bad things will happen if they do not complete the tasks are not real.

The following link will provide you with further information as well as content to help you talk to your child:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/connecting-safely-online/advice-for-parents/hacking-the-hard-stuff-on-social-media-to-support-young-people/online-challenges-are-they-harmless/>

TikTok have also produced this resource to help you talk to your child about challenges and the potential risks:

<https://www.tiktok.com/safety/en-gb/online-challenges/>

Summertime

As we head into the summer holidays, we may find our children online more or having more screen time. Childnet have produced this blog, which includes how to help your child with managing their screen time: <https://www.childnet.com/help-and-advice/screen-time-boundaries-parents/>



You may also be looking for activities to do with your child. Google and Parent Zone have produced some great resources that are free to download. They include a mix of online and offline activities, such as asking them to create a poster to show what they would do if they were worried about something they see online. You can access all the resources here: <https://www.parentzone.org.uk/download>

Vinted scams

Have you used Vinted to buy and sell used clothes? Please be aware of potential scams. Vinted have published an article highlighting how scammers might target Vinted users and how you can protect yourself. You can read the full article here:

<https://www.vinted.co.uk/help/628-recognise-spoof-and-phishing-messages>

Children's Online Safety Test

Virgin Media have created four different Internet Safety Tests around four key topics to help you learn more about the internet and different terms that you might come across such as catfishing. You can access them here:

<https://www.virginmedia.com/blog/online-safety/childrens-internet-safety-test/>

What is Virtual Reality

Did you know that many VR headsets have a minimum age rating of 13?

Childnet have produced this article detailing what virtual reality is and the considerations that you should consider before using: <https://www.childnet.com/blog/virtual-reality-a-guide-for-parents-and-carers/>



What's on...



**FOSPA
FROZEN FRIDAYS**

ICE CREAM	£1.00
ROCKET LOLLY	50P
ICE POLE	20P

FIND US ON THE PLAYGROUND EVERY FRIDAY AFTER SCHOOL

St Peter's School Hall,
Lords Mead, Chippenham, SN14 0LL

Come along to our
Coffee & Craft
Sale
Saturday 8th July
10am-1pm



Donations supporting

 **YOUNGmINDS**
fighting for young people's mental health

THE PE & SPORTS PROJECT **SUMMER SPORT CAMPS** **5.0★**
IMPROVING CHILDREN'S MENTAL, ACADEMIC AND PHYSICAL HEALTH THROUGH SPORT Average Rating

St Peter's Academy Lord's Mead, Chippenham SN14 0LL
Monday July 24th- Friday July 28th (Reception to Year 6)

Special DISCOUNT *Book before the end of June*
INDIVIDUAL DAYS £16 - 5 DAY BLOCK £60
INDIVIDUAL DAYS £18 - 5 DAY BLOCK £70



Children & Parents' Feedback

The PE & Sports Project uses elite level coaching practice, to provide the children with a fun, engaging, successful and positive experience.

We use our advanced 'exploration-discovery-competition' model to give the children the independence and responsibility to think and to solve problems for themselves whilst supporting and encouraging their development in a wide range of different sports.

On top of the highest-quality instruction for the sport itself, the children learn social-emotional skills and awareness in their self-management, self-awareness, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision-making.

100% of parents would recommend our camps to their friends' children

"You know what I like about you, you take it past the limits, it's so much fun" Ethan yr 6

"Just wanted to say thank you for a great 3 days at Cam Woodfields school. My children both thoroughly enjoyed it and were really enthusiastic about the whole experience."

"We really hope you'll be holding some more sessions in the school holidays. We will definitely be recommending it to friends (already have done!)"

t: 0117 382 8444 e: info@thesportsproject.org **BOOK HERE**

NWSDS Presents

A MIXED UP FAIRYTALE

Singing and Drama
Workshop



31st July- 2nd August
Suitable for ages 5-10

St Peter's Church hall, Chippenham
9am- 3pm

£120 for the three day workshop

Contact nwsdsmusic@gmail.com

SENsational Zone



An inclusive drop-in session for carers
of children aged 0-5 years with additional needs

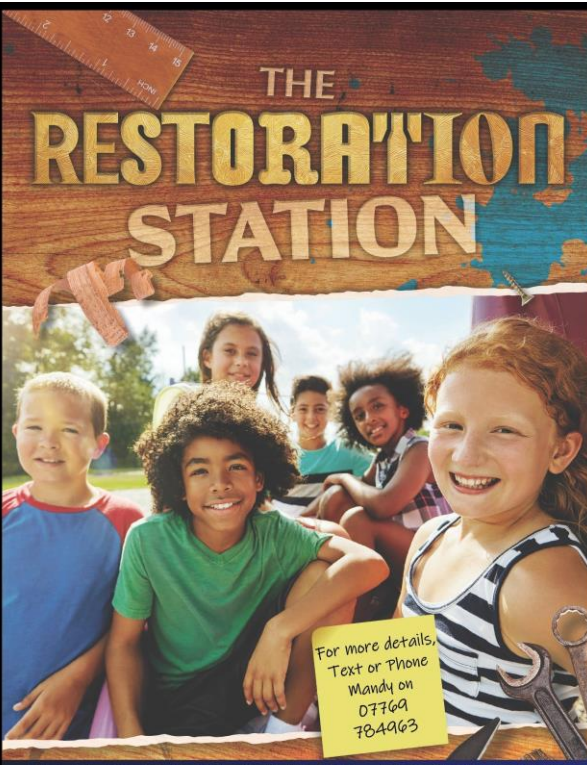
share experiences, coping strategies, wellbeing,
fun sensory activities, safe space to explore,
advice and support

Thursdays, 12.30-1.30pm
St Pauls Church hall, Chippenham, SN15 1PW



For more information contact your nearest
RISE Children's Centre
www.therisetrust.org





"RESTORATION STATION" HOLIDAY CLUB
For 5-11 year olds
10.00am - Midday 1st - 4th August 2023
Sheldon Road Church, Chippenham
Email: mbovett31@gmail.com www.sheldonroad.church

Feel confident to
 help your child



July 2023 - online courses



Helping My Child with Anxiety and Worry

Friday 7 July 10:00 -12:00

Helping My Child Build Concentration and Resilience

Friday 14 July 10:00 -12:00

Helping My Child Prepare Positively for Change

Friday 21 July 10:00 -12:00

Our courses are free, if you are over 19 years old, a resident in UK/EU for over three years, live in Wiltshire and meet any of the following criteria:

- less than five GCSEs grades A-C
- in receipt of benefits
- a military family
- a family with SEN child / children
- are unemployed and seeking employment
- have certain types of immigration status

To find out more
 visit workwiltshire.co.uk/events,
 call 01225 770 478 or email
familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk



Wiltshire Council



No Parking outside back gates



Please can we remind parents not to park in this area outside the school's back gates. We need to ensure this area remains safe for pupils and their families when walking to and from school. The church has also asked us to remind parents that their car park is private and is only to be used by preschool families at drop-off and pick-up.

Community Book Swap



Have you found our Community Book Swap cupboard yet?

There are lots of lovely books available to read.

It is located outside the main school office. We have put this here to encourage all members of the community to keep on reading.

If you have any books that you are not going to read again, pop them on the bookshelf for others to enjoy. Whilst you are there, have a look to see whether there is anything that takes your interest.

Books for all ages and abilities are welcome, just do not forget to swap a book in so we can keep the shelves full!

Dates for your diary

July

11/07/23 Year 6 School Play - 9:15 am and 6 pm

11/07/23 Year 4 'Big Sing' event - pm

14/7/23 Year 6 Hardenhuish Taster Day

14/7/23 - 20/7/23 Year 6 Sheldon Turnaround Week

21/7/23 Year 6 Leavers Service 1 pm

21/7/23 Last Day of Term - 2 pm finish

Term Dates

Term 5: 17/4/23-26/5/23

Term 6: 6/6/23-21/7/23

Remaining TD Days (children not in school): Monday 24th July, Tuesday 25th July

Flu and Covid Update

Flu and coronavirus (COVID-19) are [currently circulating at high levels](#) and are present in the school community. Nationally, high numbers of scarlet fever, which is caused by group A streptococcus, also [continue to be reported](#).

Professor Susan Hopkins, Chief Medical Adviser at the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA), said:

It's important to minimise the spread of infection in schools and other education and childcare settings as much as possible. If your child is unwell and has a fever, they should stay home from school or nursery until they feel better and the fever has resolved.

Helping children to learn about the importance of good hand hygiene is also key, so practice regular handwashing at home with soap and warm water. Catching coughs and sneezes in tissues then binning them is another simple way to help stop illness from spreading.

Adults should also try to stay home when unwell and if you do have to go out, wear a face covering. When unwell don't visit healthcare settings or visit vulnerable people unless urgent.

Remember that flu vaccination is still available for all eligible groups and is the best protection against the virus. We have seen good uptake in older age groups but vaccination among young children remains low. Flu can be very unpleasant and in some cases can lead to more serious illness. Getting your child vaccinated protects them and others they come into contact with, and it's still not too late.

Eligible children include:

- those aged 2 and 3 on 31 August 2022
- all primary school-aged children
- some secondary school-aged children

You can get more information [getting your child vaccinated against flu](#) on NHS.UK.