

*“To walk hand in hand with God, loving Him,
loving each other and loving ourselves, doing
our best with the gifts He gave us to make the
world a better place”*



St Peter's Catholic Primary School

DECEMBER 2016

Dear Parents and carers,

So, the end of term has arrived, and what a term it has been.

Once again, St Peter's stands as a beacon of bucking the trend by proving that the spirit of giving is not just limited to Christmas. In this term alone, the children of the school through their hard work, and through the generosity of parents and carers have raised £392.25 for The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, £569.47 for CAFOD's Brighten Up the Harvest Campaign, and a simply amazing £792.38 for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Air Ambulance. In addition to these, smaller fundraising efforts have been led by groups of children with class chosen charities and in personal out of school events, so together raising over £1800 in just three and a half months is an outstanding achievement for the children and families of St Peter's.

A long list of thanks must follow; to the brilliant school staff who have worked so hard over the term and stepped up their efforts to monumental heights in December; to the parents, carers and relatives who have supported the school in so many different ways and for a wide range of events over the term; to the Friends of St Peter's who answered the rallying call to re-group and lay on a brilliant Winter Wonderland party; to the magnificent, hardworking, enthusiastic and endlessly entertaining children of St Peter's. Thank you to you all for such an incredible autumn term.

On behalf of the staff here at St Peter's, I would like to thank you all for the good wishes, cards and gifts that have been offered at the end of term. I wish you all a restful, peaceful and joyous Christmas, and a prosperous New Year for 2017.

Warmest regards

Mr Richard Cunningham
Interim Headteacher



ATTENDANCE MATTERS:

Make every day count for your child

Our whole school attendance is currently at 97.5% compared to 97.4% this time last year. Thank you to all those parents and carers who have brought their children to school on time this half term. Congratulations to the 262 children who celebrated 100% attendance for this half term in assembly this week.

If your child is unlucky enough to be off school due to illness, please contact the office by 9.30am on the first morning. There are now lots of ways to do this, for example, ringing or texting the school office, or using the parent mail system. If your child's absence lasts longer than 3 days, the school also requires a letter on their return, stating the reason for absence and any medical advice that the school needs to be aware of. If we do not receive a reason for your child being off school, then 'N' is marked on the register-'No reason provided' and an unauthorised absence mark will be given. There are two attendance sessions every day and missing school for a whole day counts as two absences.

The key reward of good attendance is a good educational outcome for your child.

School email: adminoffice@stpeterswaterlooville.hants.sch.uk

Tel: 023 92262 599



FREE SCHOOL MEALS:

Would you like to save some money each week? Whatever year group your child is in, please follow the link below if you have not already done so, to see if your child qualifies for free school meals;

<https://www3.hants.gov.uk/hc3s/freeschoolmeals.htm>

For those with children in Year 2, don't forget that free school meals will come to an end at the end of Year 2. Now is a good time to check to see if you will qualify for free school meals in Year 3 and beyond. Not only would this save you money but it would provide the school with essential pupil premium funding and provide additional, discrete support for your child and others in school. **Once you have answered the questions, simply press 'submit' and you will find out if you qualify. The school is notified automatically.**

For more information click on the link above, or call Sue Martin on 023 80627738 at Hampshire County Council Catering Services. If you need any help, please don't hesitate to ask.

Wishing you a wonderful Christmas and looking forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Tricia Pelling, Pastoral Leader
Mon-Thurs Mobile: 07474 692 736
p.pelling@stpeterswaterlooville.hants.sch.uk

Food Allergies and Packed Lunches/Snacks:

We have a number of children in school who are allergic to peanuts so would ask that absolutely **no nut products** are sent to school for snacks or lunches in order to protect these children from a reaction. We are having a few children bringing in NUTELLA spread. Please be aware that some chocolate spreads also contain traces of nuts. **Packed lunches should not contain sweets/confectionary/chocolate bars.** KS2 children may bring in a piece of fruit for their mid-morning snack.

STAFFING NEWS:

The end of a school term often brings changes to staffing at any school, and this Christmas we say a fond farewell to colleagues with new adventures ahead of them.

Mrs Tracey Fleming has worked at St Peter's teaching Years 3, 4 and 6 over the course of the past 5 years, as well as providing cover for colleagues across the whole school. Mrs Fleming is taking up a role at St John's College in Southsea, and we wish her well.

Mr Ian Jones has worked at St Peter's as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant this term, and has provided excellent enrichment opportunities for children through activities such as the running club and residential visits. Mr Jones is taking up a teaching post at Herne Junior School in Petersfield, and we wish him well.

In January we will welcome back to St Peter's Miss Claire Cooper (now Mrs Pearson) who has spent the autumn term travelling Asia and Australia as an extended and adventurous honeymoon. She will work in Year 6 providing class teaching in the morning and then delivering additional lessons to focus groups in the afternoons.

As detailed in a letter to the parents and carers of children in Year R Starfish class, Mrs Hilary James and Mrs Pippa Edwards will have a job share to take the class for the spring term (Mrs Edwards will teach Mondays and Tuesdays, Mrs James Wednesdays to Fridays). Ms Annette Price will be unable to return to work at St Peter's, so I have advertised for a full time Reception teacher to fill the vacancy from the start of the summer term on 24th April 2017. I would like to thank all the families who have shown patience and understanding this term, and will inform you of a successful appointment when made in the new year.



GOVERNOR NEWS:

"It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas" so the popular Christmas song goes, and indeed looking at the decorations in and around the school it would be difficult to disagree. Children, teachers and parents too have worked hard during the autumn term and I think we are all now ready for a well-earned break. As you will be aware, we have had a number of new members of staff join the school this school year including Mr Richard Cunningham as Interim Head teacher. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them and indeed the entire staff of the school for all the hard work they have put in throughout the year.

Before we completely wind down though could I take this opportunity to remind parents/carers, children and visitors who walk onto site to remember that the best and safest way to access the school is through the use of the field footpath rather than the driveway. Also a number of parents/carers appear to be double parking in the car parking area leading to congestion and unnecessary tension. Such issues may appear superficially trivial but safe access to the school for those who use it must remain our primary concern: particularly as the weather in the coming months is likely to be less clement than recently.

Finally, on behalf of St Peters Governing Body, may I wish you all a joyful and peaceful Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Spare Clothes – Reception Year Group

If your child has needed to borrow spare clothes from the Reception year group in the last few weeks, would you please be kind enough to return them, washed, so that they can be used for other children. The Reception classes rely on having a stock of spare uniform for emergencies. Thank you for your help.

Spare Fabric Wanted:

We would like to make a plea for any spare fabric. We would be interested in any pashmina, sarong style material or offcuts of fabric that we can use to enhance our prayer areas which are a focal point of all our classrooms. Any kind donations to the school office please.

Mrs S Luter

Year 2 Visit to Sea City Museum:

Just a reminder to all parents/carers that Year 2 will be visiting the Sea City Museum on the first day back after the Christmas break – Wednesday, 4 January 2016.

Miss S Allen

FRIENDS OF ST PETER'S:

The Christmas Wonderland Disco was a great success. We hope the children enjoyed it as much as we enjoyed arranging it for them! The new Friends of St Peters team only had 4 weeks to get it together but with a lot of help from many of the parents and teachers we pulled it off! The disco raised £1850.80 for the school which was a huge achievement. Thank you to all the parents and children for supporting the event and for everyone that helped on the night either in person or by kindly donating cakes to sell. Congratulations to Debbie Collins who won the 50/50 draw.

We also managed to raise a further £200 at the KS1 nativity performances by providing refreshments as well as selling raffle tickets. Congratulations to the winners of the raffle prizes – I hope the prize adds a little more Christmas cheer to your celebrations.

We have many more exciting events to come in 2017 so watch this space and if we are lucky enough to have your continued support we hope to raise more funds for our school.

Thank you once again and we wish you all a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year!!

Angela McLaughlin and All at Friends of St Peters



Job Vacancy at St Peter's:

We are currently looking to recruit two new midday meals supervisors who enjoy working with children to join our friendly team. The role involves helping our children in the lunch hall and supervising pupils in the playground. Closing date: Monday, 9th January. For further details please see <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/education/educationjobshampshire.htm> or contact the school office.

GOLDEN LEAVES – week beginning 21.11.16

1OK Darcy Booth	1S Amelia Durbin
2A Zac Houghton	2L James Watson
3A Ben Hamilton	3H Isla Brown
4HA Nicholas Renji	4S Hannah Maple
5E Luke Wheatley	5F Oliver Groves
6S William McGannan	6T Archie Stewart

GOLDEN LEAVES –week beginning 28.11.16

1OK Jocelyn Shijo	1S Dexter Hall
2A Joshua Hill	2L Mikayla Black
3A Sophie Lictao	3H Hannah Upton
4HA Lily Rushton	4S Aeryn Coath
5E Kieran Chapman	5F Saoirse Lehane
6S Amy McGuire	6T Oliver Palfreyman

GOLDEN LEAVES –week beginning 05.12.16

1OK Whole Class	1S Whole Class
2A Whole Class	2L Whole Class
3A Emily Scarborough	3H Carl Huxley
4HA Molly Perkins	4S Eve Banham
5E Mia Wilson	5F Omoniyi Akintunde
6S Eolo Djokey	6T Jessica Pal

400 Club: November 2016

1st prize	£69.50	41	Mrs J Veal
2nd prize	£41.70	85	Mrs N Harvey
3rd prize	£13.90	326	Mrs S Johnson
4th prize	£13.90	343	Mrs J Garvey



Dates for your Diary:

JAN 2017

2 Jan	New Year Bank Holiday – School closed for pupils
3 Jan	INSET DAY – School closed for pupils
4 Jan	Spring Term starts – school re-opens for pupils at 8.50 a.m.
4 Jan	Year 2 visiting Sea City Museum
16 Jan	Parent workshops all week
17 Jan	Year 3/Year 4 Mass in school 10.20 a.m.
31 Jan	Year 5/Year 6 Mass in school 10.20 a.m.

FEB

20 – 24 Feb	Half term – School closed for pupils
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MAR

2 Mar	World Book Day
3 Mar	Author Visit
6 Mar	Parents Evening – by appointment only
7 Mar	Parents Evening – by appointment only
14 Mar	Year 2 Liturgy 10.20 a.m.
21 Mar	Year R Liturgy 10.20 a.m.
28 Mar	KS2 Penitential Service at Sacred Heart Church
29 Mar	Travelling Book Fair in school for one week

APR

4 Apr	Parent drop-in session – come and see your child's learning
10 – 21 Apr	Easter Holidays – School closed for pupils
24 Apr	Summer Term starts – school re-opens for pupils at 8.50 a.m.

MAY

1 May	Bank Holiday – School closed for pupils
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OTHER INSET day for 2016-17: Friday, 30 June 2017