



# St Peter's Newsletter, July 2024

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## Executive Headteacher's Message



Reflecting on my first year here at St Peter's, I can't believe how fast it has gone. The year has ended wonderfully, with a really well-attended open afternoon and a fantastic leaver's performance and assembly. There have been a number of highlights this year:

- Welcoming families in for events both at school and at the church. Particularly memorable was the Year 6s singing a verse of Silent Night in Cantonese, which was moving and inspiring
- The leadership and nurture that our children show through their allocated roles, through in-the-moment kindness on the playground and through proactive work to improve their school
- Strong end of Key Stage 2 SATs results, which were above national averages in all areas
- Whole-school attendance that has improved on last year's
- The most wonderful, articulate, well-mannered, friendly, welcoming children. St Peter's children stand out, each and every day
- The stand-out individual performances in musical concerts and the high percentage of children that have represented the school in sporting competitions. This is an offer that is not available at most primary schools so I am really pleased that we are able to offer it here

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the colleagues at St Peter's that have made all of this possible. They work tirelessly for the children and show love, patience and high expectations no matter what. I am in awe of their energy and drive.

Thank you to you, the parents and carers, for everything that you do to support the school. We are a family here and the partnership between home and school is one of the things that makes St Peter's such a wonderful place to be.

I'd also like to thank the SPF. Thank you to everyone in the community for contributing to their events and helping them to raise money, which has helped to improve the school. All of this benefits our children and makes a difference to them.

St Peter's is a wonderful community and I feel privileged to be able to serve it. Thank you for making me feel welcome in my first year here. I look forward to continuing to work in partnership with our families and continuing to drive high standards for our wonderful children. St Peter's stands out.

Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you back in September,

Mr Seex.

## Year 3 Froglife Project



Year 3 were invited to take part in a wildlife project with the charity Froglife. They helped to create a small pond area to encourage more wildlife (particularly amphibians) to St Peter's Church grounds. The children also had the opportunity to learn more about small creatures living in their local environment.

Please see the following link below for more details about the charity and their previous projects  
<https://www.froglife.org/coalface-to-wildspace-midlands/>



## Alice the Reading Dog

Every other Wednesday, we are paid a visit by our reading dog, Alice and her owner, Sue. Sue and Alice are part of the 'Reading to dogs' programme and have been giving their time to St Peter's since

September. We have noticed a huge improvement in the confidence of our selected readers since reading to Alice and they always look forward to her visits.



### Reception's Big Blue Day

Reception held a big blue day in order to raise funds for the Marine Conservation Society. Reception have been learning all about caring for our oceans and plastic pollution and wanted to do their bit to help. They came up with all of the ideas themselves and raised money by wearing blue, selling blue lemonade and selling crafts made from recycled plastics. They made £83 in total. Well done!





## Music Exams



We are extremely proud of all of the children who have taken an exam in music this year and passed. Congratulations to the following children:

Elsie S, Freya W, Lucie D, Annie C, Charlotte P, Alfie D, Callie D, Kyla W, Birch D, Rufus P, Asa P, Emelia W, Dottie S, Luke B, James B, Thomas W and Sandy R.

**Over 40% of the children here at St Peter's participate** in these music lessons and their work is showcased with 2 music concerts each year. A big thank you to Mrs Angus for her excellent teaching, you can clearly see the progress children make throughout the year.

## Sports Day

We are thrilled to share the highlights from our annual School Sports Day, which took place on June 28th. Despite the uncertain weather, we were fortunate that it held off, allowing us to welcome you all to this much-anticipated event. The day was filled with excitement and joy as the children participated in a variety of races. Their enthusiasm and sportsmanship were truly inspiring, embodying our Christian values through every event. It was wonderful to see the principles of respect, teamwork, and perseverance shining brightly in each child. The atmosphere was lovely, enhanced by your presence as supportive spectators and enthusiastic picnic providers. The children

thoroughly enjoyed the sense of community and the encouragement you provided throughout the day. A special congratulations to the winning houses:

- **Reception and Key Stage 1 Winners:** Phoenix (Red Team)
- **Key Stage 2 Winners:** Dragons (Blue Team)

Well done to all participants for their fantastic efforts and to the Phoenix and Dragons teams for their victories. Your hard work and team spirit made this Sports Day a memorable and successful event. Thank you once again for your support and participation. We look forward to more opportunities to celebrate our school community together.



## St Peter's Summer Fair

It was a pleasure to see so many of our families attending the summer fair on Saturday 29th June. An enormous thank you to the St Peter's fundraisers (SPF) for all of their hard work in organising this event and to those parent volunteers who helped to make it such a success.

Thanks to your generosity, the SPF were able to raise an incredible total of £1105!

## Football Report



### Summer League Kickoff at Ridgeway

The first matches of the summer league featured a challenging double fixture away at Ridgeway. Our team played valiantly against a very strong Ridgeway A team, who ultimately went on to win the league undefeated. Despite our best efforts, we faced a tough defeat in this opening game. However, this match served as a great warm-up for our second encounter against Ridgeway B. The match against Ridgeway B was fairly balanced from the start. Ridgeway B took an early lead, but our team, St. Peter's, showed true grit and determination. Spurred on by James' stellar performance as captain in goal, our players fought tirelessly up until the final whistle. The highlight of the match was undoubtedly Nathaniel's debut wondergoal. Leaping into the air, he connected perfectly with Blake's pinpoint cross to level the score, showcasing the skill and teamwork of our squad.

### Fulfen

Next, we travelled to Fulfen for our subsequent fixture, where we faced another strong team. We started well with a strong defensive partnership of Jack and Jude, who made massive blocks and last-minute tackles to keep the scores level. After a barrage of attacks, Fulfen managed to sneak a goal in, but Tommy quickly replied from a tight angle, hitting the post and rippling the net! We pressed on with forward bursts from Jonah and Sam, but couldn't find another goal as Fulfen caught us on the counter-attack, scoring two more goals. The final score was 3-1.

**Double Header at Greysbrook** The final game was another double header, this time featuring both the boys' and girls' teams.

**Boys' Match:** St. Peter's boys battled hard, with William working tirelessly to drive our team forward. Kody covered a lot of ground in defense, making important blocks and tackles. Despite our efforts, Greysbrook managed to sneak in three goals before halftime. In the second half, Mitchell made a pure connection with the ball, sending it flying towards the top corner, but a last-minute save from their goalkeeper kept it out. Gordon worked tirelessly from box to box, but Greysbrook managed to slip one more goal in before the end of the match. The final score was 4-0.

**Girls' Match:** In the girls' game, both teams battled well in an evenly matched contest. St. Peter's defended wonderfully, pressing the ball and applying pressure to the opposition. We passed the ball well and attacked quickly, using our pace and accuracy to test the goalkeeper regularly. We were unlucky towards the end of the match as they managed to clear two goalmouth scrambles which kept the final score even at 0-0.



Farewell Message to Year 6

# *Best of luck!*

We wanted to say a huge thank you to all of our Y6 children for all of their hard work and efforts, not just this year but throughout their time with us at St Peter's. We are all so proud of your achievements both academically and also in the manner in which you have supported each other and our younger children as you have moved through each year group.

Drayton Manor was a fantastic trip to end our time together and Mr Castledine will always remember the impromptu version of 'My Lighthouse' that the children launched into whilst queuing for Storm Force 10. It even bought a round of applause from the other guests ahead of us in the line!

Year 6 also performed an amazing leavers assembly that made us all laugh and cry. Thank you for all of the wonderful memories of your time with us, we know that you will go on to achieve great things in the future and make us, your parents and most importantly yourselves extremely proud.

## INSET Days - 2024/2025

Schools have five in-service training (INSET) days per year. On these days, the academy will be closed to all children. Our days for next year are on our website. They are as follows:

- Monday 2nd September 2024
- Tuesday 3rd September 2024
- Monday 6th January 2025
- Friday 23rd May 2025
- Monday 21st July 2025

For term dates for 2024/25, please see the Staffordshire County Council website: <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/termdates.aspx>

## Sports Provision - Clubs

We are delighted to announce that Progressive Sports will continue to deliver their services (wrap around care and after school sports clubs) at St Peter's for the 2024/2025 academic year!

We're extremely happy with the impact they have made out our school since January, giving our pupils the opportunity to learn new skills, experience new sports and activities, and be more active!

## Parent Forum



Our Parent Action Plan can be found on the link below. This was created based on feedback that we have received about how to make the school even better.

[SP Parent Forum Action Plan.docx](#)

This will enable us to be transparent and accountable about the actions we will be taking based on your feedback. We have used a RAG rating system to evaluate progress:

- Red - unsuccessful
- Amber/yellow - some progress made
- Green - good progress made
- Blank - not actioned yet

We appreciate all feedback, be it positive or constructive, so please share it when you see Mr Castledine, Mr Seex or any of the school staff.

## Attendance



A reminder about the new Department for Education Regulations around term-time absence that come into effect across the country from 19th August 2024. All **unauthorised** term-time absences are now considered within a three-year period rather than in isolation. This generally refers to leave (ie holidays) during term-time.

The changes to the regulations are significant, so we feel that it is important that our parents understand them and are aware of potential consequences of taking leave in term time from the above date.

### **New two penalty notice limit in a three-year period**

The three-year rolling period starts when the first penalty notice is issued after the 19th of August 2024:

- The first Penalty Notices for leave in term time will increase to £160 per parent, per child but can be reduced to £80 per parent per child if paid within 21 days.
- If a second penalty notice is issued within three years of the first penalty notice, then this will be at a fixed rate of £160 per parent per child, with no reduction for early payment.
- A third penalty notice cannot be issued within the three-year period; therefore, the county council will deal with any further unauthorised leave through prosecution in the Magistrates Court. If the parent is found guilty, the potential fine is up to £1000.

Penalty Notices issued for unauthorised absences taken before 19th August 2024 will not be included in the three-year period.

Some absences we understand are unavoidable – general sickness, a long period of illness and convalescence, an ongoing medical need, a particular educational need or disability that requires a lot more planning and support. Other cases are less easy to categorise – and we want to engage with individual families, in a supportive manner, to understand and work together to improve attendance.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance or require any support with this, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you as always for your ongoing support.

## School Dinners Feedback

If you have anything you want to share, you can contact our catering providers using the details below:

**Rebecca Davies, Area Manager, Edwards and Ward**

**Email:** [rdavies@edwardsandward.co.uk](mailto:rdavies@edwardsandward.co.uk)

## Absence Reporting

Gentle Reminder: If your child is unwell, please call the school office on 01543 372060 to report it. The teachers do not have access to their Class Dojo messages whilst teaching so the message may be missed if it does not go to the office. This is also the case when someone different may be teaching the class such as supply teachers.

## Parking

To keep everyone safe, please park considerately. Where possible, parking a couple of minutes walk from the school can reduce congestion and help ensure that everyone is safe. A reminder that there should be no parking or dropping off on the yellow zig-zag lines.

We have asked the PCSOs to have a regular presence to support with this so that everyone can remain safe.

## Key Dates: Autumn Term



We endeavour to communicate about events in advance to give plenty of notice. Please see below for upcoming key dates for the first half of the Autumn term.

### **September 2024**

Monday 2nd and Tues 3rd Inset – Academy closed to children

Wednesday 4th – Academy open for all children @ 8:40a.m.

Friday 20th - Jeans for Genes Day – Donations for wearing Jeans

Friday 27th – McMillan Coffee Morning Event

### **October 2024**

Monday 14th - Black History Week

Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th Parent Consultations (TBC)

Wednesday 23rd - Harvest Performance – Rec & KS1 (Times to be confirmed)

Thursday 24th - Harvest Performance – Rec & KS1 (Times to be confirmed)

Friday 25th – Harvest Performance – KS2 (Times to be confirmed)

Friday 25th - Children break up for half term @ 3:20p.m.

Monday 28th Oct to Friday 1st November - Half term Holiday

## Contact Us



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