



Dear Parents and Carers,

It feels like Christmas was only yesterday, yet here we are, already wrapping up another fantastic half term! The past few weeks have been packed with energy, excitement, and plenty of memorable moments, from incredible sporting achievements to exciting learning. The children have worked hard, embraced new challenges, and thrown themselves into every opportunity with enthusiasm.

Reception Explorers

Reception class went on a brilliant adventure this week as they travelled to Cambridge to visit the Archaeology Museum. Their topic truly came to life, well, maybe not life, given all the bones and skeletons on display! The children were fascinated by the T-Rex and loved exploring the incredible fossils, sparking plenty of excitement and curiosity. Of course, no school trip is complete without a little extra fun, and for many, the highlight was riding on the top deck of the double-decker bus. It was a fantastic day of learning and discovery!

Sporting Successes

It's been a fantastic week of competitive sport at St Peter's! Our U11 girls kicked things off in style, winning the Northampton Saints Rugby Tournament at Franklin's Gardens. As well as lifting the trophy, they had the incredible opportunity to meet some of the Red Roses and enjoy a behind-the-scenes stadium tour; a truly unforgettable experience! On Wednesday, our boys' hockey and girls' netball teams took to the field at the Oundle School tournament, competing against several other prep schools. Despite the cold conditions, they showed great skill, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the afternoon. A huge thank you to the parents who attended the Sports lecture at Oakham School last night. It was fascinating to hear insights into the psychology of sport, particularly how birth month influences retention in competitive sport, a thought-provoking discussion that left us all with plenty to reflect on. Particularly interesting was the crossover of the 'C's in Sport and our School values. Finally, an enormous thank you to the men who represented St Peter's at the Kettering RFC Friday Night Lights Game. It was a true test of resilience, played in seriously cold and wet conditions, but an unforgettable experience nonetheless! Thanks to everyone who braved the weather to cheer us on. Here's the match report; enjoy! <https://www.st-peters.org.uk/matchreport>

This Term in Photos

Preschool I - <https://www.st-peters.org.uk/lent125preschool>

Preschool II - <https://www.st-peters.org.uk/lent125preschoolii>

I'll upload more photos over half term - Over the last 6 weeks we've taken over 3000 photos!

Costume Swap!

With World Book Day approaching the School Council wanted to organise a costume swap. The first couple of days back after half term we will have a donation station at the gate where parents and children can drop off unwanted costumes. These donations will be checked, sorted by size, and prepped for the swap. We ask that costumes are clean and checked for damage before donation. Ripped costumes can't be accepted and will be recycled.

During the Book Fair in Week 1, we will host a pop-up stall in the Hub at school pick-up time, where children can choose a "new-to-them" costume in exchange for an optional donation for Cransley Hospice. It will be first-come-first-served and all subject to the number of donations we receive. We can't guarantee a replacement costume for everyone who donates if we don't have enough donations!

Children's Mental Health Week

Thank you to those of you who supported the School Nurse coffee morning on Wednesday; there was lots of information available about sleep, diets and mental health. We make children's mental health a priority all year round at St P's. The school nursing team have asked me to share the following approved contacts:

- School Nurse (Mon-Fri) - Text 07507329600
- Shout (24/7) - Text SHOUT to 85258
- Childline (24/7) - Call 0800 1111
- CAMHS Connect (9am-7pm) - Call 0300 1111022
- Samaritans (24/7) - Call 116123, email jo@samaritans.org

Key Dates for Your Diary

- Half Term - Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February
- Year 4 Class Assembly - Monday 3rd March
- World Book Day - Thursday 6th March
- Year 1 Class Assembly - Monday 17th March
- Red Nose Day - Friday 21st March
- Year 3 Class Assembly - Monday 24th March
- Lent House Matches - Wednesday 26th March
- Last Day of Lent Term - Wednesday 2nd April

Don't forget that Northampton Tennis Coaching are running a sports camp next week here at St Peter's.

Scholastic Book Fair

The Scholastic Book Fair is back from Wednesday 26th February and here for the week leading up to World Book Day. Please do support the book fair as the more books you buy, the more books we get for our libraries - we also want to instill a love of books and reading for the children.

Half-Term Viewing & Gaming – A Reminder on Age Ratings

With half term approaching and the likelihood of a few rainy days, I want to take a moment to encourage caution regarding the games and films children are exposed to. Age ratings exist for a reason, to protect young viewers from content that may not be appropriate for their age and stage of development.

You wouldn't believe some of the conversations we overhear at the lunch table about films children have watched, often ones well beyond their years! A great example is Harry Potter, while the early films are family-friendly, from 'Goblet of Fire' onwards, they carry a PG-13 rating, meaning they may not be suitable for children under 13 without parental guidance.

What does a PG-13 rating mean?

It's a stronger caution than PG, as it may contain:

- Stronger language
- Extended violence
- Sexual situations or references
- Drug use
- Brief, implied, or infrequent sexual content
- Nudity (though not detailed or overly sexualised)

This applies to video games too, many popular titles have 12, 16, or even 18 ratings due to violent, mature, or distressing content.

Clunk Click!

A reminder about car safety. <https://www.gov.uk/child-car-seats-the-rules> Please make sure all children have their seatbelts on, at all times. Pull up in a safe place on the Crescent and please be careful around the roads. Try not to cross between cars and hold your child's hand.

The half term break comes at a good time as we're all getting tired. I hope you all have a restful break and have an opportunity to prioritise your time together. **Don't forget it's Valentine's Day today**. The House pancake flipping competition will return in Lent 2 Week 2, so get practising!

Regards,

Mr Thomas

Headteacher