



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of a truly special term, I wanted to take this opportunity to share a few final reflections, celebrations and important notices before we head into the Christmas break together.

Happy Retirement, Mrs Elizabeth “Bee” Bell

This week, we say a very fond farewell to Mrs Elizabeth (Bee) Bell, who retires after 16 years of extraordinary service as a Governor of St Peter’s, having joined us in November 2009. Bee has been a phenomenal supporter, champion and critical friend to the school for well over a decade, and her influence on St Peter’s is both deep and lasting.

Many of you may not have met Bee personally, but our children and staff most certainly know who she is. She has always made time to visit, to come into classrooms, to speak with pupils and staff, and to understand the life of the school from the inside out. On her most recent visit, she spent time with the children at lunchtime, chatting with several classes and delighting in what she saw. She was particularly impressed by the Year 2 live link lesson with the National Archives, and she was genuinely amazed by the quality of Year 1 writing.

Many of the children also know Bee through our much-loved visits to ‘Bee’s Farm’, where outdoor learning truly comes alive. Alongside running a farm, Bee is the owner of Brooke Priory School, where she served as Headteacher for over two decades. This wealth of experience in education, leadership, safeguarding and curriculum has been absolutely invaluable to St Peter’s behind the scenes for many years. Bee has overseen significant change and growth at the school and is immensely proud of what St Peter’s has become today. She has always placed children firmly at the heart of every decision. She has cheered them on in sporting events (including at Rutland Water in the rain earlier in the term!), celebrated their academic successes, and maintained careful oversight of teaching, learning and curriculum. One of the things she most enjoyed was visiting each term to look through the children’s books. Being a governor is a quiet, unseen and unpaid role, involving many hours of dedicated work beyond the school gates. Bee has given this time generously and selflessly for 16 years. I will personally miss our weekly calls, regular meetings and catch-ups very much. Bee leaves St Peter’s with our deepest thanks, admiration and warmest good wishes. She will always be part of our community, and we hope to see her again when we meet Brooke Priory on the sports field.

We are grateful that Miss Rebecca Drage, a former St Peter’s pupil, now steps into the role of Safeguarding Governor, continuing this vital work.

Carol Service 2025

Overall Winner Tag Rugby Hockey Overall Position

Sywell	5 + 9	6+9	29	1st
Stanwick	4 +3	4+7	18	4th
Brigstock	9 +6	7+3	25	2nd
Barnwell	4 + 6	7+5	22	3rd

Rugby Overall Winner Tag Rugby Total Position

Sywell	5 + 9	14	2nd
Stanwick	4 +3	7	4th
Brigstock	9 +6	15	1st
Barnwell	4	10	3rd

Hockey Overall Winner Hockey Total Position

Sywell	6+9	15	1st
Stanwick	4+7	11	3rd
Brigstock	7+3	10	4th
Barnwell	7+5	12	2nd

The afternoon was packed with teamwork, determination and outstanding sportsmanship.

House Points (So Far)

- Barnwell – 29.46 per pupil
- Brigstock – 27.74 per pupil
- Stanwick – 33.18 per pupil
- Sywell – 28.28 per pupil

Christmas Holiday Camp

We are once again delighted to be working with Northampton Tennis Coaching to provide a multi-sports holiday camp over the Christmas break. All bookings should be made directly with them.

Christmas Tree Competition

Don't forget to visit our tree at St Andrew's church which is covered in the children's Christmas Shoe designs (it will make sense when you see it!)

Save any (slightly) Pre-loved Books

I hope lots of children will get exciting new books over Christmas as we love to encourage reading, but please do not get rid of any old books they may have grown out of. In January, we will once again pair up with Rotary Club Kettering to send books to children, in our community, who don't have any, as part of the Books 4 Homes scheme.

Age Ratings & Online Safety

As new devices often appear under the Christmas tree, I would like to remind families of the importance of checking age ratings on games, apps and films. When setting up devices such as phones, tablets or consoles, please ensure:

- Content is age appropriate
- Filters and monitoring tools are fully enabled

National Online Safety provides a wealth of guidance, and I have uploaded several of their "What Parents Need to Know" posters to our website to support you. These are excellent, clear and practical resources.

Please also be mindful of Christmas television schedules; many family favourites carry higher age ratings than expected (for example, Love Actually is a 15).

Key Dates for Your Diary – Lent Term

- First Day of Lent Term: Monday 5th January
- Year 6 Class Assembly: Monday 26th January
- Reception Class Assembly: Monday 9th February
- Half Term: Monday 16th February – Friday 20th February
- Year 5 Class Assembly: Monday 2nd March
- World Book Day: Thursday 5th March
- Year 1 Class Assembly: Monday 17th March
- Red Nose Day: Friday 20th March
- Lent House Matches: Wednesday 18th March
- Last Day of Lent Term: Wednesday 25th March

A Final Word

We have been incredibly busy preparing for January and, I can assure you, the next term will be just as full, rich and exciting.

On behalf of all the staff, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has shared cards, kind messages and gifts with us this Christmas. Your generosity and thoughtfulness are truly appreciated.

Over the Christmas break, I will be sorting through our termly photo albums, as well as spending time with Roo. What a term it has been: sporting success, choir performances, Santa visits, nativities and so many special daily moments captured.

I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year with your families.

Regards,

Mr Thomas

Headteacher