

November to December 2022

Keynotes



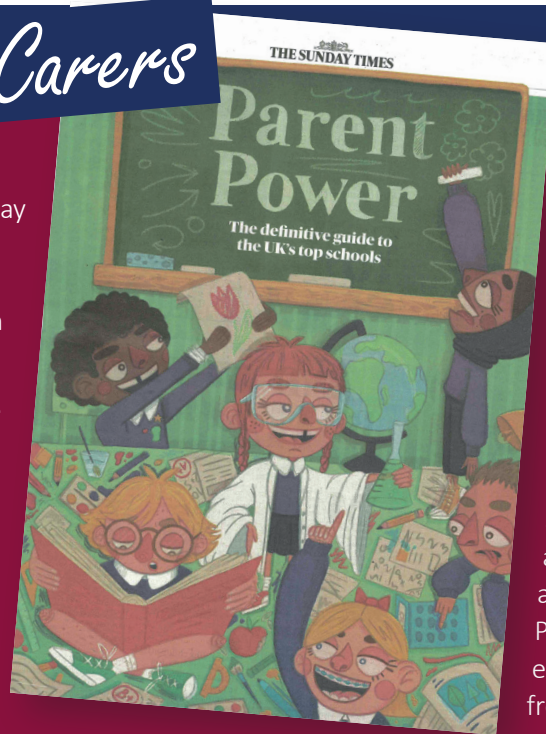
Dear Parents and Carers

At the end of a very long term, I would like to say thank you and congratulations for supporting your child right through to the end and for all the support you give the school on its mission to be 'Christ to all'.

This week we will have marked the end of the autumn term with our annual Carol Service in St Joseph's Church, our first one with a live audience for three years! My thanks go to the staff and students for their tireless dedication and enthusiasm to make it the holy and warm event that it is. Other events during Advent in the countdown to Christmas include our charitable fund raising, reconciliation for all year groups, reflective assemblies and year group liturgies on the last day of term.

I would like to acknowledge the recent good news of our award where we were named number one comprehensive school in the country in The Times Parent Power Survey. Whilst the humble Catholic in me normally would shy away from public recognition, the whole community deserves to celebrate this stunning achievement. The award does focus solely on GCSE and A Level outcomes and we all know there is far more to a school than grades. However, I would argue that it is exactly because of the other aspects such as Catholic ethos, firm but fair boundaries, extra-curricular opportunities and student-centred nurturing and care that we achieved those grades. To do this as we returned to 'normal' exams on the back of the pandemic is a testament to the partnership between school and home that shows we are so much more effective when we work together. So, well done to each one of you in the St Peter's community who can proudly share a spot on top of the podium this year!

I would like to thank everyone who completed our recent parent survey (a record 437 entries). There is a huge amount of information to analyse and I will write again during the spring term with the main themes and the action we will take to improve the experience of secondary education for your children and for families.



Overall, the headlines are very positive but we always look to how we can improve.

Thank you to those of you who supported our PTA Christmas raffle and auction. There were some amazing prizes available this year and a heartfelt thanks to the PTA for organising the event. Total fundraising from PTA activities this term is nearly £3000. Our

PTA is a very small but dedicated group of parents who support us with fundraising events but also manage the refreshments at evening school events such as music and drama performances. We have approximately 700 families at our school and the PTA runs with around just 10 regular members. If you have just a few hours a year to spare and are able to support them, please do get in touch via pta@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk.

Finally, I would like to make you aware of a tradition we have at St Peter's known as 'The St Peter's Keys'. Every half term we have a whole school assembly in the Sports Hall and one item for the assembly is awarding the St Peter's Keys to an individual or group of students who have achieved something amazing during that half term. It is more often than not an achievement outside of school or certainly outside of the classroom. We will feature the current winner and all future winners in our newsletter.

I wish you a happy and holy Christmas. Please stay safe, enjoy spending time with loved ones and have a good break.

God bless.

Mr T Miller, Headteacher



JB Priestley's thriller 'An Inspector Calls' at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre



A book is a gift you can open again and again...

This autumn our school has focused

on encouraging students to enjoy reading for pleasure. Reading a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction enriches our students' vocabularies and minds and equips them for life beyond school. It also provides escape and respite from their busy lives and from screen time.

You will all have received a letter from us encouraging you to buy your child a book for Christmas, including some suggestions if you're stuck for new

ideas for young adult books. We really hope that this Christmas your child can enjoy reading their new book, and that perhaps everyone in the household could sit down together for a good read.

We would love to see (with your child's permission) a photo of them enjoying their book, and the best photo submitted to me by 13th January will win a prize. Email:

jmhulland@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk
Wishing you a very happy reading Christmas.

Recommended reads this month:

- **The Outsiders** by SE Hinton
- **The Amnesiac Clinic** by James Scudamore
- **Every Line of You** by Naomi Gibson
- **Twelve Minutes to Midnight** by Christopher Edge

Enthralling enrichment opportunities

This half term, the English Department arranged exciting enrichment opportunities to help students engage and understand their analysis of key texts.

The A Level English Literature students watched an award winning, electrifying, 21st century take on Shakespeare's tragedy Othello, performed by the Frantic Assembly who focused their exploration on the volatile, poisonous, manipulative and explosively violent society. The students appreciated the presentation of the characters as jealous, revengeful and fuelled with the darkest intents. The play exposed the tension, fear and paranoia buried beneath the surface of the characters' relationships and the play was brought alive through the company's innovative physicality.

Excitingly, the whole of Year 9 visited the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre to watch a performance of The National Theatre's multi-award winning An Inspector Calls.

The students were engrossed by JB Priestley's classic thriller. The core message of the play: "we do not live alone" and that we are collectively responsible to take care of each other was a stark reminder to us all and remains as relevant today as in 1945. The

students were a delight and it was incredibly special to be able to take the whole year group out of school.

Year 7 got in the mood for Christmas by enjoying a performance of A Christmas Carol from a visiting theatre company, Quantum Theatre. Michael Whitmore's faithful new adaptation successfully captured the spirit and style of this Dickens' classic whilst helping the students to understand the characterisation and themes. The production also helped students to consider the key message that kindness, generosity and compassion is most important in life.



Years 12 & 13 English Language trip

The students enjoyed a trip to London to explore some of the language's great literary figures. We first had a tour of Westminster Abbey. We were especially excited to see Poets' Corner and all the memorials in particular Dr Samuel Johnson's memorial flagstone, as he was the publisher of the first comprehensive English language dictionary!

After the Abbey, we went to the National Poetry Library, where we explored how much poetry has changed since 1912 poets were writing. We looked at sound poetry and the use of media and technology to enhance our experience of poetry, and had a go at some of the interactive exhibitions.



Positive lifestyles in Citizenship

This term, Year 9 are completing one of our most important topics in Citizenship: positive lifestyles. We started this term learning about alcohol with a fun lesson of pouring water into cups and trying to guess what a unit of different types of alcohol looked like. As well as creating a lot of mess, it created some very funny results with some students pouring almost a pint of water into a glass to represent a unit of Vodka! Luckily, they now all have a much better understanding of units and are able to assess risks of drinking and understand safe limits of drinking. We have explored smoking and vaping, looking at the dangers of both particularly focusing on the currently unknown risks of vaping, NPS and a range of other illegal drugs.

We then turned to body image and had great fun playing "Spot the Difference" with pre- vs post-photoshopped photos of celebrities to highlight to the students how edited and unreal the images they are bombarded with on

a daily basis actually are.

We looked at the link between poor body image and low self-esteem and how these can lead to eating disorders. We had lots of great discussions about how society could help to promote a more positive body image particularly amongst young people and thinking about why eating disorders amongst boys are on the rise in the UK.

We have now moved on to consider mental health in greater depth. The students will be learning about stress, anxiety disorders, depression and suicide. We will be helping the Year 9s to try and distinguish between normal stress and anxiety and what is outside of normal, so they are able to help themselves and others. We will be finishing off the topic with the students creating a wellbeing board, so please encourage them to take time on this as it

Anti-bullying poem

Roses are red, nasty words make me feel blue. Why are you so mean? What have I ever done to you? What starts as a laugh, Leads to a shove, Your punches leave bruises, And your horrific words leave scars. You're a bully, A nobody, Because you're so insecure. You will never beat me, of that I am sure. Next time you see me, keep your words and your hands to yourself I'm better than you. What more can you possibly do?

Freddie 7BA



could be something really important and useful over the next few years.

During the topic, we have been signposting students to a range of different websites for help, advice and support. Many of these have specific help for parents/carers who are trying to support their children through difficulties and a range are listed below:



<https://www.beateatingdisorders.org.uk/> Eating Disorders

<https://www.talktofrank.com/> Drugs

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/childrens-mental-health/> This part of the NSPCC site is aimed specifically at parents looking at issues such as mental Health, bullying, self-harm

<https://www.themix.org.uk/> This site covers a range of topics including mental health, exploring sexuality, alcohol and drugs, relationships etc for under 25s

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/> Mental Health

<https://www.papyrus-uk.org/> Suicide Prevention



Governor Fund 2022 highlights

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported St Peter's with parental contributions during such challenging times - it really does make a massive difference!

As a Catholic school, St Peter's has to contribute towards the cost of maintaining and improving its premises, which is a considerable commitment.

The parent contributions are essential

to ensure we can continue to improve and enhance the facilities and fund discretionary resources giving our students the best possible opportunity to learn and develop.

We ask for a voluntary contribution of £144 per annum (£12 per month, payable by standing order or via ScoPay/Tucasi).

For more information on how to contribute, please contact the Finance Office at finance@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk

£100,000 contribution towards the outside Catering block and the new Sixth Form block named St Hilda's (two classrooms and a Year 13 study space).

£44,000 supporting departments around the school: Music Lab, Art/Photography, DT and Food Technology, PE equipment.

Looking ahead to 2023 and beyond, the areas we are looking to improve and support with future donations include:

- Second phase of St Hilda's (Sixth Form space)
- All weather pitch
- Embedding the new St Peter's Rocks



St Peter's Guildford Station art display

This month, we have been given the opportunity to display some Year 11 artwork at Guildford railway station as part of Art@the station.

Art@the station is a local organisation that displays artwork from schools and other various organisations at railway stations in the area.

At Guildford, there are a total of seven frames where we have photographed and displayed some of the fantastic outcomes produced recently by Year 11 for their coursework. Next time you are at Guildford station and boarding a train near to platform 5, don't forget to stop and take a look.





Careers network

Careers has seen a jam-packed calendar this half term and full details of all activities are in the end of term careers newsletter.

One highlight of the term was the Year 9 Careers Speed Networking activity that we held in November. Over 30 employers from a wide range of career sectors including ROKE, Cosmologic, Mazars, VCCP, Ringway, BAE, Accenture, DMH Stallard, Ookla, Oola Lingerie, Norbain and Arcadis visited the school and talked to students about their work. Many brought in props to help explain what they do. It was a great opportunity for students to meet employers, ask questions and find out about jobs they didn't know existed – all vital for developing career knowledge and skills!

Religious Studies update

This has been a busy half term of extra-curricular activities for the RE Department. As part of our Theology programme for Years 12 and 13 we invite in a variety of speakers throughout the year. In November, we hosted a visit from Babette Clarke of the Medaille Trust, an organisation which seeks to provide refuge and freedom from modern slavery. Students learned how to spot signs of slavery and human trafficking and how to alert the authorities if they notice anything of concern. The talk enabled students to delve deeper into a growing modern day issue which impacts on human dignity, the foundation of Catholic Social Teaching which underpins a number of our Theology topics.

Our A Level students have also been supported in their studies this term by the opportunity to hear eminent speakers in the field of Philosophy



and Ethics when they attended an A Level Religious Studies Masterclass Conference in Oxford this month. The speakers were the internationally renowned philosophers and academics Professor Daphne Hampson, who spoke about God and gender; Professor Alister McGrath and Professor Keith Ward, who posed the question 'Is theism defensible?'; Julie Arliss, who discussed ethical frameworks and applied ethics; and Dr Andrew Pinsent, who examined the Problem of Evil and questioned 'Is it a Problem?'.

Students particularly enjoyed the talk by Professor Hampson (pictured below left) because she highlighted the patriarchal nature of Christianity, which led our students to question how the Catholic Church can promote equality in modern society. Furthermore, the talk by Dr Pinsent provoked our students to consider whether the problem of evil is truly a 'problem' or whether humanity suffers pain and evil for a greater good.

Finally, nearing the end of term we were able to continue our Key Stage 3 programme of visits to places of worship. This time we took all of Year 8 to Kingston Liberal Synagogue. Rabbi Janet and her husband Vince provided a warm and hospitable talk on many aspects of Jewish beliefs and practices, including Shabbat



and Jewish festivals. Students were involved in unwrapping a Torah scroll from the ark, where it is stored, and from its decorated covering. All students were then able to see the Torah scroll close up and experience how it would be read during synagogue services. It was a great opportunity for students to ask questions and to gain an insight into the lived experience of the Jewish faith.



Warhammer Club

Our school's Warhammer Club is lively and inclusive. For those of you who are not familiar with Warhammer, it is a hobby where people collect, build and paint plastic miniatures of fantastic creatures, like orcs and elves. Then, you and a friend can play a game, where your collections of miniatures fight over a table top battlefield filled with trees, hills and ruins.



Despite the name of the club, other games are popular as well, including Dungeons & Dragons. D&D is a role-playing game where people pretend to be heroic adventurers on a quest, fighting monsters and finding treasure.

What all of these games have in common is that they are deceptively educational! Students have to be creative and imaginative, showing concentration and perseverance. By communicating and working together they can have collaborative fun. Some students have expressed that the hobby has helped



improve their mental health.

The club has approximately fifteen students each week, ranging from Year 7 all the way up to Year 13, and the older students are very good at encouraging and teaching the younger ones.

We meet each Monday after school, from 3:10pm to 5:30pm. Everyone is welcome, especially beginners. If you would like to know more about the club, please talk to Mr Butler.

The St Peter's Keys

The winner for this half term was Eleanor in Year 12. A few weeks ago Eleanor was crossing the playground when a Year 7 student fell and injured themselves. Despite making herself late for her lesson, Eleanor stopped and used her first aid skills to attend to the student, issued instructions to a member of staff for assistance and took charge of the situation. Her level of care and confidence in managing the incident was exemplary – a true example of the spirit of St Peter's. Well done Eleanor and thank you.



Student success outside the classroom



Huge congratulations to the following six students whose talents have been recognised outside of the classroom:

Speed Skating

Daniel 8ST has been speed skating since he was seven years old and has been competing internationally since last April. He competed in a Star Class competition held in Rostock, Germany and finished in 7th place out of 25 competitors in his category.

Music

Will 8FR has recently featured on Caspar Sellen's *Lightning Bolt* playing the double bass. This is available to listen to on Spotify.

Rugby

Sid 9ST and Conor 10JP have been selected for the Harlequins rugby academy.

Hockey

Martha 9FR has been selected for the UK Lions Hockey and will be taking part in matches abroad and in the UK.

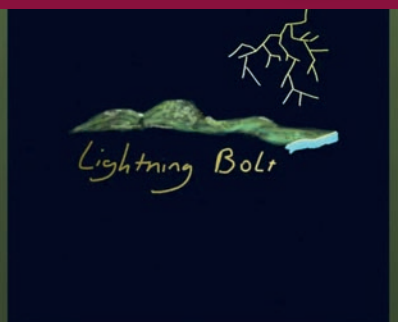
English

Huge congratulations to Miffia 9P11 who has won the nationwide scary story competition 'Coccus Pocus' for the age 12-17 category.



Miffia is part of the school's Creative Writing Club and has won £100 and will be presented with a certificate shortly. We look forward to seeing the scary story based on biofilms published in the May issue of the magazine *Microbiology Today*, which has been running for 75+ years and has 6,000+ subscribers. This is a tremendous achievement Miffia, well done!

We are very proud of all their achievements. If you would like your child featured in this newsletter, please send an email to parents@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk



Lightning Bolt
Caspar Sellén



PE News...

Basketball

Our Years 10 and 11 basketball team participated in the Surrey tournament and overall came second.

Our Year 10 team carried on this success further and ended up coming first and winning the Surrey tournament against a range of schools.

Most recently on 6th December, our Year 9 basketball team (below) won their Surrey tournament competing against a number of schools!

The students from all the basketball teams have shown so much determination and resilience to win matches and the tournament overall, well done girls!



Cross country

Last month, we took 28 students from Years 7-11 to Charterhouse School in Godalming where they competed in cross country. Each age group had a different route to complete, increasing in distance and difficulty starting at 3000m to 5000m. From first time cross country runners to the more experienced, all students worked incredibly hard and showed a huge amount of resilience and determination especially on a very cold afternoon.



Overall St Peter's came second out of the 26 schools, which is such an incredible achievement and a true testament to the hard work and effort put in by all the students, many of whom have now been selected to compete in the Guildford District Team for Surrey schools.



Varsity

On the 17th November, we hosted a varsity event against St Andrew's Catholic School where all of our Year 8 students played against their Year 8 counterparts in various sports such as netball, football, ultimate frisbee, table tennis, basketball and rugby. At the end of the playing time, each sport would be worth 1 point for the school who won in that sport overall, the school at the end of the varsity event with the most points would win the varsity event.

Both schools played with incredible determination and teamwork to battle it out and win each event. Overall St Andrew's won with 5 points followed by St Peter's on 1 ½ points. It was a brilliant afternoon with all students displaying excellent sporting performances and working together whilst having fun.

Netball

In November the Year 10 girls participated in the Surrey netball tournament and won the whole event! Massive congratulations!

Our Years 7-12 netball teams participated in a brilliant mass fixture against George Abbot. They all played with so much determination and respect and had some very close games!



School Trips...



The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe

In November, Year 9 travelled to London for The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe performance.

The play opened with a group of four WWII evacuee children, each with their own wishes and faults. They would take a journey away from the war, away from England, to magical Narnia, a world straight out of a dream, full of talking animals and problems to overcome.

Could the children set aside their wishes and overcome their faults to conquer an antagonist? This is what a group of excited teenagers and teachers wished to uncover on a magical night out at the theatre.



There are conflicts in three of the siblings that we can all see in ourselves. Peter wants to be responsible, but instead is bossy and controlling of his younger brother Edmund, who, as a result, rebels and gives in to the White Witch's offer of power. Susan wants to gain knowledge but comes across as a know-it-all. Lucy, however, is intrigued by all the world has to offer and has a good heart. She displays the power of kindness and change, which in turn makes Peter,

Susan, and Edmund better people.

C.S. Lewis wanted us to see ourselves in the three oldest siblings and to know that, like them, we could be redeemed by Lucy's charity. Then, like the four siblings who become the royalty of Narnia, we could be uplifted.

This message, I felt, was beautifully portrayed through the script, resulting in a one of a kind spectacle.

The shining jewel of this show, for me, was the live music, played by characters on stage. The actors twirled and danced with the delicate white violins and cellos. It was so elegant that my friend asked, "How do they carry those heavy instruments around like that?"

We were sorrowful when Aslan died and when the fawn sang of his hope for summer and kindness. And there was magic, as Aslan's body had vanished when his shroud was pulled away. Overall, the play was full of emotions and morals, which everyone on the trip felt and enjoyed. **By Roxane 9TE**



Biology trip

The 'A Level Science Live' was a series of informative and engaging lectures covering a wide range of topics relating to different aspects of biology, spoken by well established professors.

From the decision making process in the human adolescent's brain to the ethics behind the genetic screening of embryos, the lectures covered a wide variety of topics building upon and expanding knowledge from the biology specification. As well as providing useful guidance on how best to apply this knowledge in exams, the talks centred on linking biology to wider subjects, including the relevance of historical and social context in human development, and emphasising the link between biology and our constantly evolving understanding of human history today.

My personal highlight was a talk from Dr Adam Rutherford, who specialises in genetics and evolutionary biology. Using a range of interesting stories, he explained the common thread in human ancestry, using evidence from within the royal family, dating as far back as Richard III. He explained how the use of genetics has helped to broaden our understanding of human history and how the use of modern genetics has helped us to gain a deeper insight into human evolution which was not previously possible.

By Martha Year 12





Build a business, bag a few quid!

St Peter's has been helping to inspire the next generation of Britain's young entrepreneurs, led by Sam Rogerson, founder of Children's Business Fair and the Build a Business programme.

Sam has been working with our Years 7 and 8 entrepreneurs throughout the autumn term where they have been designing and selling personalised and branded candles, while learning the principles of a start-up enterprise. Our young business minds have tackled all aspects of enterprise, from ideas creation, branding, marketing and personal selling techniques, right through to understanding how to price to ensure they make a profit from their sales.

Recently, some of the students took their new business skills a step further by launching their own business stand at the local Children's Business Fair and, joined by more experienced entrepreneurs, it is fair to say their efforts were nothing short of outstanding!

Highlights included Year 11 Karissa with her business, Classynfancy, who made an impressive £493 profit from the sales of her plushies, Year 7 Sammy, who netted £286 from his chocolate treats and Year 8 William whose catchy 'Inspired To Be You' range of products helped him walk away with £86. He told us the secret of his success was "to ensure I treat all my customers as really important." Good advice, Will!

If you are inspired to follow in their footsteps, keep an eye out for the next round - details coming soon!

RAG Week

At the end of October, the Head Students organised a week of fundraising activities. This included 'sponge the teacher', 'teacher sumo wrestling', raffles and bake sales. We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who took part and donated during the course of RAG Week, we raised just over £1500. All the events had excellent attendance despite the rain during 'sponge the teacher', when the crowds were just as wet as the teachers! We really felt the support of the St Peter's Community throughout the entire week.

The all new event of 'teacher sumo wrestling' went down amazingly well across both lunches, with lots of students joining in to cheer on the teachers as they battled it out - the support and atmosphere created was brilliant.

All the donations raised were split between two incredible charities. The majority went to Young Minds (supporting young people's mental health) and we also donated to Chimney Farm Dog Rescue who look after and rehome mistreated dogs to wonderful new homes. Both charities display the desire to do right by both people and animals and deserve our help, which we felt was important.

One final time, we just want to say thank you to you and your families for your participation and donations. We are all very grateful for the effort that you put in every year in attending these events, and all the money we have managed to raise, which went towards some great causes!

Ethan and Charlotte
Head Students for Fundraising



Celebration breakfast

On Friday 16th December, over 100 students from all year groups shared a celebration breakfast together. The students invited were the top two students for house points in each tutor group who sat with their Head of Year and Assistant Head of Year chatting whilst eating an array of freshly baked pastries and baguettes.

Christmas music was playing in the background and a mood of celebration took over the Dining Hall. Mr Miller spoke to the students to congratulate them on their hard work and commented on the joyous occasion of everyone being able to sit together and enjoy the moment!



Christmas concert

On Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th November, our Christmas Concert took place in St Cecilia's Theatre. As always, it was a wonderful occasion providing a platform for so many of our talented and amazing students. The repertoire included orchestra, string orchestra, musical theatre, jazz band, folk band, marimba club, St Peter's singers, senior choir, acapella choir, guitars and ukes, as well as a solo performance and the Sixth Form enrichment band.

The music ranged from Strauss's Blue Danube Waltz to K-Pop to some Christmas classics. There was some very impressive singing from the audience too – well done parents and staff!

We are so proud of all the students who took part, from the commitment they have shown week after week in rehearsals to their professionalism on stage. After a sparse couple of years, the musical life of the school is thriving again and we look forward to many more concerts and musicals in the years to come.



Polish Apple Pie recipe (Szarlotka)

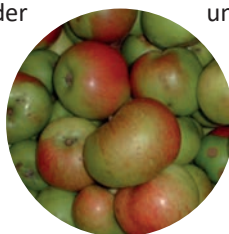
INGREDIENTS

Apple filling

- 1.5kg Bramley or cooking apples
- 60g sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- Shortcrust pastry (you can buy this ready made from the supermarket)
- 300g plain flour
- 250g cold butter
- 1 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 60g sugar
- 2 drops vanilla essence
- 1 egg

Garnish

- Icing sugar



METHOD

1. Prepare the apple filling: peel, quarter, and core the apples. Cut the apple quarters into small cubes and place them in a pot with a wide bottom. Add 60g sugar and cinnamon and cook over medium heat for about 20 minutes,

stirring frequently, until apples are soft and begin to fall apart. Set aside to cool.

2. Shortcrust pastry: in a large mixing bowl combine flour with baking powder, sugar, and vanilla essence. Add the cold butter, cut into cubes and combine all ingredients into a uniform dough, either kneading by hand or using a mixer. Toward the end, add the egg and work in until fully incorporated. The dough will be very soft and sticky.

3. Divide the dough in half, wrap both halves in plastic food wrap, and place in a freezer for about 15 minutes.

4. Baking: adjust the oven rack to a middle position and preheat the oven to 355F/180C. Line a 9 inch springform pan with parchment paper. Take one half of the dough out of the freezer and place at the bottom of the baking pan and press with your fingers to cover the entire bottom of the baking pan and blend in the edges. Prick the dough with a fork and bake in the oven for about 15 minutes until it is golden and lightly springy to the touch. Now spread the apple filling on top.

5. Remove the second half of the dough from the freezer and coarsely grate, as you would a block of cheese, directly over the apples. Bake for 50 minutes until it is golden and the topping has cooked through. Leave to cool down then dust with icing sugar. Serve warm or cold, with whipped cream.

During the spring term, we are looking forward to launching some new theme days and meal deals.

If you are eligible for free school meals, do not miss out. It's a completely safe and discreet way for your child to enjoy a delicious lunch every day. To find out if you are entitled, visit www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals.

If you would like to contact us, please email stpeters@impactfood.co.uk

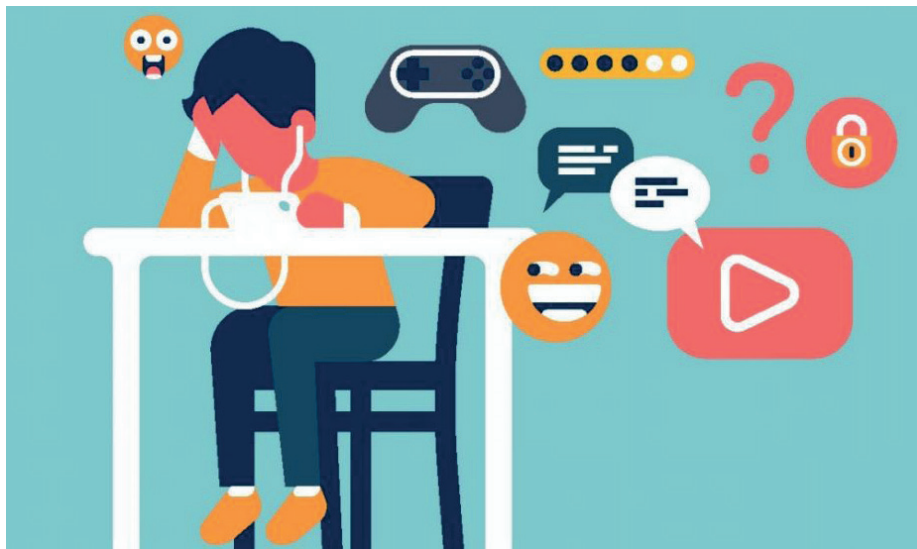
Safe Drive Stay Alive

The 'Safe Drive Stay Alive' presentation was an immersive and valuable experience tailored to young people learning to drive. Upon hearing first-hand accounts of those affected by driving accidents, the reality of the dangers on the roads act as an incentive to enforce sensible habits.

The speakers ranged from members of the police force, fire brigade and ambulance service to survivors and family members of those lost to road accidents. The thoughtful structure of the experience allowed for young people to follow the sequence of events resulting in an accident, through a projected film and then a reported first-hand account from a person majorly affected by a crash. These emotional recounts really struck those in the audience and enforced the importance of staying safe on the roads.



"I thought that the Safe Drive Stay Alive presentation was very educational and helped me realise many precautions that I should take whilst driving. I believe the experience would have changed many people's views on safe driving, including mine, and will help to keep us safe on the road." Daniel Year 12



Online safety hints and tips

Listed below are a number of websites that are useful to keep our young people safe. The first two tools are for reporting different issues online. The next three are "how to" guides to set up parental controls on different devices/services.

<https://www.iwf.org.uk/our-technology/report-remove/> - this is a tool that allows you to report and remove any image of your child if involved in sexting (sending nudes/pics).

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/?tab=apps-platforms> – this website explains what each social media/app does and the dangers of each. It also lists and privacy settings or similar.

<https://help.netflix.com/en/node/264> - a guide to parental controls on Netflix.

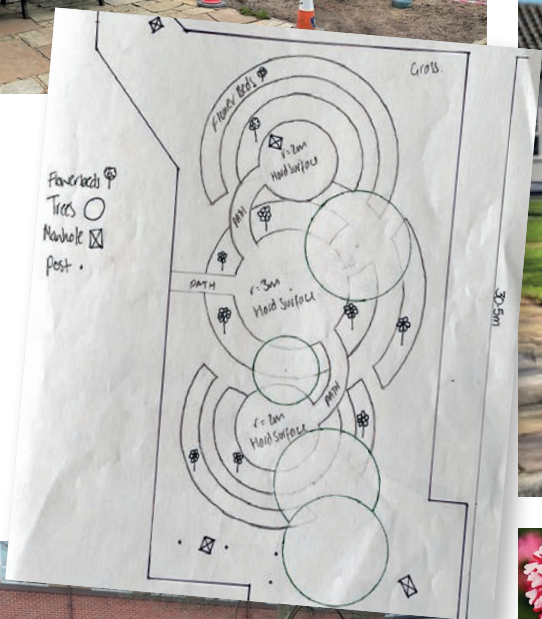
<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parental-controls-offered-by-your-home-internet-provider> - a guide to parental controls on most household internet providers.

<https://www.ofcom.org.uk/tv-radio-and-on-demand/advice-for-consumers/television/protecting-children/advice-guides-for-parents/parental-controls-for-games-consoles#:~:text=Google%20Play%20devices%20have%20parental,and%20access%20the%20settings%20option.> – a guide to parental controls on games consoles.

Fair Trade stall

As part of our Fair Trade status, we ran our Christmas Fair Trade stall on Friday. A group of Year 7s spent time bagging up Fair Trade goodies into Christmassy bags which we then sold for 50p and £1. This allowed us to raise awareness of Fair Trade as well as discuss with our students the important of ethical buying of goods. Plus it had the added benefit of some yummy treats for many!





Peace Garden autumn update

Thank you for all the generous donations towards the redevelopment of the Peace Garden.

At the time of writing, we have received £700 and an enormous amount of bulbs and plants which has enabled us to make a start on four of the new flower beds in the garden.

So far, we have planted Cornus, Ferns, Japanese Pink Pussy Willow, Callipcarpa, Cyclamen, Hellebore, Heuchera, Stipa Tenuissima along with over 1000 bulbs! Well done to the Sixth Form enrichment students who have completed the majority of the hard work on this project.

The goal is to complete the garden in the New Year and in an effort to do this, any further contributions are very welcome. Please follow the gofundme link if you would like to donate <https://gofund.me/a9769414>



2022 PTA news

Putting the challenges of Covid behind us, we have been very busy in 2022 supporting a number of school events. These include the Spring Concert, Presentation Evening, Peter Pan performance and the Christmas concert with our popular refreshments. We have also organised the spring term Quiz Night, second hand uniform sales and closed the year with the amazing raffle/auction and refreshments at the Carol Service.

All funds raised have been donated to the school to



support activities and purchase much needed materials.

We would like to thank our members for the time that they have devoted to supporting our events, as well our parents, carers and local community for their generosity in donating prizes for the raffles and silent auction.