

Keynotes

January to February 2023



Dear Parents and Carers

It has only been five weeks since the Christmas holidays finished, however, the time has raced by and we are rapidly approaching Lent. Last week at Years' 7 and 10 assemblies, we were looking at God's blessings or the '[Beatitudes](#)' and the Sermon on the Mount.

I am not a great list person but the Beatitudes always strikes me as a great list of the qualities and values it takes to be a good person, which has withstood the test of time. I shared with the students that these values are as relevant now to our lives as when they were first spoken, centuries ago, and will still be relevant to human nature centuries after we are all gone. Trying to translate the weekly gospel into something that is relevant to our students is sometimes a challenge but this time it was very straightforward. I think there is something there for all of us and taking time at school to reflect on these values is important as well as at home.



During this short half term, there have been some wonderful opportunities for our students to travel abroad including Paris, Rome and Spain as well as two upcoming ski trips to Boston and Austria.

In the last edition, I mentioned about supporting our wonderful PTA. They are now busy organising the annual Quiz Night which is always a great evening. Please do support them and your school by getting a team together – they do all the hard work and you have all the fun! The form is at the back of this publication, ready to complete!

You will obviously be aware of the recent industrial action

which did have an impact on St Peter's. Whilst I completely respect a professional's right to take industrial action, I have a duty to ensure the disruption to the children's education is kept to a minimum and they are safe and well cared for. In any given day at school, there are approximately 300 lessons that take place and on the recent day of strikes, there were about 110 lessons where students had a different teacher, supervised study for the Sixth Formers or cover work was utilised in the Exam Hall in a large group. Whilst it was quite a busy day, especially for the School Leadership Team, what made it easier was just how well all the youngsters coped. The students followed instructions well, supported us with the myriad of changes to the day and displayed many of the values that underpin how we conduct ourselves in our community. Please do congratulate them! We obviously face further potential disruption in the next few weeks and I will write ahead of those with how we intend to continue to minimise disruption.

As promised, there is feedback from the Parent Survey in this newsletter which I hope you will find informative. The School Leadership Team and the Governors certainly appreciate constructive feedback and will action any opportunities to review how we work with parents/carers and our young people to improve.

If you are having a break with your family at half term do enjoy!

God bless.

Mr T Miller, Headteacher

Why St Peter's is a great place to work

Recruitment into the teaching profession has always been challenging but over the last two years there has been a significant reduction in the number of trainees into what is a wonderful career and vocation.

If your child is considering teaching, we have an excellent training programme. St Peter's is part of Teach Southeast, an Ofsted outstanding training partnership, which has produced many of the

excellent teachers your children have been taught by over the years.

In addition, if your child is in their second or third year at university, we have opportunities for summer internships (several of them paid) where they can be part of the team, experience teaching and support them in making a decision about teacher training. The programme is not just open to recent graduates – many people who have chosen to

change career and start teaching have done so through Teach Southeast and trained with us here at St Peter's.

We have vast experience in professional development and mentoring for trainees and new entrants to teaching. If you would like to consider this please contact Mr Bates who will be able to advise you of the process and opportunities pbates@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk.





Guilty or Not Guilty?

On Tuesday 24th January, Year 11 were summoned to London to serve as part of a jury. Well, a theatrical one at least.

As a thrilling adaptation of Agatha Christie's play, *Witness for the Prosecution* opened to a dramatic courtroom setting, a cleverly placed thrust stage, and an immersive experience to which even members of the audience engaged as a jury. The conviction? One Leonard Vole had brutally murdered one Emily French. Whether it was true? That was for us to decide. From the moment the lights dimmed, the mystery began.

From then on, we, as both audience and jury, were captivated by the tale of mystery, deception, and a hefty sum of inheritance. By the interval, we were left to speculate on the countless hints and schemes of play. Is Leonard Vole as innocent as he seems? Is the irritable housekeeper also at fault in this case? Is the mysterious, yet well-dressed, Mrs Vole actually telling the truth?

Of course, nobody's suspicions came close to the truth, and we were left to enjoy the other half, filled with twists and turns both shocking and enthralling the audience. Plots developed into betrayal and secrets, each red herring leading us closer to an answer, yet further from the truth.

Only one point was clear throughout the entire play: the thorough enjoyment of the audience. We watched in awe as a carefully knit web of knowledge, truths and lies was laid out before us with only our own judgement to trust. Was Leonard Vole truly innocent or guilty? That is for you to find out but you may know the answer already? I thoroughly recommend this play.

Written by Emma 11KO

World Book Day

World Book Day is fast approaching on 2nd March 2023. With our whole school focus on literacy, we will be celebrating this day with teachers sharing book recommendations and students completing activities in lessons based on books and reading.



<https://www.worldbookday.com/> will be hosting competitions, sharing book recommendations, providing free audiobooks, as well as a series of live events taking place. It is well worth having a look so you can get involved at home too!

We have compiled some top tips to encourage reading at home:

1. Let your child choose

The best way to encourage your child to read is to allow them to read whatever they find engaging, whether it is comic books, cook books, or romance novels about vampires or zombies. The books they are drawn to might not be your favourites, but do not discourage those preferences.

2. Model reading

The best way to create a culture of reading at home is to read as much as possible. The more children see their



family reading, the more likely they are to follow suit.

3. Discuss what your child reads

Talk in meaningful ways about what your child reads. Ask questions and encourage debate. Create an environment of deep discussion and critical thinking.

4. Find a compelling series

Readers who get hooked on the first book in a series can follow the same characters or themes through many more books. The familiarity of a series can make it easier to understand. Find the right characters or themes, and

even reluctant readers will be eager to pick up the next book in the series.

5. Tie reading to social media

If your child likes texting friends and posting on social networks, you can give mini-assignments that use those interests. For example, encourage your child to start following a blog and to read interesting posts aloud to you occasionally.

St Peter's Keys

This half term, the St Peter's Keys were awarded to a group of 12 students from 9ST who performed the choral reading at the Carol Service before Christmas. The choral reading was originally meant to include the whole form group, however, the number dwindled for a variety of reasons.

It was quite daunting for those remaining to perform without their peers for a major event in our calendar but all twelve took direction beautifully and read very well as a team with polished projection and great articulation. A great demonstration of



resilience, generosity of spirit and courage.

Well done to: Oscar, Ysabella, Emily, James, Luke, Freyia, Polly, Gaia, Matthew, Lennon, Isaac and Amelie.

Children's Mental Health Week 2023

This event is promoted by Place2Be, a mental health charity that aims to highlight the importance of children and young people's mental health. The theme this year is 'Let's Connect' and is all about the importance of making meaningful social connections for all, both during Children's Mental Health Week and beyond. They tell us that people thrive in communities and that this connection is vital for our wellbeing. When we have healthy connections - to family, friends and others - this can

support our mental health and our sense of wellbeing. However, when our need for rewarding social connections is not met, we can sometimes feel isolated and lonely, which can have a negative impact on our mental health.

At St Peter's, we are proud to support Children's Mental Health Week. During the week and every day beyond, we are encouraging all our students and staff to ask each other a simple question every day "How are you?" It is straightforward



- ask at least one person a day "How is your day going?", "How are you feeling?", or simply smile and say "Hi" to people as you go about your day, because it could make a real difference to someone's life.



Spring Cleaning Social Media

Did you know that the average teen spends 7.5 hours in front of a screen each day?

In view of the adult limit which should be two hours, our dependence on social media and the internet needs to be regularly reviewed. With this in mind, we encouraged the Sixth Form to look at their social media in a new light and asked the following questions:

"Is the content they interact with productive? Does it help or hinder mental and physical health?"

We have advised students to:

1. Block and report posts that encourage negativity such as gender-based violence

or other issues which social media normalise.

2. Delete those that you do not know or are non-beneficial from your contacts.

What can we all do as their support team?

1. Monitor screen time and discuss alternatives, for example, you can now remotely monitor a family's access to Instagram.

2. Support a decrease in the amount of time spent on social media by using the one sec app

<https://one-sec.app/>

3. Provide open and safe spaces to talk without emotional judgement - take a look at these podcasts <https://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/podcasts/raisingteens/>



PTA Quiz Night

Friday 10th March is the next PTA Quiz Night. Please support this event and have a great night. Arrange a team of 6-8 people or come along and join a team on the evening. Tickets are £12 which includes a delicious Ploughman's supper. There will be a bar and a raffle taking place too. See form on back page.



PARENT SURVEY



Important analysis from the recent Parent Survey

Thank you to those of you who completed the Parent Survey Questionnaire at the end of November 2022. We received 437 responses which represents approximately 60% of our families.

The quantitative data has given us an excellent insight into how you feel about your child's education and overall it is very positive. The vast majority of young people feel safe and happy at school and you feel St Peter's supports their learning very well.

The qualitative data in terms of comments has naturally taken a little longer to analyse and unpick any key threads that require action or opportunities that have arisen to improve your child's experience. Obviously the vast majority of comments are focussed on a particular individual's challenge or issue whether it is the young person's experience or a parent's/ carer's experience around, for example, communication. Where there are a number of comments about a topic, the School Leadership Team will review the situation and suggest changes that will resolve the issue but still ensure it aligns with our School Improvement Plan and is manageable within the constraints of

school systems.

Topics which have gained more than just one or two comments include:

- General communication with parents/ carers – types of, regularity and response times
- Understanding reports on student progress and opportunities for feedback on student progress
- Mental health support
- Homework consistency, quality and feedback
- Availability and communication of our extra curricular activities

Clearly some of the points might easily be solved by raising the awareness of how to obtain information or signposting to specific resources.

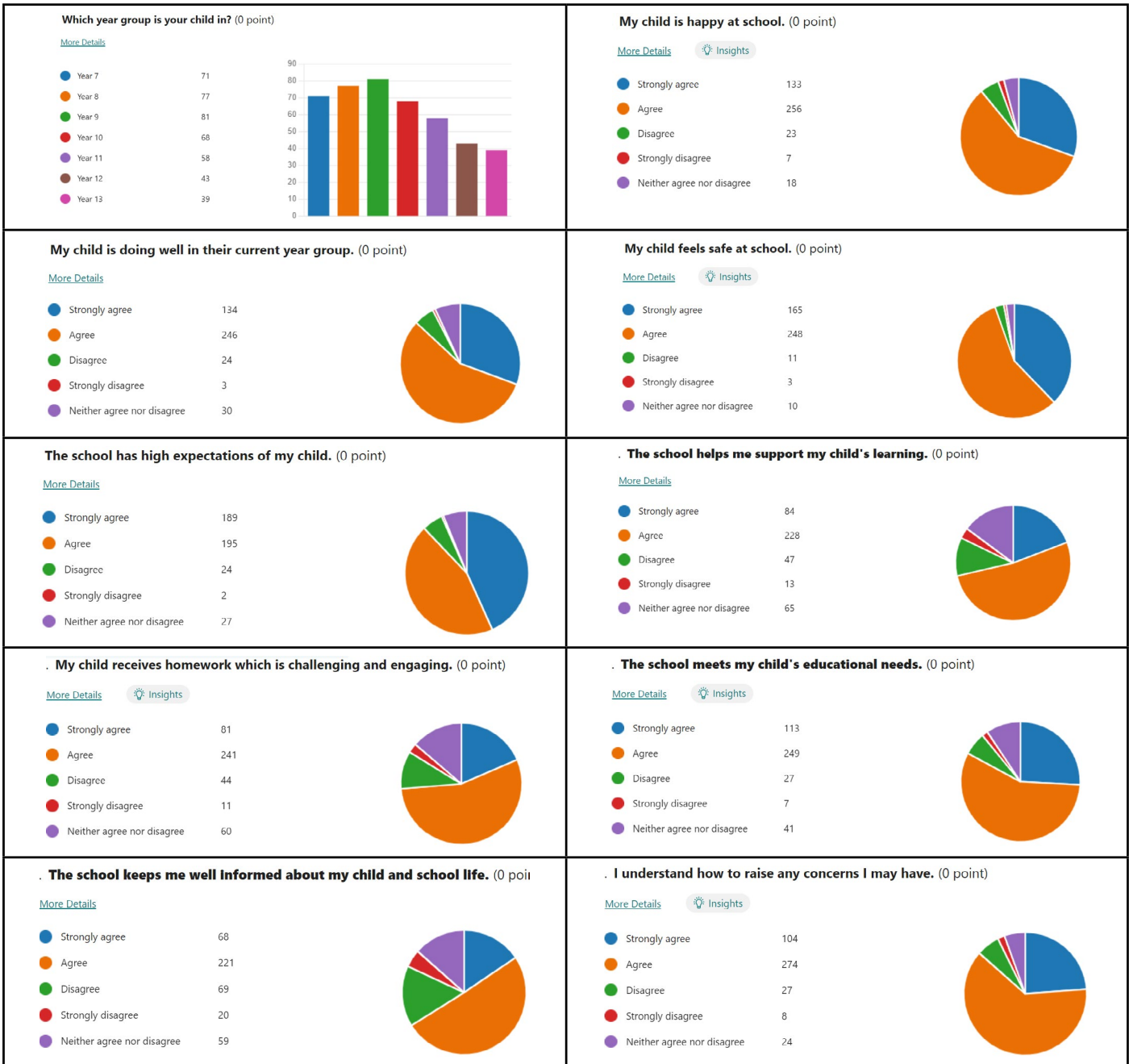
We also received a significant number of comments stating that they were not aware of a particular practice, procedure or guideline about their child's experience that we had definitely communicated at the autumn term Partnership Evening which we hold for each year group.

It is our responsibility to ensure key messages are communicated effectively and that families are kept up to speed

with what is happening at school. Parents' Evenings and the Partnership Evenings are key opportunities both to communicate information but can also be a forum for asking questions about any aspect of your child's education. We strongly encourage all parents/carers to attend these important events.

One thread that I would like to elicit further feedback from is around communication with the school. Some face-to-face discussion would be preferable to another questionnaire, therefore, I would like to invite a number of volunteer parents/carers to help as part of a forum on this specific area. A cross section of the school community in terms of year groups and experience is desirable. Parents/carers who have been with this us for a number of years are needed just as much as those who are starting their journey with us with their eldest child in Year 7. If you would be willing to attend an initial meeting (probably early evening) in the next few weeks, please complete the form [HERE](#). Obviously, the group size needs to be manageable, so please understand we may not be able to include everyone.

Please see the graphs overleaf showing some of the data from the survey.



Student success outside the classroom

On Saturday 28th January the St Peter's swim team took part in the Individual Events round of the Surrey Schools' Swimming Association Secondary Schools Gala at Spectrum Guildford.

The team of 12 girls and 11 boys competed in events across Junior (Y7/8), Intermediate (Y9/10) and Senior (Y11/12/13) categories. Their experience ranged from seasoned competitors at British and National level events to swimmers who are still very new to competitive swimming. While all swimmers train in their respective swimming clubs, for this event, they competed as a school swim team, wearing their St Peter's PE kit and swim cap. Our students were impeccable school ambassadors who demonstrated fantastic courage and resilience and never gave up once they were on the blocks or in the pool. Here are the results!

Team Performance

St Peter's Junior Boys Team won joint first place with RGS Guildford Junior Boys for overall Junior Boys team performance. Huge congratulations to our Junior Boys team of: Yash, Alexandros, Vincent, Pranciskus, Luca

Individual Event Winners

St Peter's team won five medals!

Gold Medals:

Morgan - Intermediate Boys 100m Fly

Filip - Senior Boys 100m Freestyle

Martha - Senior Girls 100m Breaststroke

Silver Medal:

Yash - Junior Boys 100m Freestyle

Bronze Medal:

Alexandros - Junior Boys 100m

Backstroke

Special mention to Elena, in Year 12, who assisted poolside throughout the Girls' session, coaching our Junior Girls and helping parents organise the event.

Congratulation to the entire team...



Junior Girls: Sienna, Phoebe, Orla and Daisy (above)



Intermediate Girls: Emily, Lauren, Charlotte and Emily (above)



Senior Girls: Veronica, Martha, Niamh and Ellie (above)

Junior Boys: Yash, Alexandros, Vincent, Pranciskus and Luca
Intermediate Boys: Flavio, Sam and Morgan
Senior Boys: Filip, Will and Matthew (below)



Duke of Edinburgh Low Vis Training

As the evening light faded and the temperature dipped to freezing point, over 50 Sixth Formers assembled on Blackheath, just outside Guildford, for a night navigation exercise. This was part of their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's expedition training to ensure that they know how to stay safely on their routes, if ever they found themselves in low visibility conditions. These may arise, for example, if the cloud base unexpectedly descends when a group is walking along a ridge, reducing visibility to just a few metres. The best way of simulating this is to head out on a moonless night and practice navigating across a planned course.

Equipped only with a Silva compass, head torch, watch and map, each team was challenged to navigate to increasingly obscure geographical features. For example a junction of two small paths, the intersection of some boundary features and a small rise in the middle of the heathland. The students put into practice what they had been taught about map scales, bearings, contours, timings and pacing. (Did you know that you can measure 100m fairly accurately just by counting your steps?) All teams made it back to the car park after two hours of successful feature 'bagging' and all had enjoyed working in their teams under the spectacular, if chilly, star-studded sky.

It is a skill that we hope that they will not have to use, but we can be confident that the St Peter's teams will be well prepared for whatever conditions they encounter in the Welsh hills this summer.



If you would like your child featured in this newsletter, please send an email to parents@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk



Christmas Carol Service

The annual Carol Service took place on Tuesday 20th December at St Joseph's Catholic Church. It was a wonderful opportunity for students to showcase the talents that they had prepared within the last term to perform.

A range of music, drama and choral reading performances involving exceptional individuals of all ages dedicated their time and effort to create a festive end to the year. It was particularly special to have the Community Choir participate with us as it brought together current and previous members of the community including parents, ex-students, Sixth Formers and teachers.

The service was a beautiful selection of well known hymns and songs beginning with O Come Emmanuel to O Come, All Ye Faithful. It was a lovely evening that brought the community together in celebration of Christmas.

Written by Riccia, Anais and Valentina in Year 12.



Holocaust Memorial Day Event

To commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day this year, the RE Department hosted a visit from members of the North West Surrey Synagogue for Year 9. In preparation for the event, students were asked to reflect on this year's Holocaust Memorial Day theme 'Ordinary People' and produce a written piece of work or a piece of artwork. We were very impressed by the standard of work produced and, in addition to being able to view the artwork during the event, students also had the chance to hear some of the high quality pieces of writing, in the form of poems, diary entries and reflections.

During the event students learnt about the oppression of the Jews under Nazi Germany, in particular the impact of the Nuremberg Laws. Students also learned about examples of genocide in the modern world and the impact it has had on people's lives. The highlight of the event was an interview with 92 year old Beatrice Gould, who told of her family's escape from Nazi

Germany when she was just a young child. They managed to make their way to London, via Italy and France, and lived through the Blitz. After the war, Beatrice married and in the 1960s went to live in Germany with her husband and young family. She found people to be very friendly and learnt to never be judgemental. Beatrice now lives in Guildford.

After the event, students were asked to write a card to Beatrice and share with her the impact her story had on them. Many students found Beatrice to be an inspiration and expressed their gratitude to her for coming to speak to them about her experiences. Students also reflected how Beatrice's talk has made them appreciate their lives more and realise how fortunate they are. One student wrote that Beatrice's story made them think that, "The Jews who suffered from the Holocaust did not have the same opportunities that we have today and that means that we should cherish what we have in life and spend time with our friends and family."



School Trips...



Step back in history

The Churchill War Rooms: a cathartic mix of awe, introspection and solemn reflection. Upon entering, we were engulfed in a posthumous amalgamation of Churchill's war efforts, ranging from personal memorabilia, to hauntingly accurate depictions of war room meetings and daily life in the tense 1940's.

What was especially potent about this trip was the vast mass of information scattered amongst the Churchill museum which told of the most minute, yet important moments spanning Churchill's life which solidified his status in the eyes of the public as a war hero. These included: personal letters, medals and awards commending efforts, detailed interactive walkthroughs of specific turbulent events, Churchill's iconic attire and the exact rooms in which Churchill and company made imperative decisions affecting the war and the state of the nation.

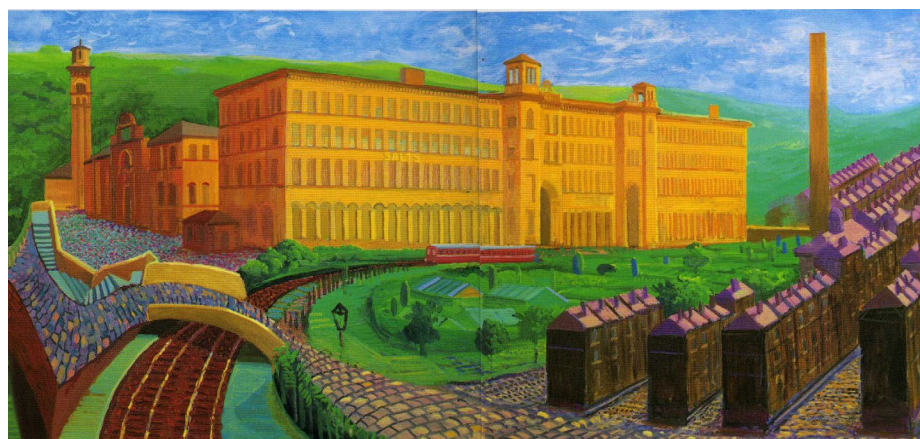
Overall, the trip was extremely insightful and allowed for a more elaborate reflection on the past of Britain and its iconic leader – Winston Churchill.

Written by Joshua Year 12

Leeds Art trip

On Friday 27th January, the Art Department took Years 12 and 13 to Leeds for the weekend. The purpose of the trip was to collect resources for coursework and exam units.

The three-day trip commenced with a visit to the Salts Mill in Bradford and an opportunity to see some of the amazing work by Yorkshireman, David Hockney. On Saturday, we visited The Hepworth Wakefield to see sculptures by Henry Moore, Barbara Hepworth and a photography exhibition by Hannah Starkey. This was followed by a trip to Leeds City Centre and the Leeds City Art Gallery. On Sunday morning, we spent three hours at the Yorkshire Sculpture



Park before heading home.

It was a lovely weekend and we all enjoyed the opportunity to get and be inspired. Please find below the web links for the places we visited and you can see for yourself how immersive art can be:

<https://www.hockney.com/>
<https://hepworthwakefield.org/>
<https://museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk/leeds-art-gallery/>
<https://ysp.org.uk/>



School Trips...



When in Rome...

Our GCSE students recently went on a three-day trip to Rome, accompanied by Mr Hotea, Miss Pollard, Miss Conway, Tom our School Chaplain and Father Tristan.

In Rome, students saw some of the sites and local churches such as the Santa Maria Maggiore. On the Sunday, students attended Mass at the Venerable English College, where they had the opportunity to talk to priests about seminary life and learn the story of English martyrs. From here we went to the Papal Address and heard the Pope

speak about his upcoming travels.

After a tour of the Colosseum, students heard a talk on the 'Tree of Life' from the Dominican priests at the Basilica of San Clemente. The final day was spent at the Vatican Museums where students had the chance to visit the Altar of St Pius X at St Peter's Basilica and view the 'Creation of Adam' on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel. This was a great opportunity for students to develop their knowledge on the symbolism in Christian art, a key part of their GCSE exams.



Public Speaking

On Wednesday 8th February, three Year 10 students competed in the English Speaking Union's prestigious Public Speaking Competition at Guildford Cathedral. The students had progressed to the Branch Final and faced tough competition from the other schools present. Alen (above left) gave a mature and intellectual speech titled, 'Does patriotism damage international relations?' and had to supply developed and well evidenced answers to questions from an opposing team. Conor (centre) introduced and managed the speaker from another team, maintaining a warm and calm presence on stage as well as time-keeping for his team. Callum (right) worked with Conor to question the opposition's speaker and provided a platform for the speaker to develop on ideas within their speech. While the boys were unsuccessful in proceeding to the Regional Final, all gave performances to be proud of.



Prayer Carousel

Lent is the antithesis of New Year's Resolutions. Occurring as the weather changes to springtime, Lent is rooted in hope and a desire for change in our lives, at its heart to fill the void that no number of self-help books or consumerism can, through encounter with Jesus Christ. Marking Lent in school is an appeal to community, not individualism, to support each other with love and accountability - key ingredients too often missing from New Year's Resolutions.

Every day in tutor time, all students participate in some form of Morning Prayer. Moving into and through the season of Lent, we build on this through a "Prayer Carousel". Each tutor picks up a theme and prepares an original prayer session, based on one of our school rocks (Love, Courage, Justice, Reflection and Service), or a Lenten theme of Fasting or Almsgiving. The third Lenten theme, Prayer, is the thread that runs throughout.

Over the course of seven weeks, all tutor groups rotate around each tutor in their year who has prepared a unique and engaging session. They utilise art, movement, silence, scripture, poetry, sport, origami, bridge building and all manner of other resources, often reflecting the subject specialty of each teacher. Firstly, this helps to illustrate the universality of prayer, and how it can both imbue and be drawn out of all things. Secondly, it binds our community as everyone spends pastoral time with teachers whom they may not normally encounter. Finally, it is a statement of our shared mission – that regardless of our role in school, we all have a duty to contribute to this work of evangelisation.



Bonjour de Paris (Hello from Paris)

The Year 10 Paris trip was an 'incroyable' experience filled with unforgettable memories and lessons about the French culture. Firstly, we started our trip on the Eurostar bright and early and the journey was smooth all the way.

Upon our arrival, we used the Paris Métro to navigate around the city to build our independence and immerse ourselves into natural French speakers. Throughout the trip, we were truly grateful for the opportunities of seeing magnificent places such as the Eiffel Tower, the Catacombs, the Sacré-Coeur, Notre-Dame, the Arc de Triomphe, La Madeleine and Place de l'Opéra. In terms of food, we were well 'nourrie'; we used our hotel for a healthy breakfast



each morning and then were given the freedom to roam the Galeries Lafayette and the Champs-Élysées. For dinner we visited Saint Michel and were able to go to a variety of restaurants with a wide selection of food choices.

Each night, we returned to the hotel in Porte d'Orleans where we spent the night in well-equipped rooms for 3 or 4 students and were able to get a great night's sleep ready for the adventurous day ahead.

The staff were hugely knowledgeable about Paris and provided lots of stories whilst guiding us around safely. We truly recommend this once in a lifetime trip!

Written by Matylda, Sadie, Nina Year 10

Christmas Market

At the end of last term, we held a Christmas market at school. In preparation for the event, we had to create a presentation demonstrating how we would spend our £20 budget and what our market stall would need in order to be successful. Our group conducted a lot of research and we compiled our presentation around selling hot waffles!

We thought this would be a great, profit-making idea as it would be cold outside and hot food seemed like it would be a very popular attraction. We came into school early and made up the fresh batter in the Food Technology Department. We later cooked fresh waffles upon each order.

On the day of the market, all the groups started to set up their stalls, in anticipation for everyone to arrive. The next thing we knew lots of people began to flood in and the fun began. It was very successful as we raised a lot of money from all the different



business stalls. Our total of £502.56 was donated to the Shooting Stars charity that enables struggling families access to counselling, therapies, drop-in sessions, sibling groups and many more things.

From this amazing experience, we used a lot of new skills such as communication and teamwork. We learnt what it was like to run a business and it taught us how to overcome any issues with problem solving. It unlocked many new skills and helped us get a more developed understanding on what it is like to be an entrepreneur.

Written by Lara 10ST



PE News...

Netball

On 18th January, Years 7 and 8 netball team played against Guildford County on home turf in some friendly games. We are delighted to report that the Year 8 team (right) won all of their games and the Year 7's drew one and won two. On 24th January, we took Years 9, 10 and 11 netball teams across to Guildford County to play some friendly games. All three teams played incredibly well on a very cold evening and showed great teamwork and leadership skills. The games finished with the Year 10's (below) winning their game, the Year 9's lost against a very strong team and the Year 11's lost narrowly by two points. A big well done and thank you to the Year 11 netball team for their commitment to representing us for the last five years as this was their last netball fixture here at St Peter's.



Cross Country

Following on from the success at Charterhouse School, on 21st January, seven students from Years 7 to 11 were selected to participate in the next stage in the Guildford District Team. The biggest congratulations and well done to Poppy, Eliza, Jack, Sam, Rory and Rosie for all their effort and hard work, especially in the freezing temperatures over the weekend!

Basketball

The Year 8 girls' basketball team played in a tournament recently, held at George Abbot School. They played against George Abbot, Glebelands, Guildford County, Woolmer Hill and came fourth overall, well done girls!



Young Leaders

On 8th February, we took a number of KS3 and KS5 students who have shown great leadership skills within lessons to the Guildford Spectrum to be young leaders to deliver activities to children who are in primary school reception.

Be aware of online stranger danger

Please find below three additional websites that you may not have seen or heard of and their associated risks.



Omegle is a website that pairs random strangers for live text or video chats and it markets itself as a way to “talk to strangers!” There is an option for adult (18+) content and a section for people aged 13+ with parental permission. Users simply go to Omegle.com and then choose ‘Text’ or ‘Video’ chat and the page states how many users are currently online. Depending on the time of day, this can be hundreds of thousands. Omegle markets itself as a great way to meet new friends, however, it has also been known to feature pornography and inappropriate content within chats. It is important parents/carers are aware of the risks associated with the site. Also, the whole premise of the site is talking to strangers which carries a number of risks for our young people.



Discord is a free app which allows users to communicate in real time via text, video or voice chat. It started as an app for gamers but became more mainstream during Covid. Discord is organised around closed groups, referred to as ‘servers’. To join a server, users must be invited or provided with a unique link. It is a space for users to interact with friends, meet others with shared interests and collaborate in private online but there have been high levels of cyberbullying and harassment reported as well as other issues such as predators and hateful content.



OnlyFans is an online platform and people can pay for content (photos, videos and live streams) via a monthly membership. Content is mainly created by YouTubers, fitness trainers, models, content creators and public figures in order to monetise their profession but it is also popular with adult content creators (porn). According to the OnlyFans policy, users must be 18 years or older but several of our students are aware of this site.



Having conversations about the online world with young people

Be part of their reality
For many young people, the internet is the real world. As trusted adults, we need to acknowledge this as it becomes a part of their reality. The internet is also just another space where young people spend time; where they socialise, where they learn and where they start relationships.

Do not wait until things go wrong to have the conversation

It is important that conversations surrounding the internet happen regularly; little and often. If we only talk to young people about the internet when things go wrong or about negative aspects, for example, problematic influences, then this can create an “us vs them” mentality or makes our young people feel we do not understand their world. Ask open-ended questions, for example, “Tell me about this person you follow”, “What does this app do?”, “What do you most enjoy doing online?” It may take time for our young people to open up to us, but the more we have these positive conversations, the more they will open up.

Body language and tone
Keep conversations light, casual and friendly. Do not make it

an interrogation! Find either a safe space for your child or a mutual space where everyone feels comfortable. Many young people prefer to be doing something during tricky conversations, perhaps you could suggest going for a walk, talking whilst colouring or playing a game.

No right or wrong narratives
Try to be open-minded and ensure that the conversations are light and non-combative. Offer information and facts so young people can try to critically assess their online world in a conversation rather than a debate. It may be that you are not listened to, but keep trying!

Educate yourself
Make sure you know about the apps your children are using, the sites they are accessing and the games they are playing. Ensure you know how to set parental controls on all devices, apps and sites.

Start early
It is never too early to start these conversations! Many of our Year 7s use apps, social media sites, online games and are exposed to so many things online. They need to know that they have someone they can talk to at all times, even when things go wrong.



**Bring your team
(6-8 people) or
join a team on
the night**

**£12 a ticket which
includes a delicious
Ploughman's
supper**

**PTA
Bar**

QUIZ

Raffle

Friday 10th March – 7pm for 7.30 start

For further info and to book tickets please email pta@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk
and return the slip below with your payment

Name _____ Team Name _____

Email address _____ (to confirm receipt of your
payment)

Number of tickets required: _____ x £12= £ _____

I enclose a payment for a total of £ _____ cash/cheque (payable to
'St Peter's School PTA') in an envelope marked "PTA Quiz Night"