



St Peter's CE Junior School

Learning and living life in all its fullness



THE SCHOOL BELL

Friday 9th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new term! I am very pleased to be writing this without a scarf or gloves on as the heating is mostly working now, with a couple of behind-the-scenes niggles being worked on. Whilst our INSET Day was really chilly, (one classroom was in the region of 4°C on Monday) the team carried on with good humour. Mr Attrill especially needs a shout-out for working flat-out to ensure that we were able to open on Tuesday with every class in a room with some sort of heating, even if it wasn't their normal one, especially as he also had to contend with gritting icy areas every time the weather decided to try something new!

The INSET Day itself was all about supporting children to be successful in their learning, particularly through explaining the 'steps to success' which will add up to fulfilling the learning being explored. We call this 'success criteria' in school, and achieving it means that we can answer 'yes' to the overall learning question which we start each lesson with. Continuing to look at ways we can help children to be confident in knowing what they need to do to achieve successful learning is one of our targets this term and I am already seeing teachers trying out new or different ways of doing this. It is a wonderful thing to lead a team who are open to research, exploration and not standing still where we could do more, even when, as at the start of the week, our fingers won't move!

Have a great weekend,

Mr Hogan-Fleming

Science request from Mrs Burgess

Do you have any old glasses, sunglasses, 3D glasses or ski goggles which are no longer needed? If so, please could we have them for science? Thank you!



Dates for your Diary

- Weds 21st Jan: Y4 to Ufton Court
- Fri 23rd Jan: Y4 Return from Ufton Court
- Tues 27th Jan: Y5+6 Cross Country Fun Run at Frogmore—3.45-4.30pm
- Weds 28th Jan: Ogden Trust Star Gazing Evening—Invited Y5 Children
- Fri 30th Jan: Y5 Trip to Hindu Temple
- Tues 3rd Feb: Y5+6 Choir—We Will Rock You—Wavell 9am-12.30pm—Details to Follow
- Weds 4th Feb: Cross Country—Farnborough Hill—4-4.30pm
- **Mon 16th Feb-Fri 20th Feb: HALF TERM—SCHOOL CLOSED TO CHILDREN**
- **Mon 23rd Feb: Term Starts for Children**
- Mon 23rd Feb: Young Voices at O2
- Tues 3rd Mar: Parents Evening
- Weds 4th Mar: Parents Evening

INSET DAYS 25/26: Fri 22nd May, Mon 1st June

More term dates available at: <https://www.stpeterscofejuniorschool.co.uk/term-dates/>

Website

Our new website is now live at www.stpeterscofejuniorschool.co.uk.

You may remember that replacing the old one was not a choice as our hosting company was taken over. This means that there is a lot of work to do on updating links, pages and content, so please bear with us if there are parts which do not work as they should. It will take some time as it was not a job I was expecting to face at this time of year!

There will be benefits though, especially in terms of the updates to editing tools at our end and the ability to keep things like photos more current. The home page is also a lot more functional in terms of linking to frequently accessed content for quick access.

Mr Hogan-Fleming

Attendance Matters

There are no attendance figures this week as, let's be honest, there was a lot of illness in that last week of term.

A few points to note:

The new attendance policy is out. It is rather long but this is because of the amount of statutory guidance we have to follow. What really matters, however, is that you simply do your best. If a child is reluctant to come in because they are a bit under the weather, we will look after them! If they are really ill, we can always ask you to collect them, but not if they haven't got over that initial hurdle of getting through the door.

There are practical consequences for persistent absence and these are detailed in full in the policy. Request for exceptional absence forms are also detailed here, but a copy of the form is available by itself from our website. Use the '+quicklinks' button at the top of the home page to reach the form without having to go through the menu.



Year 3: How Are Volcanoes Life-Changing?

This week, we made a volcano out of card and plastic bottles. We had to fit the card around the top of the bottle to make the creator. We then painted the card to make it look like the outer layers of the volcano.

After that, we took them outside to erupt. We added vinegar to our bottles first, then use bicarbonate of soda to create a chemical reaction, which looked like a volcano exploding out of our bottles! It was so much fun!



A hook lesson to start the term in Year 6, linked to their enquiry question: **Can a mountain ever be too big to climb?**

The children made prayer flags inspired by the ones which can be seen by climbers trekking through the Himalayas.

Year 6 will be studying the text *'Everest'* by Alexandra Stewart and Jo Todd-Stanton this term, which follows the true story of Tenzing Norgay and Edmund Hillary as the first explorers to conquer Everest.

This is a great way to start our climb towards our new knowledge goal this term– onwards and upwards!

🌳 ✨ Writing Competition! ✨ 🌳

Do you enjoy writing stories or poems? We would love you to take part in our writing competition! Your challenge is to write a **story or poem** called *'Happiness in Nature'*. You can write **fiction or non-fiction**, and your work can be **handwritten or typed**, as long as it is neat and easy to read.

📄 Important rules:

- Stories must be no more than **550 words**
- Poems must be no more than **40 lines**
- Please **do not include pictures or drawings**

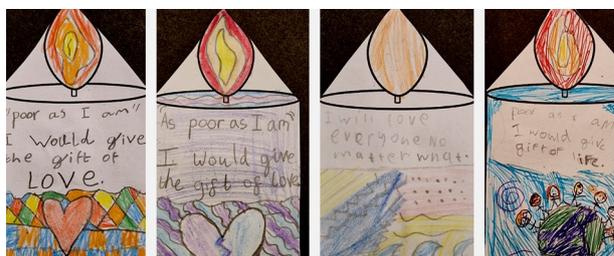
😊 🌿 Think about how being outdoors, animals, plants, or special places in nature can make people feel happy — and let your imagination shine!

We can't wait to read your wonderful writing!

Entries to be handed in to Mr Hudson on **Friday 13th February**.



<< Our science ambassadors were really sad it didn't snow, so they used the science of liquid density to make snowmen (and snow ladies of course!) with layered liquids, inviting children out in the playground at lunchtime to join in. They used milk, oil and vitamin C and had lots of fun engaging their friends with their knowledge and creations.



<< Some really thoughtful responses to class worship, based on the question 'what could we give the baby Jesus?'



St. Peter's Church, Farnborough

We Are Hiring!

CARETAKER

We are looking to appoint a Caretaker. The Caretaker will play a crucial role in ensuring the smooth running of the facilities at St. Peter's Church.

To find out more, go to [St Peter's Vacancies](https://www.stpetersfarnborough.org.uk/vacancies)

**SUBMISSION DATE UNTIL:
SUNDAY 11TH JANUARY
2026**

 www.stpetersfarnborough.org.uk/vacancies

