St Peter's Press

School Year 2024/25 – Summer Term

Welcome to the latest edition of our school newsletter. We are excited to be able to tell you about a fantastic range of activities and events this term, especially if the weather is as lovely as it has been in recent weeks! We have the usual variety of engaging summer-term clubs, trips and visits, with some ongoing favourites and some new activities alongside. For any that you are able attend, we'd love to see you… especially as we repeat the success of last year's Sports' Day Pupil-Parent Activity Session!

If there is anything in here that you would like to know more about, please don't hesitate to speak to us in person – we're always happy to chat – or visit our website at www.stpetersswinton.co.uk .






Health & Wellbeing Month

This term sees our annual school health and wellbeing month – mid-June to mid-July – when we give an even greater focus to those things which add to our **health, wellbeing and spirituality**, such as sports events, trips, visits, musical activities and more. We include our annual Green Week (different environmental challenges each day), and this year are very excited to launch a new event to celebrate the wonderful diversity we have amongst our families: our **Explore the World International Day.** More details can be found on page 3.

SUMMER TERM DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
25/04/25 – Easter Service & Eggstravaganza!	18/06/25 – Salford Schools' Athletics Festival
29/04/25 – Class Photographs	19/06/25 – Sports' Day (Jr 9.20am, Inf 1.20pm)
30/04/25 – Y4 River Study – Clifton Country Park	20/06/25 – School Parkour Day – all classes
01/05/25 – Eco-Refill Pop-up Shop, 3.20pm	20/06/25 – Y3 Class Assembly
06/05/25– Nursery Chicks Arrive! (Life-Cycles)	25/06/25 – International Day/Explore the World
06/05/25 – Parent Governor Election Fortnight	25/06/25 – Y4 Lowry Violin Concert, 5.00pm
08/05/25 – VE 80 Day, Red/White/Blue Clothes	25/06/25 – Swinton Schools' Cricket Festival
12/05/25 – Y6 SATs Week	26&27/06/25 – Y6 High-School Transition Days
14/05/25 – Y1 Knowsley Safari Park Science Trip	27/06/25 – St P's Transition Day: ch with next tchr
14/05/25 – Nursery Families' Reading Wkshp 2.45	29/06/25 – St Peter's Day
14/05/25 – Y4 Staycation Parents' Meeting, 3.20	01/07/25 – Assessment (Y2,3,4,5) & RSE Week
21/05/25 – Swinton Schools' Y3/4 Tennis Festival	02/07/25 – Reception Smithills Farm Trip (tbc)
22&23/05/25 – Y4 Outdoor Education Staycation	11/07/25 – Nursery Class Assembly, 2.30pm
23/05/25 – Y1 Class Assembly, 2.30pm	04/07/25 – Y5 Class Assembly, 2.30pm
18/07/25 – Reception Class Assembly, 2.30pm	07/07/25 – Green Week: 5 days of eco-activities
09/06/25 – Health & Wellbeing Month Begins	09/07/25 – Swinton Schools' Football Festival
09/06/25 – Y1 Phonic Screening Week???	14/07/25 – Pupil Council Meet the Governors
09/06/25 – Y4 Multiplication Challenge Week???	16/07/25 – End-Year Pupil Reports Home
11/06/25 – Welcome Mtg: Nurs & Rec'n, 5.30pm	17/07/25 – Y6 Leavers' Service, Church, 6pm (tbc)
12/06/25 – Salford Schools' Y6 Triathlon Day	22/07/25 – St Peter's Has Talent – The Final
13,20,27/06/25 – New EYFS Drop-In (9.15-10.30)	23/07/25 – Y6 Leavers' Bowl & Dine, 1-5pm (tbc)
13/06/25 – New MP Michael Wheeler Visits Sch	24/07/25 – Celebration Assembly, 9.30am
16/06/25 – Y5 Watersports Centre & Quays Trip	Dates tbc – Nursery Picnic in Park – Y4 Greek Day
16/06/25 – National School-Sport Week	Date tbc – Church Summer Fair, Fletcher Hall
17/06/25 – Y6 Manchester Cathedral & Bee Tour	Date tbc – Swinton Schools' Swimming Gala
Plus, even more trips and events to be finalised. Details to follow.	

Forthcoming School Inspection – SIAMS & SPIRITUALITY

In recent newsletters, we have talked about the forthcoming **Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools,** for which, like OFSTED, we aren't given notice, but we do expect to happen any time soon.



The inspection focuses on the way that the **'school's theologically rooted Christian vision'** drives our provision for the pupils. In other words, the way that our **Christian Values underpin all that we do as a school, and set the wonderful ethos** that all visitors comment upon, leading to such positive relationships between children, staff, families, community and faiths.

Spirituality

As an extra insight for this newsletter, we thought we'd take the chance to explain another key concept of the inspection: **SPIRITUALITY**. Spirituality is not easy to explain to the children, it cannot be seen or touched, but is something that embodies how we see the world, the people around us, ourselves and our relationships and responses.

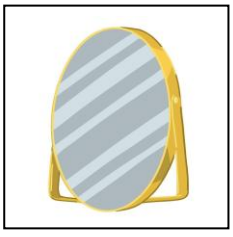


Our children display spirituality in the way they create an **exceptional ethos** (the words OFSTED used when describing pupils' personal development at St Peter's), but we want to find a way to make it easier to understand. So, for daily collective worship (assembly), we explain to the children that a good starting point to learn about spirituality is to think about **Windows, Mirrors and Doors:**

Windows – Learning about life (awareness of the world)



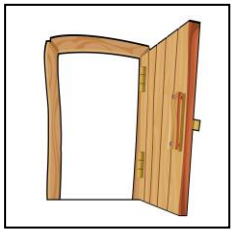
We give children opportunities to become *aware* of the world in new ways; to ***wonder*** about life's '**Wows**' (things that are amazing and unexplainable as to why they evoke such a response) and '**Ows**' (things that upset us and cause us to be uncertain). In this, our children are learning *about* life in all its fullness.



Mirrors – Learning from life (awareness of self)

We give children opportunities to ***reflect*** on their experiences; to ***think about*** life's big questions and to consider some possible answers. In this, they are learning *from* life by exploring their own insights and perspectives, and those of others.

Doors – Learning to live life (how we respond to self/others/world)



We give children opportunity to *respond* to all of this; to ***do*** something creative as a means of expressing, applying and further developing their thoughts and convictions. In this they are learning to ***live*** by putting into action what they are coming to believe and value.

International Day – Staffing – Eco-Refill – VE Day

International Day – Exploring Our World



We are so lucky to have children with family origins from a fascinating and ever-widening range of countries, and we thought it was time to explore and celebrate this. As an indication, as well as having many children form England, we have others from countries as varied as Nigeria, Rwanda, Poland, Albania, Portugal, Slovakia, Scotland, Wales…

At present, we are planning the day with the children taking a lead in this. We know we will ask staff and pupils to dress in the clothes of their country of origin and will learn about the culture, pastimes, music, etc, of these, but we may also extend this to parents and ask if you would like to come in for the last hour of the day, possibly bringing in food from different countries, for a celebration party and buffet in the hall. It's new for us all, so if anyone has any ideas for this day, we'd love to hear them.

Staff News

We are thrilled to welcome Mrs Sarah Jones back from maternity leave, to resume her role as Year 2 teacher, Head of Infants and English Lead. At the same time, we thank Miss Rachel Waddington, who covered Year 2 for the past year, and wish her well in her new role as a trainee educational psychologist in Trafford.

We also pass our best wishes to Mrs Kirsty Edwards, Reception TA, going on maternity leave in September, and to Mr Scanlan, Site Officer, who commences paternity leave around that time.

Finally, our warmest thoughts are with Miss Shauna Miller, PE teacher in school for two days each week, who will be absent for some time with a significant illness. Although contracted in from specialist PE provider, Premier Sport, Miss Miller is seen as a hugely valued member of our team, is an exceptional PE teacher and really cares for our pupils. She will be very ably covered in the meantime by Miss Ruby Hamilton (Tuesdays) and Mr Ben Stanley (Thursdays), each of whom has worked with us before and will maintain the high-quality PE provision for our pupils.

Eco-Refill Shop - St Refillables!



Following the extended article in last term's St Peter's Press, we are delighted to say that the St Refillables Eco-Refill Shop, set up and run monthly by the Pupil Council, has been a great success. Thank you to all those who have supported it so far, and to others for the feedback from parents' evening. It appears that there is good demand for the various liquid soaps/detergents, but **a more frequent service** would be helpful. Therefore, now that the weather has improved, we'll trial a weekly outdoor version of the shop, **after school for 30 minutes every Thursday** starting 1st May. Bring your empty bottles and we'll do the rest! (We now have a card reader.)

VE Day Celebration



We will be dressing in red, white and blue on Thursday May 8th (no donations required) and carrying out activities in classes to commemorate the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe Day, signifying the end of World War 2 on this continent. It is so important that the children understand the importance of one of our school values, Peace, that they remember the sacrifices made by those in the past and this helps us to learn lessons for the future.

Governors – Clubs – Parking – Music – Church – Uniform – Pupil Council

Parent Governor Election

We are incredibly grateful for the response of our parents, seven of whom have put themselves forward to act as a Parent Governor on the school's Governing Board. We have an extremely committed governing board and to have such a huge response to join it speaks volumes about our families' commitment to support the work of the school for its children.

The voting process from this point involves a letter being sent out shortly, containing short pen-portraits of the seven candidates, attached to a voting slip which can be handed it at the school office. Alternatively, parents can vote by email. Voting opens for two weeks, from 5th to 19th May.

This Term's Extra-Curricular Clubs



(8 sessions: wk beg 5th May to wk beg 7th July; 3.20-4.20pm unless stated)

Y1-6 Boomwhackers (Tue); Y3-4 Computing (Tue); Y3-6 Crick/Rugby(Wed)

YN-R Multi-Activities (Weds, 12.20-1.20pm); Y1-3 Dance/Drama (Weds)

Parking Near School

Parking is tight, but please avoid leaving cars around the entrance to Chatsworth Futures School, disrupting their specialist vehicle access. The good news is that the council have agreed to our **Park and Stride** idea… we have permission to use the council/church car-park at the Vicarage Rd/ Partington Lane junction, **for 20 minutes at the start and end of the school day.** The timing is strict, but appreciated.

Music Lessons



Our individual guitar, violin and keyboard lessons (paid for by parents, but subsidised by school and Salford LA) remain very popular. We keep waiting lists for when places arise and, with that in mind, can tell you that there will be spaces for lessons from September, as there is a group of Y6 pupils who play and will be moving on. If your child is interested in any of these instrumental lessons, contact the school office for details. Lessons are £5 per week, but if cost is a barrier, please speak to us in confidence, as support funds are available to help.

Church News



We were so excited to present our Easter Service in church the week *after* Easter Sunday, this year. Whilst we really value the special time of being in school for Holy Week and the particular church service that results from this, to have this year's service in Easter week itself meant we could focus on the positivity of the resurrection and the symbols of faith and new life that Easter brings. It also meant that our beautiful church looked its very best, bedecked with floral displays in full bloom, with our vibrant Eggstravaganza models alongside.

Thank you for your support, the full church further enhanced to joy of the service!

Uniform Quickie

As children leave jumpers around school, in the warmer weather, please write their names in. Meanwhile, we have a large amount of pre-loved uniform in good quality and all sizes, free to anyone. This saves you money and helps the environment, so please call in any time.

Pupil Council/Eco-Group

This term, the Pupil Council will be working on the weekly Eco-Refill Shop, leading playtimes in our Reflection Garden and planning Green Week, an exciting range of environmental activities.

Term Dates 2024/25	**Open (at 8:50am) on:**	**Break up (at 3:20pm) on:**
Summer Half-Term 1	Tuesday 22nd April	Friday 23rd May
Summer Half-Term 2	Monday 9th June	Thursday 24th July

NB: Please see our website for term dates for the next five years, or call at the school office for a paper copy.

NB: PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL SCHOOL EMAIL ADDRESSES WILL CHANGE IN MAY – DETAILS WILL FOLLOW