

NEWS

from the Primary Phase

Friday 19th July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of another academic year, there is so much to celebrate!

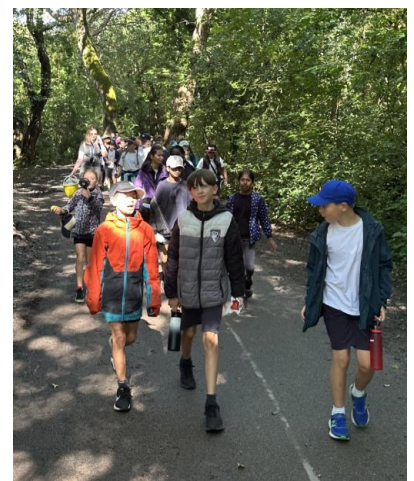
This June, children from Years 4-6 participated in 'Town Sports.' All of the children were fantastic and we ended up with two 'Town Champion' as well as 6 top 4 finishers! Years 4 and 6 have enjoyed a class 'Retreat Day' at the Southbourne chapel this half-term with Juliette and Liz. Year 4 have experienced a 'Tudor Day' and Year 2 have been treated to a performance and workshop related to their learning all about 'The Great Fire of London!'

On Thursday 13th June, children from both Primary and Secondary travelled to the Cathedral to represent St. Peter's in our annual Catholic School's mass. Children were delighted to meet Bishop Philip Egan and to share in a lovely picnic in the park with ice lollies from the diocese!



On Wednesday 3rd July, we celebrated our school Feast Day with a whole-school, open-air Mass at the Southbourne Site. It was a joy to be able to gather together with the entire St. Peter's community for the celebration. Music for the Mass was provided by members of our Year 5 and 6 orchestra which was particularly brilliant and brave! Our worship council lead the psalm and bidding prayers and children from Year 2 were responsible for bringing up the gifts during the offertory.

During our 'Ethos Day,' we all enjoyed a walk over Hengistbury Head. This was followed by a trip to the beach for our Reception cohort and a sports festival at the Southbourne Site for Years 1-6!



Despite our Sports Day being postponed, our Summer Fair was a huge success with lots of fun taking place indoors. My thanks go to the PTA and staff members who gave up their time to run the event as well as our families who supported us on the day! We raised in excess of £2000 for our school!



Maddie was the winner of the teddy with the name 'Oatmeal' and Isla was the happy winner of the sweetie jar with a guess of 389!

On the 2nd July, the entire primary phase took part in our own 'Race for Life' event in aid of Cancer Research UK – organised brilliantly by Miss Maguire! Every child that took part challenged themselves even when they felt tired - as did the teachers. Altogether, we raised **£1,400** for Cancer Research UK which will play a massive part in the fight against Cancer. Thank you, Miss Maguire, for organising the event for our community!



On Thursday 11th July, Father Kevin came to join us in a special mass for our 49 children who have celebrated their Holy Communion in different parishes and different times over the year- some were even celebrated in India! It was wonderful to see the children in their special attire. Afterwards we had cake to share in the joy of this new sacrament!



This final half-term has involved the momentous process of preparing our Year 6 children for their transition to the secondary phase of their education. They have been treated to a retreat day with Juliette at the Southbourne Chapel, lessons led by specialist teachers and a visit from Miss Johnson – the Head of Year 7. Much of their time this half-term has been spent preparing their end of year production, Go for Gold, which links to the history theme 'Ancient Greece' which they have studied during their final year at the primary phase. Everyone in Year 6 contributed to make the show a success. They used the skills they have developed during their time at the primary phase to drive all aspects of the production. During each performance, the children welcomed their audience members, managed the scenery changes and sound, and sang and acted their hearts out. They emanated pure joy and it was impossible not to smile throughout. I am so tremendously proud of the talents they have worked hard to maximise and the way in which they support and champion each other in their collaborative endeavours. They really are a very special group of children!



Their final week at the primary phase has been even busier! Year 6 have enjoyed their residential trip to Fairthorne Manor, where they took part in a range of adventurous outdoor activities including archery, kayaking and bush craft skills. Last night, they attended a special 'Presentation Evening' to celebrate their time at the primary phase and to showcase some of the many talents they have developed during their time here. It was a wonderful evening and a fitting tribute to them all. Today, Years 1-6 gathered in the hall, along with some of our Year 6 families, and Father Daryl came to celebrate Mass in thanksgiving for our Year 6 children. They will certainly be greatly missed at the primary phase next year. However, they are very ready for this exciting next step – even if I'm not ready to bid them farewell!



Finally, I would like to thank every member of the primary phase team – they have been absolutely incredible this year! Every member of the primary phase team has gone above and beyond to ensure the very best for our children and I really cannot express my appreciation enough.

Sadly, we are saying a very fond farewell to a number of members of staff who are moving on to new adventures this year. We thank Mrs Dhoot, Miss Pepper, Miss Morris, Mrs Bales, Mrs Bunford and Mrs Shoebridge for their invaluable contributions to the primary phase which, for some, spanned some 9 years! We wish them all the very best and every happiness as they move on to new pursuits. We also wish Mr Burton the very best as he moves up to the Secondary Phase to join the R.E teaching team. Final good luck wishes go to Mrs Duske and Mrs Gray as they embark upon their teacher training year!

I wish you all a safe and happy summer break and really look forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Warmest wishes,



Alison Malone

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Primary diary dates, Autumn Term 2024

Monday 2nd September	Staff training day – School closed for children
Tuesday 3rd September	Staff training day – School closed for children
Wednesday 4th September	Classes Resume for Year 1 to Year 6
Thursday 5th September	Reception Group 1 Start
Monday 9th September	Reception Group 2 Starts
Wednesday 11th September	Reception Group 3 start
Friday 13th September	Sports Day (Postponed from the Summer Term)
Thursday 26th September	Individual Photographs
Monday 16th September	Flu Immunisations - All Year Groups

Caterlink Tasting Session

Caterlink held a food tasting session for parents in school this week. This was very well attended, with positive feedback being received. Thank you to all the Caterlink team for ensuring children have had a good dining experience this year.



Reception News



In Reception, we have been enjoying thinking about the summer and our new topic 'At the Seaside'. This is always perfect timing as the children can base their talk on their real- life experiences. Our Power of Reading text for the topic is 'Stanley's Stick' by Neal Layton. In this story, Stanley takes a trip to beach with his stick. His stick can be many incredible things. We have been imagining that our stick becomes all sorts of wonderful things and have used this for a stimulus for our writing. Our children have become such wonderful writers. Well done, Reception!



Carrying on from our Science based thinking in our 'Bog Baby' topic, we have been looking at sea creatures and thinking about their habitats- we now know that every creature has a home that is just right for it and can talk about why!

Art has also been so enjoyable through this topic. We have created seaside paintings, sculptures, and have even loved making sea creatures out of recycled materials based on the work of Angela Pozzi. We love to recycle and know how important this is to the world!

As part of the Geography strand of our topic, we have focused on where we live, with it's seaside location, and have looked at different features such as: groynes, cliffs, promenade, shore, the list goes on and on! We have also enjoyed a trip to the seaside and written our own posters to help people think about keeping the beach clean!

We have had a wonderful time consolidating all our maths skills; reinforcing our understanding of subitising and number bonds to 10 and counting in different number patterns such as 2s and 10s. In the class role play area, we have set up an Ice Cream Parlour and have enjoyed paying for delicious lollies with our 1p,2p,5p and 10p coins. We are so proud of the automaticity of answers in class when we enjoy our maths lessons.

In Spanish, we have also been learning how to order an ice cream with Mrs Coulson: *Un helado de fresa, por favor!* We just love our Spanish songs, thank you Mrs Coulson!

In RE, we have been introduced to a new word called 'Sacraments'. We know God is with us at all times, but He is also with us in extraordinary times such as our baptism. There was much excitement in the Reception Year Group as we headed to 'Big St Peter's' for our special feast of St. Peter and St. Paul' mass. Our coach ride was just fantastic! We were able to talk about places we know in the area and the ways we go to get home, and were able to experience a mass with children all the way up to Year 12!

Our exploration of God's wonderful world has continued day-by-day in Reception. Miss Zielinska has helped to nurture a real love of; new life, growth and change, as she has helped us plant so many wonderful things in our Outdoor Classroom. We have also been busy labelling each plant so everyone knows what is growing.

Every single child and parent deserve the most blissful holiday after an action- packed year. As a Reception Team, we could not be prouder of the achievements of the youngest children in our 'St Peter's Team'.

The children have been so fantastic this year at practising at home what we have been learning in school, so keep this up and maybe even write a little newsletter of your own about your summer adventures.

Notice everything you see: patterns in words, numbers, nature. Whatever it is, just keep your eyes open and talk about what you see.

Have a wonderfully, fun and restful summer!
With all our love, the Reception Team 😊 x



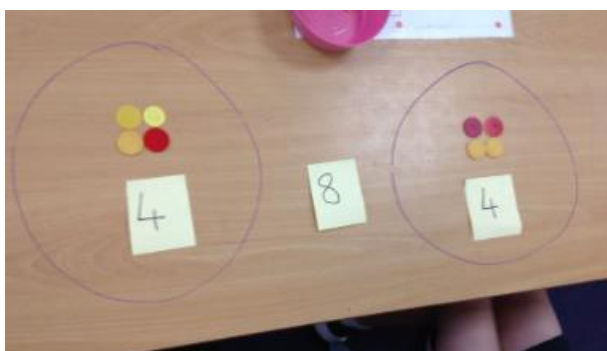
Year 1 News



What a busy half term we have had in Year 1! Our fantastic children showed so much enthusiasm for our new Power of Reading text 'The Magic Finger' by Roald Dahl and were superstars when using ambitious vocabulary in our descriptive writing. Towards the end of this half term, we have explored poetry in Year 1. The children have loved using their voices and bodies to make poems come alive and have loved performing these to each other in class. To finish our poetry exploration, we have been writing a class poem about our year in Year 1. The children have become masters at sharing their experiences with each other and it has been lovely to write this together.

In our RE this half term, we began by continuing to learn all about Pentecost and the promise that Jesus made to his disciples. We have considered the ways in which the disciples would've felt when Jesus' ascended to Heaven and when the Holy Spirit came to them. Following on from this, we moved on to our Sacraments topic in which we explored the topic of forgiveness. The children were very respectful during this and gave lots of insightful contributions to class discussion which is lovely to see.

In Maths this half term, we began focusing on fractions. The children loved using shape to explore a half and a quarter and equally enjoyed using this to identify a half or a quarter of a number. We then moved on to explore time. Within this, we did some physical activities and timed ourselves in a class challenge. The children particularly loved seeing how many star jumps or lunges they could do in 60 seconds. We have loved using the clocks to show o'clock and half past an hour and enjoyed playing 'What's the time Mr Wolf' as part of our learning. To finish our mathematical journey in Year 1, we have been focusing on money and have certainly enjoyed creating our own shops and prices for objects.



Linking to our Power of Reading text, we have been focusing on Birds in both our Science and Geography this term. We have explored the work of the RSPB and conducted our own survey to answer our big question 'Where is the best place to put a bird box or feeder in our school fields?'. Delving deeper into this, in Science, we have been designing and making both bird feeders and nests and have explored different materials to discover which are best for birds and why.

We just want to finish our final newsletter of the year by saying a huge thank you to both the children and the parents of Year 1. We have very much appreciated your support and kindness this year and hope you all have a lovely summer.

The Year 1 Team



Year 2 News

The children have been excited to take part in our last topic of the year, Fire! They have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Great Fire of London and have blown us away with how many facts they can recall! So many of the children have come into school with extra facts they have researched at home which shows their high engagement within this topic which we have enjoyed listening to!

We began our new topic by making bread and we linked this to where the Great Fire of London began (in Thomas Farriner's bakery, on Pudding Lane). Since then, the children have written information texts, character profiles, diary entries and poems - they have been incredibly busy! I think one of their favourite people to learn about, was Samuel Pepys and how he buried his cheese and wine when the fire began. They all found it fascinating that he then went back to retrieve these precious items!



During our Art lessons, the children have been busy looking at natural and manufactured materials. They have created their own Tudor houses out of clay so brilliantly. The children have continued to show how incredibly artistic they all are and I'm sure you'll agree.

In History, the children have looked at changes over time. They have learnt about how houses were made and why this made the fire spread more than it should have. We were even treated to a visit from the fire service who brought in the uniform that firefighters wear.

Thank you for your support with the children's 1666 costumes for their workshop with 'Treehouse Theatre Company'. The children thoroughly enjoyed the workshop and used all of their learning to support their acting.



During RE this half term, the children have been continuing to learn about Pentecost. The children have continued to look at the gifts of the Holy Spirit and have remembered what promise Jesus kept at Pentecost. More recently, the children have been learning about Sacraments. We have looked at many of these including Baptism, Eucharist and Matrimony. We acted out the Last Supper when we were learning about the Eucharist. The children have been amazing at explaining what happens during each of these Sacraments and have been able to link it to their own experiences. We would just like to thank the children for their OUTSTANDING responses in RE during their time in Year 2. It has been an absolute pleasure to teach such reflective and thoughtful learners.

Finally, we would just like to thank you for your continued support this year. The children have coped so well with the amount of writing they have done this year. They made us extremely proud!! We are so impressed with how the children have matured heading towards the end of the year and we will miss them all very much! Good Luck Year 2! We have no doubt you will continue to work hard in Year 3!

We hope you all have a lovely summer holidays and a well-deserved rest.

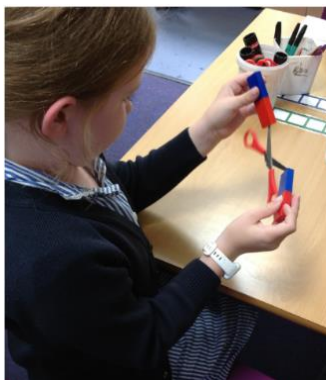
Miss Morris and Miss Cox 😊



Year 3 News

Wow! What an incredible last half term it has been. The children have thoroughly loved our, 'We are Explorers' topic. At the start of the topic, the children all came in dressed as explorers. We spent the morning den building and learnt how to build a camp fire. Using our story 'The Green Ship', we explored the interesting character 'Mrs Tredgar' in depth, using descriptive devices in our Literacy lessons to describe not only her outward appearance, but what kind of person she is based on evidence from the text. The children then went on to retell the dramatic storm that the children in the book find themselves in the centre of; the work that Year 3 produced was simply brilliant and really showcased the skills that they have been refining this year.

In science, we have been learning about magnets and forces. To start the topic, the children took part in activities that allowed them to experience the forces of 'push and pull'. Next, they carried about an investigation where they explored how toy cars travel differently down slopes depending on the amount of friction present. The children then had the opportunity to use magnets to find magnetic and non-magnetic materials and to see how different magnets have different strengths. After finding out how magnets work, the children made their own compass and learnt how compasses have helped explorers to navigate their way around the world.



In Religious Education, we celebrated Pentecost by learning about how the Holy Spirit transformed the disciples and St. Paul, and further discovered how they used their gifts. Excitingly, many children celebrated their 'First Holy Communion' and looked wonderful in their special outfits, creating special, unforgettable memories. This occasion was supported by our 'Sacraments' unit which helped to deepen the children's knowledge and understanding of the Sacrament of the Eucharist, focussing on what happens during Mass and the meaning behind what happens.



In Maths, the children continued working so hard to tell the time! We have looked at minutes to and past the hour and being able to tell these as precise as possible. The children have often had hands-on experience of 'showing the time' on their mini clocks and this has really helped to consolidate their understanding. As well as learning how to tell the time on analogue and digital clocks, we have also explored the wider concept of time through learning how many minutes are in an hour, hours in a day, days in a week and so on. The children have really enjoyed making links between different aspects of time and how they can apply their knowledge when thinking about their every-day lives. We have also been learning all about shape – including 2d and 3d.

A fantastic year in Year 3 has come and gone. The children have been absolutely incredible and we have had the best time with them in Year 3. We thank you all for your support over the year and for allowing us the wonderful privilege of teaching your children. Remember that over the summer break it's a good idea to keep your child's skills sharp by continuing to use Oxford Reading Buddy, Times Table Rock Stars and Mathletics so that in Year 4 they can hit the ground running! But most of all, we wish you a very happy summer filled with lots of special memories with family and friends.

The Year 3 Team

Year 4 News

Divorced, beheaded, died, divorced, beheaded, Year 4 have survived!

What a fantastic final topic the 'Terrible Tudors' has been, we have all learnt so much! It all started with a re-enactment of the Battle of Bosworth, the battle in which Henry Tudor defeated Richard III to become King. We then went on to research the Tudor family tree within our history lessons before learning about the different Tudor monarchs. This eventually led us to one of the most well-known English monarchs, King Henry VIII.

This fascinating monarch provided us with so much rich historical content and the children were intrigued to learn all about his six wives and their various fates. This also enabled them to write an information text about this marital monarch for their final Big Write and they certainly showcased just how much historical knowledge they had gained throughout our final topic as well as their literacy skills.



Another highlight during this topic was our Tudor themed day; the children really went all out with their costumes. Throughout the day, they enjoyed learning all about Tudor money in maths, including how it was made and the different denominations of coins made during this historical period. They also discovered that having tooth decay, particularly black teeth, was seen as a sign of someone's social standing. Furthermore, the children then went on to create their very own 'marzipan' fruits from fondant icing as this was a popular treat at the time. Finally, the children also uncovered the Babbington Plot to assassinate Queen Elizabeth I by working together to decipher coded messages.



As our topic drew to a close, we explored the end of the Tudor dynasty by looking at what happened when Elizabeth I died with no heirs and we discovered that the peaceful transfer of power to the Stuarts meant that England and Scotland were finally united. This then led to some interesting debates as to the most significant change brought about by the Tudors that are still relevant today!

Aside from all of our work on the Tudors, Year 4 have also been kept extremely busy in a number of other ways. This has included our visits to the secondary site for our retreat day, our whole-school mass, and school ethos day.

It has been such a privilege working with such a wonderful cohort of children this year and we feel truly blessed to have experienced so many eureka moments with them. We really appreciate all of the support you have given during the course of the year, we couldn't have done it without you. We will certainly miss them lots as they head into Year 5. Lastly, we wish you all a wonderful and restful summer holidays!

The Year 4 Teaching Team

Year 5 News

This half term, Year 5 have been busy learning all about London as part of our exciting topic, *Forces in Motion*. At the start of our topic, we enjoyed learning about the famous landmarks in our capital city by reading *A Walk in London*. We particularly enjoyed learning about the royal history of Buckingham Palace and the Tower of London. After researching these landmarks, we wrote our own story about the London Eye, replicating the writing style of Salvatore Rubbino, the author of the text. In particular, we focused on our use of direct speech and how this can contribute to the plot and pace of the story. We also learnt how to use commas effectively to help clarify information, particularly before a name or date. In addition to this, we were able to use our geographical skills to annotate a map of London, detailing where key London landmarks are located.

Year 5 have also enjoyed reading our Power of Reading text, *The London Eye Mystery* where they have worked as detectives to uncover the truth about Salim, a character who mysteriously went missing whilst on board the London Eye. Throughout the topic, we have made some creative and insightful predictions about his disappearance, adapting these as further revelations are made. As part of this, we explored the writing style and structure of a character description and witness statement, identifying the audience of and purpose for writing.

In Geography, our question this half term has been 'Why has the population of London grown over the last 500 years?' With their focus text 'The London Eye Mystery,' the children carried out an in-depth study of London. This included: its geographical characteristics and topographical features; development of the London underground and the London underground map; the position and significance of latitude, longitude, and the Prime/Greenwich Meridian. The children also thought about the possible reasons for the growth of London over the last 500 years describing the ways in which London has changed since AD43.



Throughout '*The London Eye Mystery*', references are made to popular artists, including Andy Warhol and M.C. Escher. In Art, we spent time researching the Pop Art movement, identifying its origins and unique style. In particular, they focused on the work of M.C. Escher who creates geometric artwork in the form of tessellations. After practicing with basic shapes, we were able to create our own London-themed tessellations.

In Science, we have been learning about different forces by planning enquiry questions and conducting our own investigations. In particular, we enjoyed exploring gravity and air resistance by using elastic bands and force meters to measure how gravity affects the mass of an object. We were able to identify the independent and dependent variable as well as those that need to be controlled in order to ensure the validity of our results. Children found average times having mastered the 'best of three' approach for recording results of parachutes. This reinforced the importance of repeating experiments if our results have abnormalities.

We are truly proud of the hard work, enthusiasm and motivation shown by all of Year 5 this year and the exceptional progress they have made. Year 5, we have loved teaching and learning with you – you have all been superstars!

Thank you for all your support this year. We hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable summer holidays.

The Year 5 team.

Year 6 News

Year 6 have had a fantastic final half term at the Primary Phase and have really made the most of all of the wonderful opportunities on offer!

This half term, Year 6 have been busy learning about William Shakespeare and his many plays and poems. Year 6 started their *Shakespeare Rocks* topic by focusing on the famous tragedy, *Romeo and Juliet*. In particular, the children enjoyed identifying the key themes of the story as well as unpicking the meaning of various words and phrases using their own Shakespearean dictionary. The children then rewrote this tragic tale using a range of descriptive language features as well as dialogue to advance the action. During class story time, the children have also enjoyed listening to some of Shakespeare's other famous plays, including *Macbeth* and *the Tempest*.



In history, Year 6 have been learning about Queen Elizabeth I who was monarch at the time of Shakespeare's birth. Using various portraits of Elizabeth I, Year 6 made inferences about her reign and the challenges society faced at the time, including the threat of plague and the Spanish Armada. This half-term, the children also spent time conducting their own research project, focusing on a key site in our local area – Corfe Castle. Using their knowledge of chronology, Year 6 were able to plot the significant events in the Castle's history from 1066 to the present day. In particular, the children focused on the Castle's transfer from royal to private ownership when Elizabeth I sold the lands to one of her court favourites, Sir Christopher Hatton.

As their time at the Primary Phase comes to a close, Year 6 have been busy preparing for their transition to secondary school where they have participated in a range of exciting events. At the beginning of this half-term, Year 6 enjoyed their Retreat Day at the Chapel where they reflected on their school journey so far and shared memories from their time at the Primary Phase. The children equally enjoyed spending time at the secondary site where they joined together in our whole-school mass and took part in our annual walk across Hengistbury Head as part of our school's ethos day.



A real highlight of this half-term was the Year 6 end of year production, *Go For Gold*, which told the story of ancient Olympic Games through various flashbacks. We are so proud of all the hard work the children put into learning their lines, practising their songs, complete with actions and solo performances, and delivering these with confidence. Whilst many children showcased their theatrical talents, the backstage crew worked tirelessly behind the scenes to create props and scenery and to organise the curtains, lighting and sound systems.



In the final week of term, Year 6 enjoyed their residential trip to Fairthorne Manor where they took part in a range of outdoor activities including kayaking, fire lighting and archery. Year 6 had a fantastic few days away, working collaboratively together and demonstrating their wonderful teamwork skills. Upon their return to school, the children enjoyed celebrating their many achievements together at the Year 6 Awards Evening where they were also treated to various musical renditions – this, along with their leavers mass on the last day of term, was truly the

perfect way for Year 6 to round off their time together at the Primary Phase!

Throughout the year, we have been so impressed by all of the hard work and enthusiasm shown by our Year 6 children and the outstanding progress made by all. We look forward to hearing of their many achievements as they move onto secondary school and wish them all the best for the next step in their educational journey.

As always, thank you to all parents/carers for your continued support this year. We hope you have a wonderful summer holiday.

The Year 6 Team.

Music News

This half term has been full to the brim with singing, playing and entertaining, both in and out of school. We are always so proud of the children when they represent St Peter's so beautifully at local musical festivals and events. Our first outing was with the Year 3 and 4 choir to the Bournemouth Music Festival at Christchurch Priory in June. They sang two songs, performing with 9 other choirs from local primary schools, being placed 2nd overall in the festival. A huge thanks as always to Ms Dawson for helping lead the choir so brilliantly.



Our next adventure was for the Whole School Mass at the Southbourne site, where the primary orchestra lead the worship with such confidence and enthusiasm. The orchestra, along with the Year 5 and 6 choir, and the samba band, then remained at Southbourne to rehearse for our first ever Cross-Phase concert that evening. The concert featured over 100 musicians from Years 3 – 13, representing all of the different amazing musical opportunities on offer across both sites. The children from the primary sang and played brilliantly, and were not in the slightest bit phased by having to play and sing for a whole day and evening!



The samba band made an appearance again at the Summer Fair, entertaining the crowds waiting to enter the hall, and the orchestras and choirs have been leading the worship for our two end of term masses at the primary site. An enormous thank you to Mr Motte for helping run both the orchestra and the samba band. If your son/daughter would like to be involved in any of our fabulous extra-curricular music activities in September, please ensure that you have signed up for the after-school groups before we finish for the summer (orchestra, samba band and guitar group) – choirs will remain at lunchtimes, free of charge, and no sign-up is required.

Those children who have been having instrumental/singing lessons this term will be bringing home their comments sheets from their teachers, to show you a snapshot of what they have been learning. All instrumental/singing lessons stop at the end of term, and anyone wishing to have lessons in September must reapply, using the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/gFapfsVJLk> No lessons are automatically carried forwards, all parents must reapply. Lessons are available to children from Years 3-6, as detailed in the application form found in the link.

We are aware that the instrumental/singing provision has significantly increased in cost for the next academic year – Mr Doyle is currently investigating avenues to try and mitigate these costs as the year progresses, so thank you for your feedback. If cost is a prohibitive factor, please may we draw your attention to the offer (for children in Year 4 and above) at the primary site for lessons on the flute, clarinet, trumpet and trombone – if your child is new to learning these instruments, we are able to offer lessons at a hugely reduced cost, with the help of additional Soundstorm funding. May we also signpost you to Soundstorm's Access Fund, which may also be able to help parents with costs - [Access Fund / Remissions - SoundStorm Music Education Agency \(soundstorm-music.org.uk\)](https://www.soundstorm-music.org.uk)

Sports News

Year 6 Swimming Gala:

On a Saturday night in late May, five children from St Peter's competed in the Bournemouth Swimming Gala at Littledown. Although we had a small team, the children applied themselves brilliantly and we finished with three medals within our team! This was an amazing achievement considering some schools had 20+ children taking part. A massive well done to Polina Korotkova who was victorious in the 100m Freestyle and 25m Butterfly events. Polina is an extremely dedicated, talented county Swimmer and she thoroughly deserves all her success. Linden Bongalos also received a medal for finishing a very credible 3rd place in the 100m Freestyle. He showed such resilience throughout his race and his reward was richly deserved.

Our two medallists were ably supported by Luche Chavez-Munoz, So-So-Marie Yao and Jake Chauvel who completed their races showing true levels of St Peter's grit and determination. It was so lovely to see our small team supporting one another in every race, making for an electric atmosphere on poolside! I was extremely proud of all the children who gave up their Saturday night to represent our school community. It was so heartening to see their teamwork, ability, and success!



Town Sports:

The annual Town Sport event at Bournemouth Athletics Club is always the highlight of the school sport calendar and this year, the athletes from St Peter's did not disappoint! Over twenty Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 children competed across a range of track and field events against fellow schools from the BCP area. In total, some 400 children from across the county were taking part in this exciting event. I am delighted to report that St Peter's now have two Town Champions, with Polina Korotkova (600m) and Zuzanna Ciosk-Gromadzinska (Long Jump) winning their respective events. Polina completed the 600m in an incredible time of 1m54s, just two seconds off the record that has stood for 10 years! Zuzanna jumped 3.5m in the Long Jump and comfortably took the victory by over 10cm. Both girls should be incredibly proud of their achievements, and it was an absolute pleasure to watch their success. They are both committed athletes and a joy to teach.

Our success didn't stop there, with a further six children achieving top 4 finishes – Josh Case (4th throw), Leander Hayes (2nd Long Jump), Emma Gerrard (4th Long Jump), Olly Monllor (4th 600m) Kasper Russ (3rd Long Jump) and Diya Shinu (3rd 75m). These children have achieved such excellent outcomes against children from across BCP and it was testament to their hard work and commitment.

The aspect that I am most proud of though, is the team spirit and camaraderie of all the children involved. All those that took part cheered one another through every race, supported their friends and fellow athletes, and were responsible for producing such a special day. A huge well done to each and every one of you who has taken part this year!



A very happy Polina after receiving her medal!

The scene is set at Bournemouth Athletics Club!



PE Focus:

This term we have welcomed Year 10 Sport Leaders from St Peters Secondary to work alongside our Year 4 children. The collaboration of our older and younger children is always a particular highlight of the PE curriculum and a real showcase of our all-through school ethos. The young leaders plan and execute their sessions with such enthusiasm and joy and our children are always so excited to be involved in the leader programme. I'm sure they sometimes also appreciate listening to a different voice providing them instructions! This term, the Year 10 children have delivered sessions in Athletics and have helped us get prepared for our (delayed!) Sports Day.



School Games GOLD Award:

We are delighted to announce that for the third year running, St Peter's Primary have been awarded the School Games Mark Gold Award for PE and school sport. The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success. We are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young athletes, volunteers and leaders who make our competitions possible. As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded again this year. After three consecutive years of Gold, we will have the chance to apply for the platinum award next year. Watch this space!

Forest School News

Wow! What a year for Forest School at St Peter's Primary Phase!

Amidst the rainiest year we have seen for Forest School, we have seen amazing things happen! More trees planted! The Forest School area has gone wild with long grass and flowers attracting more wildlife than ever before! A Forest School shed has appeared! And a huge wildlife pond is here! (More on the pond later.)

As we hoped for better weather for this final half term, we welcomed groups from RBC, 1SM and 2SC.

A nature scavenger hunt kicked off our first session with check sheets to tick off the natural items to be found in our field; this has been very popular with all groups throughout the year with the children excited to find the animal teddies hidden after they had collected all the other items.

We welcomed not one, but two special guests with expert knowledge who came and spoke to the children about their passions. Ollie, who is now in Year 8 hosted a bird themed session where he showed us his feather and egg collections and talked to us about all the different types of birds we might see around our field and the local area. We then went bird watching with our binoculars and picture sheets.



Janet, the librarian at the Secondary Phase came and talked to us about bees and bee-keeping, bringing a new hive, honeycomb and beeswax, along with honey for us all to try! We learned how essential bees are to life on earth due to them being chief pollinators for many of the plants in the world. Janet had an amazing pink bee-keeper's suit too which she wore for us! Year 6 and Year 3 also came out and benefited from her amazing presentation.



RBC enjoyed balancing on the super long slack line, making some fantastically imaginative clay goblins, building animal homes for our teddy friends and fun games with our giant parachute. All Reception pupils can look forward to more Forest School with even longer sessions in Years 1 and 2. Our 2SC and 1SM groups enjoyed a wide variety of activities including making their Forest School necklaces, den building, bug hunting, clay modelling, litter picking and tree rubbing. On the penultimate week they became outdoor chefs, making and eating chocolate chip cookies which we cooked on the campfire. The consensus was that they were delicious! They all also had a go at using 'flint and steel' firelighters to light pieces of cotton wool.



Our final week saw our usual celebration with marshmallows toasted on the campfire to go with our hot chocolates which are a regular feature of our weekly sessions. Zach from Caritas popped by to see the trees he had donated to us and he joined in. We then enjoyed many of our favourite activities and finished off with more parachute games. What fun!

The final week of term has given us the marvellous opportunity to run 'drop-in' sessions for all the pupils in Year 3, 4 and 5!

We began with Year 5 on a slightly soggy Monday, and then Year 4 on a much drier Tuesday. Both year groups enjoyed den building, slack-balancing, fire lighting and of course, hot chocolate! Children from 4HW even helped to do some planting in the pond with myself and Josh from the Parks Foundation, who popped by to share his pond knowledge!



As I write this both Year 3 classes have enjoyed Forest School on Wednesday with a variety of our favourite Forest School activities. Hopefully this is a taste of things to come with lots of opportunities for outdoor learning across the whole Primary phase- especially with our amazing new pond in place now as well!

Pond Update

St Peter's Primary Phase now has a brand-new wildlife pond! In the last newsletter we told of how the pond had been dug out and a fence had been put in around it. This half term work on the pond has accelerated. The liner has been put in, a sandy mixture of ballast has been put on top of the liner, and last week a tractor delivered a big container full

of water into the pond! Pond plants were ordered and delivered safely by Miss Nix (thank you!) and this week 4HW began planting in the pond! Everyone is so excited to see what wildlife will have made its home there by the time we return after the summer holidays; I assure you all that we won't be disappointed!

Thanks go to the PTA who have funded so much of this; to Miss Pritchard, Miss Malone, Miss Henwood and Mr Doyle who have all been so enthusiastic and supportive of this wonderful addition to our school; and a very special thank you to Josh and all of his colleagues at The Parks Foundation who have spent so much time and donated so much expertise and materials to make the pond a reality.

We all look forward to enjoying the benefits this pond will offer to our children in the new school year!

Enjoy a long, hot (hopefully) summer, and please try and fit in outdoor activities for your little ones; it is great for their mental health- and yours too!

Mr Motte- Forest School Leader
Mr Motte



Bikeability Summer Courses

BCP Council Summer Holiday Bikeability [Level 1](#) (Playground Cycling Skills – aged 7-10), [Level 2](#) (Residential Road Cycle Training (aged 9+) & [Level 3](#) (Advanced Cycle Training aged 11+)

BCP Council are offering some limited summer holiday courses for those children who haven't been able to access them through their school. We still have some spaces on our [Level 1](#), [Level 2](#) and [Level 3](#) courses. These courses are being held at our [Kings Park Cycle Centre](#) and [Slades Park Pavilion](#) locations. Please see our [booking system](#) for full details of the courses and to book a place.

Places are limited, so it's recommended that you [book](#) asap if you want a place for your child. We will also be scheduling some more [Learn to Ride](#) courses for the holidays as these are currently all booked up, so if you wish to be placed on the waiting list, please email bikeability@bcpcouncil.gov.uk with the subject title 'Learn to Ride Waiting List'. You will then be notified when further courses are scheduled.

Summer Activities run by BCP Council – Please Google the below for more information

BCP Mumbler – Things to do in BCP

Summer Reading Challenge – BCP Libraries

Libraries – What's on (bcpcouncil.gov.uk)

Primary Times: Family activities and events for Primary school children