

Keynotes

June to July 2024



Dear Parents and Carers

As we look forward to a well-deserved break, I continue to be impressed by the level of engagement and enthusiasm for all the summer term activities that your children have been involved in.

As I write this introduction, the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award Team have just returned from five days in the Brecon Beacons. We had 58 Year 12 students completing their practice expedition and 26 Year 13 students tackled their assessed expedition. They were accompanied by a brilliant team of teachers and external mountain leaders who supervised them navigating their way around the mountains, independently camping, cooking and keeping themselves safe whilst working effectively as a team. I was fortunate a few weeks ago to accompany some of our young people to Buckingham Palace who completed their expedition and the other four sections of the Gold last year. It was a wonderful day out and a memorable way to have their achievements recognised.

As you will see in this edition, there are many other activities showcased and a highlight of this half term is always the twin 'best days for the year' which are Sports Day and Feast Day. Good weather on both days saw opportunities for some records being broken at the Spectrum and much hilarity at the Teacher versus Sixth Form Tug of War.

Thank you to Fr Peter from Dorking who celebrated our Feast Day Mass and we also had the opportunity on that day to welcome Fr Eddie to St Peter's. Fr Eddie is a newly ordained priest who will be joining the Clergy Team in the Catholic Parish of Guildford. I am sure you will join me in welcoming Fr Eddie and look forward to him becoming part of the St Peter's community.

As we look forward to the summer holiday, it is wonderful to see a record number of our students in the Sixth Form

heading to Lourdes to join the annual Arundel and Brighton Pilgrimage. Most of them will be part of the 'Purple Shirts' group who have a joint remit for supporting the Masses and Liturgies but also supporting the pilgrims or VIPs as they are known. I will ask them to write and communicate their experiences in the next edition, as we are hoping to increase the numbers going on future pilgrimages. Having been to Lourdes on a number of occasions, I can assure you that it is one of the most life and faith affirming experiences I have had. As Christians, we are called to serve and we try to live out the mission and be Christ to all every day. Having the opportunity to deliver on that mission

in such a beautiful way is one that I would recommend for your children wholeheartedly.

As we look to the future, the new academic year and our new Year 7 students, it really does reinvigorate us to give our very best every year. I am so proud of every one of your children, for all they have achieved this year and everything they will go on to achieve in the future. As

parents and leaders, we must make some brave decisions in the best interest of our children we love and care for and sometimes they are not universally popular. Since communicating our intentions to change our mobile phone policy, we have received a small amount of 'robust' feedback but a significantly larger amount of very positive feedback. Thank you for both. You will have received a letter from me that would have covered some of the questions that have arisen alongside the annual reminders about how you can support your child and the school to ensure their day runs smoothly. Thank you as always for your continued support.

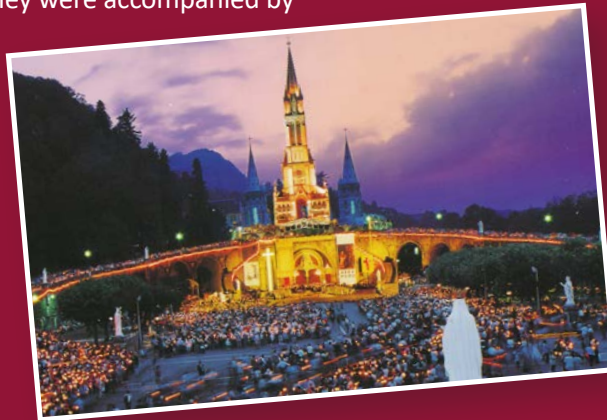
I wish you all a fantastic summer break and look forward to working with you next year.

God bless.

Yours sincerely



Mr T Miller, Headteacher





What a year for fundraising!

Locally we supported both North Guildford and Cranleigh Foodbanks across three collections, each time catching the foodbank at a critical moment:

Message from North Guildford Foodbank
"Thank you so much for the wonderful donation that you dropped off this afternoon from St Peter's. Please pass on our thanks to all the students and parents who donated so generously. Christmas is always our busiest time of year and stocks had been decimated by the end of last week - so we were particularly grateful for all that came in today."

Year 12 had an exceptional year, running

film night, soup lunch and serving post-Mass refreshments at St Pius X in aid of the Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage. In addition to supporting St Peter's students, this helped elderly and disabled pilgrims elsewhere in the Diocese who otherwise do not have the means to make the trip – for some the only holiday they can access due to infirmity.

Furthermore, they raised a record amount in Rag Week for the local "Matrix" trust, who support young people through schools and community work in Guildford. School was a hive of activity in the run-up to Feast Day with bake sales and car washes, which

bolstered the incredible generosity of students' family and friends.

The Student Action and Leadership Team organised voting for a variety of causes, which quickly demonstrated a clear desire throughout the community to take action on the Middle East crisis.

Feast Day (Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal):	£6550
Feast Day (Samaritans):	£2450
Lourdes:	£5000
Rag Week: (Matrix Trust):	£3000
Sudan Appeal:	£260

Total: £17260





Year 7 Pinata Club

Year 7 girls recently dived into a whirlwind of colours and laughter in some lively piñata-making workshops led by Mrs Mortimer. With a burst of vibrant papers, a dab of glue and a splash of imagination, they transformed plain materials into stunning works of art that were nothing short of spectacular.

As the crafting commenced, the room quickly filled with the joyful sounds of chatter, laughter, and the occasional "Oops, I need more glue!" From sharing tips on how to get the perfect paper

fringe to admiring each other's unique designs, the camaraderie was palpable. The piñata became a masterpiece, reflecting the individuality and creativity of its maker.

Mrs Mortimer guided the girls with her expert advice and infectious enthusiasm. Her encouragement and fun tips kept the energy high and the creativity flowing. "Remember, there's no right or wrong way to make a piñata. It's all about having fun and letting your creativity shine!" she exclaimed.



This delightful event was not just about crafting piñatas; it was a celebration of creativity, friendship and the joy of working together. The girls left with not only beautiful piñatas but also with hearts full of happy memories and big, beaming smiles.

Here's to more fun-filled, crafty adventures with Mrs Mortimer and the wonderfully creative Year 7 girls.

Drugline Talk

During Year 12s Relationships and Sex Education Day (RSE), we were lucky enough to have an external speaker come in to talk to us about the harmful effects of drugs. Steven was an energetic and engaging speaker and used his personal stories to create a harrowing and informative experience.

The first part of the talk involved Steven telling us about the consequences of different drugs, explaining how easily it can ruin lives. All the stories were personal to Steven, since he works closely with addicts to get them back on track, it shocked us how quickly an addiction can start and how quickly it can take over lives. Whilst the stories were upsetting, it nonetheless reinforced the idea that it is never too



late and something can always be done. However, Steven made it clear that the problem can be solved completely if we refrain from taking drugs in the first place.

The second part of the talk was a workshop, where we were put in groups and had a scenario about a drug user living in East London. We had to decide where he was today and most of the groups decided he was dead. Conversely, Steven revealed that he had helped the drug user and they had even started working together, when he

suddenly disappeared without a trace. This highlighted to us that drugs have an ubiquitous presence and influence which is why it is so important to avoid them at all costs.

Steven wrote a letter after the session to say that we "ALL responded in such a positive way and it made the workshops even more enjoyable for me" and that we were all "respectful towards each other which says so much to me about all of you as individuals."

Overall, it was a powerful talk and will certainly stay with us as we continue into Year 13 and even university.

The speaker was Steven Mervish from Drugline. **Written by Ellie 12JP**

<http://drugline-education.com/>

Citizenship Focus: Mental Health – Be MAGIC



This year, we have focussed on developing positive mental wellbeing and using “Be MAGIC” which coincides with the NHS Five Steps to Mental Wellbeing. We have been encouraging our young people to:

Be MINDFUL – it is important to be present and to have moments when we stop to become fully aware of our thoughts, our body and the world around us. Mindfulness can come in many forms from body scans and guided meditations (there are lots of excellent ones on YouTube), taking a walk in nature and/or listening to our favourite tracks but being fully present with these.

Be ACTIVE – it is not only great for your physical health and fitness, evidence also shows that it can improve your mental wellbeing by raising your self-esteem, helping you to set goals or challenges and achieve them and by causing chemical changes in your brain which can help to positively change your mood.

Be GENEROUS – this has been our termly focus and we have explored the evidence base behind the positive outcomes of generosity. We have looked at the evidence which shows that being generous can reduce stress, anxiety and depression. It can also improve self-esteem and inter-personal relationships

and help to build up feelings of positive mental wellbeing.

Be INTERESTED – taking up extra-curricular activities or learning something new alone (not homework that they have to do!) can boost self-confidence and raise self-esteem; it can lead to better connections with others and give a sense of purpose to us.

Be CONNECTED – it is vital to have good relationships and relationships that are not screen-based only.

Questions for discussion:

Be MINDFUL – which of the following mindful activities would be beneficial to try on a regular basis:

- Mindful breathing e.g. square breathing, 5-4-3-2-1, wave breathing, finger breathing
- Body scan meditation
- Guided meditation
- Walks in nature
- Mindful colouring

Be ACTIVE – over summer, how will you continue to be active on a regular basis?

Be GENEROUS – what acts of generosity could you do over the summer? For example, cooking dinner for the family,

writing notes to relatives, donating to charity shops.

Be INTERESTED – is there something you could learn over summer? A new skill in a favourite hobby or something totally new?

Be CONNECTED – how will you stay connected to friends and family over summer?

Resources:

A family agreement for summer: you can build in Be MAGIC to screentime agreements e.g. 30 mins of exercise before screens.

- <https://www.childnet.com/resources/family-agreement/>
- <https://www.nhs.uk/mental-health/self-help/guides-tools-and-activities/five-steps-to-mental-wellbeing/>
- <https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/supporting-others/childrens-mental-health/#:~:text=Build%20positive%20routines,relaxation%20sleep%20tips%20for%20children.>
- <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/child-health-development/promoting-mental-health-wellbeing>

<https://www.verywellmind.com/body-scan-meditation-why-and-how-3144782>

Pre-election Visit by Angela Richardson

Angela Richardson, our local MP for Guildford, recently had the opportunity to engage with Year 12 students, offering them a unique insight into the world of politics and public service. She began the discussion by recounting her initial, unconventional steps into the UK's political sphere from the world of finance in New Zealand, providing the reasons she had for leaving the career she once had, in favour of an unfamiliar, and potentially volatile, environment.

It was particularly interesting to hear about the process of becoming a politician, which included active participation in grassroots organisations within communities, such as local councils. Furthermore, her account of the rigorous selection process to become an MP candidate and the subsequent challenges of competing in a marginal seat (winning by 3337 seats in the 2019 election) highlighted the hard work required to achieve a successful career in politics.

Following on from this, Angela Richardson transitioned to addressing the Conservative Party's future policies, on both a national and local level. In particular, she aimed to provide answers to questions given by the students, such as whether the controversial Safety of Rwanda Bill is an ethically viable method of tackling unauthorised entry into the UK. Additionally, following questions about the proposed introduction of National Service, Mrs Richardson attempted to clear up any misconceptions about the scheme



itself and the reality of the 12-month military programme that will become available if the Conservatives win the July election.

Finally, the discussion ended on Angela's thoughts whether rival parties such as Reform UK will have an impact on splitting the traditionally Conservative vote, in light of Nigel Farage's announcement to stand in the next election. She argued that despite a recent, rapid rise in favour of Reform UK in the polls, their lack of distinct policies beyond the topic of immigration will mean that they will fail to have a considerable long term impact on the state of British politics.

In conclusion, irrespective of whether students agreed with general Conservative views, developing an understanding of Mrs Richardson's reasoning in policymaking was an incredibly valuable experience for everyone involved. Not only did the session demystify what it takes to become a politician, but it also provided an outlet for students to voice their concerns in the run up to the next election. **Jakub 12KO**

Year 12 Food

This week, our Year 12 Food Science and Nutrition students spent two lessons crafting their own drip cakes for a special occasion. They started the design stage by creating a mood board of presentation and style ideas and then started baking. Emma made a chocolate sponge whilst Mia made a vanilla sponge. They each made two six-inch cakes which they cut in half using a cake cutting wire to make four layers in total. On day two, they whipped up their silky butter icing, sandwiched their layers together and gently applied a crumb coat on their cake.

Two more layers of butter icing were added to encase the cake, using new tools such as a step palette knife, cake smoother and piping bags.

Next onto the fun part – the drip and toppings! Emma made a chocolate drip and Mia made a white chocolate drip which she coloured pink to match her theme. They delicately spread the drip on top and finished the cake off with decorations such as piping, gold leaf, edible glitter and doughnuts made by Miss Hayward.

We are super impressed by their cakes which they spent a long time lovingly crafting and finishing for their special occasions. Bake off here we come!



Success Outside the Classroom

Renee 10BA In July, Renee was one of 6000 young musicians who joined the Music for Youth National Festival 2024 in Birmingham. Renee remarked, "It was an amazing experience and I loved performing with all my teammates in the Surrey County Percussion Ensemble."



Eliza 8KO Since the age of six, Eliza started playing hockey for Guildford Hockey Club and has continued her passion for playing since then. She was selected by her club to play in the South Saxons Tournament last weekend and had the opportunity to be captain for the semi-final. Overall, it was a fantastic experience and opportunity. Eliza will be continuing to play for her club in September after a few weeks of well-earned rest!





Year II Prom

The Year 11 Prom was held at Horsley Towers on Thursday 4th July and 200 of St Peter's finest arrived in style, looking glamorous and very grown up! The students enjoyed the beautiful hotel and the garden setting; several said it felt like they were at a wedding party.

They ripped up the dance floor and showed all their best moves and the evening was a joyful celebration of all they have achieved in their five years at the school. Balloons, bubbles, cakes, a photo booth and lovely buffet food had everyone in the party mood on what luckily turned out to be a sunny and dry evening.

The Year 11 Form Tutors and Mrs Hegg, their Head of Year, were so glad to have the opportunity to relax and chat with the students they have got to know so well.

Lots of students are progressing to our Sixth Form, but for those who are moving on to pastures new, it was a chance to say goodbye and wish them luck for the future. What a great way to celebrate the end of our time with this very special cohort.



Catering Update

This term, the school has enjoyed two theme days.

Firstly, we celebrated National Fish and Chip Day and students were able to choose from a wide range of traditional favourites including fish and chips, battered sausage, onion rings, gherkins and even some homemade pickled eggs. The counters were all themed as if the school was at the seaside for lunch!



Last week, our second theme was based around the upcoming Olympics with all the flags on show. A wide range of dishes from different countries were available, for example, Mushroom Zapiekanka* from Poland, Southern style chicken and waffle from USA and Argentina Fuggazetta** was also very popular.

Below is the plan for the autumn term with lots more tasty food on offer!

* A zapiekanka is a toasted open-face sandwich made of a sliced baguette or other long roll of bread, topped with sautéed white mushrooms, cheese and



sometimes other ingredients such as ham. Served hot with ketchup, it has been a popular street food in Poland since the 1970s.

** Fuggazetta is a variation of the popular Argentinian treat called fugazza, which is an onion-topped pizza that is very similar to Italian-style focaccia. Fuggazetta is a double-crust version of fugazza, stuffed with cheese and topped with the same sweet onions.



AWESOME THEME DAYS COMING UP

AUTUMN TERM

SPRING TERM

SEPTEMBER

JANUARY



OCTOBER

FEBRUARY



NOVEMBER

MARCH



DECEMBER

APRIL



Exciting Author Visit: Ally Sherrick Inspires Year 7 Students



On Tuesday 18th June, we were thrilled to welcome back local children's author, Ally Sherrick to St Peter's. Known for her captivating historical fiction novels, Ally spent the morning sharing her journey into becoming a writer; her historical inspirations, alongside how her novels move from ideas in her notebook to published pieces of literature.

Discovering the Writer's Journey - Ally began her visit with an engaging and interactive discussion about her journey as a writer. She shared with students her first published piece of work, which was a beautiful poem, written by her as a child about bonfire night. Throughout the morning, she shared how she overcame several challenges, but found a true passion for reading and storytelling, through believing in herself and support of family. Ally discussed she how overcame obstacles to write inspiring texts, steeped in history, ranging from heroines fighting injustices during the Roman Empire, to the brave and courageous protagonists protecting the treasures of British History during



locations, she is able to create new plots and characters, which are loved by so many.

The students were delighted to share with her their passion for history and key moments in time they would choose to write about, including dramatic events in our scientific history and the world of Tudor England. By delving into the past, Ally brought both key moments in history and lesser-known periods to life, making history accessible and exciting for our Year 7s.

World War Two. Throughout the workshop, she emphasised the importance of perseverance and creativity: key elements

Unveiling The Buried Crown - Ally Sherrick's latest book, The Buried Crown, took centre stage. She gave a captivating overview and reading of the novel, which is set during World War Two. The story follows the adventures of George, a young evacuee and Kitty, a refugee from Nazi Germany, as they uncover a buried Anglo-Saxon crown and become entangled in a thrilling quest to protect it from falling into the wrong hands.

The Power of History in Storytelling - One of the highlights of the visit was when Ally discussed the role of history in her novels and how she is inspired by locations around the world. She explained how historical events and figures, serve as rich sources of inspiration for her stories and that through immersing herself in historical

Year 7 thoroughly enjoyed the morning and opportunity to explore the power of writing and history; we look forward to hearing about their historical and creative passions further.



Year 13 Prom

It was a pleasure hosting this year's Year 13 Prom at Gorse Hill Hotel. It was a fantastic way to celebrate their time together at St Peter's after a tough few months of revision and exams. A huge thank you to Mrs Lim, Mrs Warren and Mrs Kemp for all their hard work in decorating and preparing the venue - the table decorations were beautiful!

I am so proud of the Year 13s and hope they are having an amazing summer holiday - it is very well deserved!



Spanish Exchange Students Visit England

In June, St Peter's Years 11 and 12 Spanish students had the pleasure of hosting a group of Spanish exchange students from our partner school in Granada, Juan XXIII, who embarked on an enriching cultural journey across England. The visit was a wonderful opportunity for both the visitors and our students to forge deeper connections and share experiences.

The trip kicked off with a visit to the historic Hampton Court Palace. The students marvelled at the grandeur of Henry VIII's residence, exploring its opulent rooms and picturesque gardens. The intrigue of Tudor history came alive as they wandered through the palace, appreciating its architecture and the stories it held. Their journey continued in London, where the group

took in breathtaking views from the London Eye, with landmarks including Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament standing out against the horizon. This was followed by a serene cruise along the River Thames, offering a unique perspective of London's iconic sights, including Tower Bridge and the Tower of London.

Next, we all headed to the seaside city of Brighton. Known for its vibrant atmosphere and iconic pier, Brighton offered a perfect blend of fun and relaxation. We all enjoyed exploring the narrow, winding streets of The Lanes, filled with unique shops, cafes and experienced the thrill of the amusement rides on the pier and of course, we had to eat the famous fish and chips!

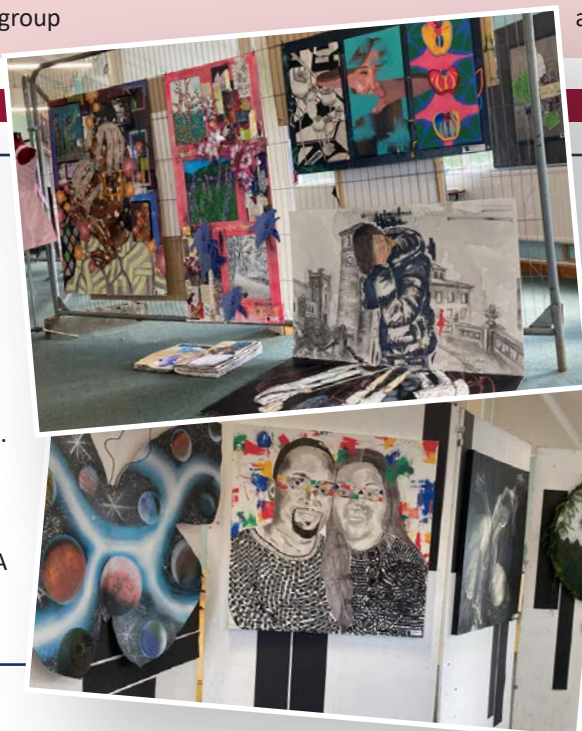
Throughout the visit, the Spanish students were warmly welcomed by St Peter's parents and students, whose hospitality made the trip even more memorable. Their kindness and efforts to make the visitors feel at home truly embodied the spirit of cultural exchange.

The weather was exceptionally kind with sunshine gracing most of their outings, adding a perfect touch to the overall experience. The trip was a testament to the success of the exchange programme, fostering international friendships and cultural understanding run by Mrs Mortimer and Mrs Garcia for the last eight years. Your support and generosity have made us proud and provided our guests with an unforgettable experience and lasting memories.

Stunning Art Exhibition

It's that time of year again! The St Peter's Art Exhibition took place on Thursday 11th July in the Exam Hall and we would like to thank everyone who attended.

This year we displayed work produced by every Year 11 and A Level Art student, alongside the A Level Photography. Textiles were also represented and for the



first time Artventure Trust curated an exhibition of work produced by the clients who attend on a regular basis.

We are incredibly grateful to all the students who have worked so hard this year to make the department such a busy place. You really make our jobs so special! We look forward to seeing Year 11 when they return to the Sixth Form and good luck to our Year 13s as they embark on the next stage of their journey.



Jamie Oliver's Pasta Workshop

On Monday 8th July, several Year 7s and 8s took part in a Jamie Oliver's Pasta Workshop. Each student made their own pasta from scratch, a 'no cook' tomato sauce and a simple rocket salad as an accompaniment. For many, it was their first time making pasta, one that is a GCSE skill here at St Peter's.

All the students did incredibly well in keeping up with the tutor on Zoom and making sure their pasta was rolled out thin enough, without the aid of a pasta machine!

At the end of the session, everyone presented their hard work and proudly posed for a photo ready to take it home and enjoy for dinner. It was a great session to be involved in and the students now have the skills to make the dishes at home and practise new recipes! Well done to everyone who took part.





Gold DofE Expedition

After a four-hour drive, we arrived at the beautiful location for our Gold DofE Expedition base camp: Llangors Lake in South Wales, Bannau Brycheiniog (The Brecon Beacons). It was late afternoon on Wednesday 10th July and immediately our students set about putting up tents and cooking themselves dinner. From the outset, our amazing students stepped up to the mark demonstrating exceptional campcraft skills and culinary skills.

It was an early start on the Thursday morning for the Year 13s on their assessed expedition. Leaving base camp at 8am to be shuttled out by minibus to their chosen starting destinations spread out across the national park.

The Year 12s had a more leisurely time that morning enjoying a lie in and some mid-morning team building games. The team building was hosted by Mr Bell whose years of outdoor education experience soon had the students tangled in knots and stuck on shrinking islands.

Then proceeded four days of navigation, walking and camping across the national park of Bannau Brycheiniog with elevation of up to 800m in places and carrying a full expedition rucksack with everything they need to survive on their backs. I was chatting to a couple of our Year 13 students, who I am sure

will not mind me saying that a week prior to departure, came to speak to me expressing that they were nervous and did not think they could do it. When I spoke to them afterwards on Sunday evening, they had experienced life changing memories up on the Welsh mountains. They had realised how strong they were and said to me 'there is something very simple about getting up every morning and walking to a destination without distraction or our phones and the complication of life, I think I actually want to come out and walk in my free time.'

The weather this year was kind in comparison to last year's challenging 80mph winds and biblical rainstorms. The students were treated to exceptional views across some of the most spectacular countryside Wales has to offer. It is wonderful to hear our external DofE assessors tell me that our students are some of the most polite and considerate students they have ever worked with and that they love working with St Peter's - they are already looking forward to next year's expedition!

This expedition, and all of our expeditions, would not happen if it was not for the support of volunteering teaching staff giving up their own personal time. Special thanks to Mr Oldfield, Mrs Cooper, Miss Resa, Mr Bell, Miss Byrne, Mr Paterson-Spir and Mr

Bates. Special thanks to our external DofE assessor team John, Nick, Carmine and Steve.

Special recognition must be given to Mr Oldfield who is retiring this summer after ten years of establishing Gold DofE here at St Peter's. He will be greatly missed. I have been fortunate to have been mentored by him this year and I am hopeful we will continue his passion and inspiration. He is away to Spain in his campervan, but I am hopeful we will bump into him in the Welsh valleys in the future.

Of course, none of this would be allowed to happen if it was not for the support of our School Leadership Team in seeing the value of our DofE Wilderness Programme for our students. Thank you to all the teaching staff who covered our lessons whilst we were away and our amazing Finance, Admin and Site teams who help us with the logistics of planning and organising a trip. Thanks must also be given to the parents and carers for supporting our students through this, both financially and emotionally.

Our Gold DofE students should be incredibly proud of their achievements this week. What a wonderful way to end the year and start the summer.

From everyone on the St Peter's DofE Team. Gwyliau hapus

Exmoor Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

In late June, many of our Year 11 students embarked on an unforgettable adventure - the Silver Duke of Edinburgh award expedition in the stunning Exmoor National Park. Congratulations Year 11! Your journey was more than a trek; it was a testament to your character and determination. This poem by Team 7 (Charlotte, Elspeth, Rebecca and Tom) captures the essence of their experience.

Let's celebrate their creativity and resilience:

'On a misty, misty morning, birds chirping, people snoring, four people packed and ready went on their way, hills steady. Checkpoint one was very far and then we made it said 'hurrah!'



Checkpoint two was a country gate, when we saw it, it was fate. Day two, we're feeling strong, having no arguments and getting along. Many hills we had to climb, from north to south, following signs. Day three and we're feeling tired. Along the moors walking miles, up the hills and going far until we reach the checkpoints and saw the car. We're near the end and feeling happy, now we can't wait for our Maccies!'

Year 11s, may your adventures continue and foster your love for the outdoors. Looking forward to seeing some of you on our Gold DofE expedition in Years 12 and 13.



Year 7 Election Day

The 2024 Election Day was one for the history books. It was an exciting opportunity to dive deeper into our growing knowledge of politics. There were various roles that benefited the campaign, for example speech writing, poster makers, jingle writers to list a few. The whole day was spent with everyone doing their utmost for their forms' campaign. Every single child was involved, which led to a tough decision at the end of the day for the judges. The party that won the best campaign was the Peace Party (7JPII) but overall, the voting led to the Green Party (7KO) to take the victory.



Our esteemed judges sat at the front of the theatre and considered all our campaigns, they gave a prize for each category e.g. best speech, best poster. A candidate was chosen from each form group for their public speaking abilities and their confidence to stand up in front of a crowd and fight for their party's beliefs. At the end of the day, everyone brought home a fresh look at politics and how they function broadening our knowledge.

We thank all the teachers and students who made this election day possible, it truly impacted everyone and their understanding of parliament.

Following the hard-fought campaign, we are delighted to announce that the MP that was voted for, by the constituency of St Peter's Catholic School, was Alexander 7KO on behalf of the Green Party! Well done to the Greens and to Alexander for leading an amazing campaign.

By Martha and Sofia, 7JPII, (winners of the Speech Writers Competition)

School Trips...

Year 8 Trip to Queen Elizabeth Country Park



Across two days in mid-June, over 200 Year 8 students visited Queen Elizabeth Country Park (QECP) for their geography field trip.

methods. Students surveyed the visitor amenities, carried out environmental quality surveys, annotated photographs, drew a field sketch and completed a questionnaire.



Students investigated the question: What impact do visitors have on QECP? After learning about the importance of UK National Parks (QECP is within the South Downs National Park), students set about investigating their key question using a range of primary data collection

Back in the classroom, students presented their environmental quality survey results using radar graphs and created word clouds to show the results of their questionnaires. Practising investigation skills at Key Stage 3 is an important preparation for GCSE and A Level Geography.

Year 10 Field Trip to Stratford

At the beginning of June, Year 10 GCSE Geography students went on their first field trip to Stratford in East London. The students used a range of data collection techniques to compare how the quality of the environment varied between areas which were regenerated during and after the 2012 Olympic Games, and those which are currently being modernised.



One of our major case studies is urban change in London and students also need to cite an example of a regeneration scheme, therefore, visiting the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park was very beneficial.



Back in the classroom, students presented, analysed and evaluated their data. Next term, in Year 11, the geographers will be heading to West Wittering to complete their physical geography fieldwork.

School Trips...



A Level Field Trip

In July, the A Level Geographers spent four days in Guildford, London and Kent investigating a range of physical and human topics. Fieldwork is a compulsory requirement of the A Level course; it is also an opportunity to build relationships and enjoy being in the field.

Students completed a range of investigations to prepare them for

planning their NEAs. They will be carrying out their own research this summer and will return to process, present and analyse their data in the autumn term.

Here are some student comments:
It was very helpful as it allowed me to figure out which data techniques are useful for my investigation and introduced me to building decay surveys and participation observations - Jovana

It was a great chance to have conversations with people about our NEA and to feel closer to others in our class - Emma

It helped me understand the right data collection method for my NEA - Toby

The trip was very fun. I really enjoyed seeing the regeneration of Stratford as well as the beaches in and around Margate - Adam



Year 9 Malaga Trip

From 8th to 12th June, our Year 9 students embarked on an unforgettable language trip to Málaga. The trip was packed with exciting activities and cultural experiences. We visited the Picasso Museum where we admired amazing artworks and enjoyed relaxing days at the beach. Shopping in the vibrant local markets gave us a chance to practice our Spanish in real life situations. We also had the opportunity to explore some of Spain's most iconic landmarks including the stunning Mosque Cathedral of Cordoba and the historic Alcazaba. Additionally, we took Spanish lessons and visited the Málaga Museum, enriching our understanding of Spanish culture and history. This trip

was a perfect blend of education and adventure, leaving us with wonderful memories and improved language skills.

Beyond learning, the students enjoyed beach activities such as volleyball and playing football, fostering camaraderie and creating lasting memories. The success of this trip was thanks to the careful planning and dedicated efforts of Miss Leon, Mrs Mortimer and Mr Ebbs who ensured it was an enjoyable and educational experience.

This Málaga trip was a unique opportunity for Year 9 students to improve their Spanish, explore rich cultural sites and bond with peers, making it an unforgettable experience for all.



PE Round Up

The Year 8 girls played in the Rounders District Tournament and came in third place. Throughout the games, all the girls showed great communication, teamwork and grew in confidence as well. A big shout out to Michaela in Year 7 for playing up a year group.

The Year 7 girls played in a rounders tournament and ended up coming first! All girls showed great teamwork and their enthusiasm was through the roof. Their understanding of rules was excellent and overall, it was a wonderful afternoon. Well done girls!

Mr Price and Mr Richards have enjoyed a successful cricket season, with the Year 8 boys beating Guildford County by 25 runs. The Year 9 and



10 boys followed this by beating Guildford County by 9 wickets.

The girls have also had good results with Years 7 and 8 beating Rodborough School by 20 runs, but unfortunately the Year 9 and 10 girls lost narrowly to

Glebelands School but played very well throughout. A big thank you to Paul Hundley who has run the girls' cricket training this summer term and to Matt Whitfield for running the Volleyball Club on a Thursday.



Sports Day 2024

In June, we held our annual Sports Day at Guildford Spectrum with perfect weather conditions! As usual, it was a fantastic day with all the students displaying resilience and teamwork skills, and cheering on their classmates in various track and field events. The house winners in each year group are below:

- Year 7 - FR
- Year 8 - KO
- Year 9 - TE
- Year 10 - FR
- Year 12 - KO

The overall winners of Sports Day were KO!





SUPPORT ST PETER'S PTA

The Parent Teacher Association (PTA) is a vital part of the school community, who work tirelessly throughout the year fundraising for the benefit of St Peter's Catholic School.

There are many simple ways in which **YOU** can support the PTA:

1 VOLUNTEERING

You can join the team and help at one of the events organised by the PTA during the year, like the Christmas Fayre or the Quiz Night. Email us at PTA@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk to get involved.

2 COMMUNITY LOTTERY

If you buy a ticket on the Guildford Community Lottery website via the St Peter's page, the PTA will receive 50% of the money spent as a donation. One ticket is £1 per week and every ticket has a 1 in 50 chance to win a prize each week, with a top prize of £25,000! If you wish to try your luck and also support our great cause, please set up a direct debit on the link below.

www.guilfordlottery.org/support/st-peters-catholic-school-pta

3 MATCHED FUNDING

Many large companies throughout the UK offer employees the chance to boost their volunteering efforts by "matching" the money raised in the fundraising event. If you work for one of these companies, you could potentially raise hundreds of pounds with very little effort. Please ask your employer and contact us for further support.

4 EASYFUNDRAISING

Easyfundraising partners with over 7,000 brands who will donate part of what you spend to St Peter's. It won't cost you any extra. The cost is covered by the brand. It is simple to use and it is free, so click on the link below to find out how you can sign up.

www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stpetersguildford/



If you would like to know more, please visit our page on the [school website](#) or contact us via email at PTA@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk.

St Peter's Catholic School - Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

www.st-petersschool.co.uk