September to October 2024 CENTROLES



Dear Parents and Carers

At the end of this half term, we reflect on all the activities, events and learning that have taken place since September but also since the last edition of Keynotes in the summer.

During the first two weeks of the summer holidays, several of our students in the Sixth Form participated in the annual Lourdes Pilgrimage. Not only does it give an opportunity to serve others

but is a wonderfully enriching experience and a spiritual journey that often impacts helpers for life. It really is an opportunity to step away from the often frantic nature of everyday life and pause to reflect and give thanks. Those students

and staff who participate truly embody the St Peter's rocks of Service, Courage, Reflection, Justice and Love.

Students in Years 10 to 13 are welcome to join the Pilgrimage and should contact Tom, our Chaplain, in the first instance. Having an understanding of Catholic social teaching and our school's role in supporting our young people's formation is central to our mission to be Christ to All and the Lourdes vision for caring for those in need.

This time last year I reported that we would be building an addition to our Sixth Form provision with a second St Hilda's block. I am pleased to announce that the block opened on time and is now fully in use. It has provided another much-needed study space and four classrooms to allow our

Business and Economics Department to have permanent accommodation after 15 years

in 'The J Huts!' The rooms are light, airy and air conditioned. We now have a Sixth Form provision fit for purpose including three study areas, a Sixth Form café, IT facilities and a wonderful, covered area for students to enjoy social time outside. Our Sixth Form Open Evening saw a record number of attendees and we have added A Level Government and Politics to our curriculum this year which has proven very popular.

Since I last wrote in
Keynotes, we have
implemented a smart
phone ban for our new
Year 7 students and
will be widening the
ban to Years 8 and 9
from January 2025.
So far, this has proven
very successful with
far fewer issues

resulting from smart phone

use than in previous years. We are confident as the ban widens, it will have a similar impact in other year groups. Please note, we also extended the confiscation period which has been an additional deterrent and reduced the number confiscations. Where a confiscation is necessary, we do expect parental support.

We are all looking forward to the next half term and I would like to thank our PTA in advance for their work preparing for the Christmas Fair. Further details can be found in this newsletter and we look forward to seeing you there.

m for

God bless.

Mr T Miller, Headteacher



46% of grades at St Peter's Sixth Form are A*-A!

We are proud to be celebrating another year of excellent results at St Peter's Sixth Form! Our results day was full of happy tears and positive outcomes. This year group showed incredible grit and determination across the two years and will be sorely missed by the teaching staff.

Our A Level results are as follows:

- 18% of grades are A*
- 46% are A*-A
- 73% are A*-B
- 27% of students received 3 A*/A grades

Our BTECs saw a 100% pass rate with 68% of BTECs being equivalent to A*/A.

A special well done to Gabriella D-N, Marcos W, Katy S, Hannah M, Elena E, Arthur F, Luke H, Ruby M for receiving three A*s in their A Levels. We also want to congratulate those students who received straight A*/As: Poppy A, Grace A, Louis B, James B, Trinity C, Theo F, Martha F, Martha H, Gabriele G, Phoebe H, Joshua H, Reese OR, Leonorah I, Gabriella L, Gemma L, Roxy M, Rose M, Ania N, Rebekah R, Joe S, Linn W, Annie W, Kai W, Kai C and Lisa H.

We want to wish everyone luck in their next steps, whatever they may be. The majority of our students have gone on to university and 50% of those are going on to Russell Group universities. We also can't wait to hear the successes of our students going on to degree apprenticeships and other endeavours.

We especially congratulate students who have secured spaces on very competitive courses:

- Katy S Medicine at the University of Cambridge
- Martha F Human Sciences at the University of Oxford
- Leonorah I Geography at the University of Oxford
- Kitty F Education at the University of Cambridge
- Luke H Medicine at Imperial College
- Gabriella D-N Medicine at the University of Edinburgh
- Reese OR Medicine and Surgery at Lancaster University
- Annie W Physiotherapy at King's College London
- James P Physiotherapy at University of Greenwich

Thank you to all teachers and support staff who were involved in supporting this cohort of students. We would also like to thank parents for their continued support of the students and the Sixth Form.





Cluedo 2 Rewards Trip

On Thursday 3rd October, the English Department took students from across all years to watch a hilarious performance of Cluedo 2 at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre.

The students had completed a summer reading challenge to win the chance to attend, reading six books in six weeks. They demonstrated their impressive passion for reading by creating six short

book reviews. It was wonderful to see the variety of books read over the summer, ranging from crime, fantasy, dystopian and even romance!

The Cluedo 2 performance was itself a thrilling example of the detective genre and the Yvonne Arnaud once again delighted with colourful staging, costumes and captivating characters (including one dancing bear).





An Awesome Chess Performance!

This half term, the St Peter's Keys have been awarded to five students who competed in a National Schools Chess Competition. Mr Binyon, who supported the team and leads our Chess Club is incredibly proud of them as they competed against other schools who had won their regional tournament earlier last year.

We were one of only two state school teams with most of the independent schools employing chess coaches, several whom commented to our staff how well our students played. Keith was particularly impressive winning three of his four games and defeated one player who had not lost for two years! Well done to all the boys. Keith 9ST, Nathan 9TE, Alex 9FR, James 9TE and Leroy 9TE.

Fun and Cultural Activities at the Year 8 Spanish Lunch Club



This term, the Year 8 Spanish Lunch Club brought even more energy and excitement to school with a series of engaging sessions. Students enjoyed a vibrant mix of cultural activities, food and fun, celebrating different aspects of Spanish and Latin culture.

In honour of the European Day of Languages, students learnt the basics of salsa dancing. They got into the groove with Latin music while tackling quizzes that highlighted the diversity of European cultures.

Adding to the creative flair, the students also made traditional Mexican papel picado bunting to decorate the school for Open Evening. Armed with scissors and colourful paper, they crafted intricate designs, adding a festive atmosphere to the event.

The highlight of the sessions came when the group, led by Mrs Mortimer, whipped up a batch of Palmeritas*, a classic Spanish puff pastry treat. Students enthusiastically shaped the dough and enjoyed eating the delicious results.

From dancing and crafting to baking, the Year 8 Spanish Lunch Club gave students a chance to embrace new cultures, explore their creativity and share laughter over food, making lunchtime an exciting and enriching experience!

* The meaning of Palmeritas is heart shaped pastry.



Ingredients

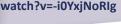
- 500 grams puff pastry
- 60 grams plain flour
- 100 grams icing sugar
- 30 grams (2 tbsp) unsalted butter
- 125 milliliters (4 ounces) honey

Instructions

- Gather the ingredients.
- Preheat the oven to 350 F or 175C.
- Melt the butter in a small saucepan. Flour the rolling pin. Roll out half the pastry thin. Brush the pastry with butter, then sprinkle it with the icing sugar. Fold the pastry sheet in half, then in half again. Flour the rolling pin and roll out the pastry sheet again. Brush with butter, sprinkle with icing sugar and fold as before. Repeat this process two to three more times.
- Roll up one edge tightly toward the center of the sheet. Roll up the other side until they meet in the centre. Sprinkle with icing sugar.
- Cut the rolled pastry into pieces approximately 1cm (1/3-inch) thick. Place each one flat on an ungreased cookie sheet. Leave space between them to allow the pastry to puff.
- Repeat the process with the other half of the pastry.
- Bake on the centre rack until it is golden. Check after 20 minutes. Continue baking for another 10 minutes, if needed.
- Warm the honey and drizzle over top of each one.
- Serve and enjoy.



of butter and sugar. Here is the recipe to make your own and a link to demonstration on YouTube, too! https://www.youtube.com/





Prayer Enrichment

Students and staff have recently been focusing on the question "What is the purpose of Christianity?" There could be many answers, though one trumps the rest: to become like Christ. This is intimately tied up with the headline of our mission statement: At St Peter's our mission is to be Christ to All.

We cannot hope to become like someone we do not know and spend time with, so tutor groups will be

visiting the Chapel throughout the year for moments of encounter and

growth in their experience and understanding of Catholic prayer traditions.

Year 7 have been building on their day retreats with bible journalling on 'the Road to Emmaus', and Year 8 will begin their visits after the half term break.

All sessions culminate in a time of Eucharistic Adoration; as St John Paul II put it, 'the source and summit of the Christian Life'.



Update on Teaching in English

From September this year, the English Department have been teaching in mixed ability classes for Years 7 to 10. This is something we have been exploring for a

while as educational research indicates that setting has no positive impact on student progress.

All students are taught the same texts and lesson content regardless of what set they have been placed in previously. Therefore, we have decided that mixed ability can only be positive and will help continue to contribute to our excellent results.

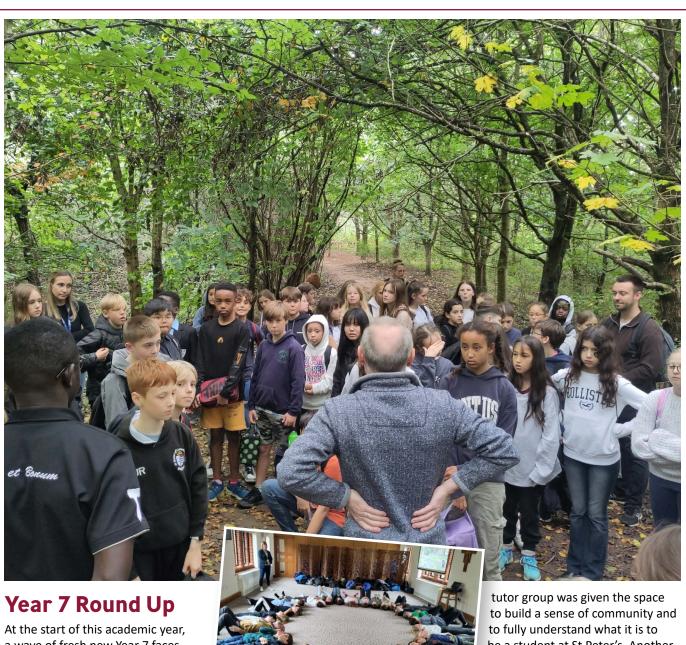
There are several pieces of research around this topic, one of which is from the Education Endowment Foundation and can be found HERE. Please be assured that this will be a

positive step.



Name it or lose it!

This is a polite reminder to please name all your child's belongings that they bring into school. So many unamed items end up in lost property and are never reclaimed.

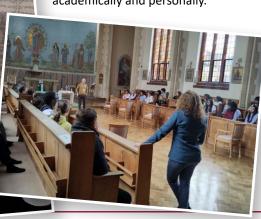


At the start of this academic year, a wave of fresh new Year 7 faces flooded the hallways. The transition from primary to secondary school can be a daunting one, but our newest students have embraced the challenge with enthusiasm.

The first half term at a new secondary school throws up many opportunities. New friendships are formed and old bonds strengthened. They have navigated their way round a new school site, got to know all their new teachers and routines, and have committed themselves to being part of our school community by getting involved with as many extracurricular activities as possible.

As part of their transition and to help students to build their sense of belonging within their tutor group, they all attended an offsite group Reflection Day at Ladywell in Godalming. Each tutor group was given the space to build a sense of community and to fully understand what it is to be a student at St Peter's. Another enjoyable occasion to witness was the Year 7 disco where the students could socialise with their peers in a completely different environment!

We are very proud of everything Year 7 have achieved in their first eight weeks at St Peter's. As the school year unfolds, we look forward to watching our Year 7s continue to grow, both academically and personally.



Welcome to our New Head Students



Music Curriculum Update

Congratulations to our outgoing Year 13s!

We are thrilled to celebrate the achievements of our outgoing Year 13 students who have embarked on exciting new journeys. They have gone off to study law, dance and one has chosen to take a gap year. We are incredibly proud of their accomplishments and cannot wait to hear about their future endeayours!

biggest worship band ever supporting our Welcome Masses for Years 8-13. We are very proud of all students who took part in supporting our first school Mass of the year.

Thank you for your continued support of our Music Department. We are excited for the year ahead and all the wonderful music-making it will bring.

was so inspiring to see how one of the greatest musicians of all time started and left a lot of us in awe. We also went to visit a castle on the top of a hill which allowed us to see the city of Salzburg from a completely different view. By the last day, it was sad to know that the tour was soon going to be nearly over, but

it left us with memories that can't be



Both our GCSE and A Level Music classes are larger than ever and are filled with enthusiastic and talented students. We look forward to seeing their progress throughout the course of this year.



Year 13 UCAS applications

Our current Year 13 students have been working hard on their UCAS applications. They are applying to study a diverse range of subjects, including medicine, music at a conservatoire, and sociology.

Extra-curricular boom

This September has seen many of our wonderful new students joining our ensembles. They have all been preparing for our upcoming Christmas Concerts, which will be held on Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th November in St Cecilia's at 7pm. Additionally, we had the

Music Tour to Salzburg in Austria

At the beginning of the summer, we went on a music tour to Salzburg in Austria and it was one of the best trips I have ever been on! From playing in a church after a Mass, to playing in an outdoor bandstand opposite a beautiful mountainous lake, it was so amazing to have these opportunities.

Outside of the concerts, we had so many opportunities to see the amazing city of Salzburg. We went to the Mozart Museum and got to see where he lived and some of his original scores. This

Music GCSE

replaced.

At the beginning of the term, I started GCSE Music and even though I have only been doing it for eight weeks, I already feel that it has grown my music knowledge. I have really enjoyed seeing how technical music is and how it requires a great amount of brain power to learn new things.

I loved learning how to compose on MuseScore as it has allowed me to express myself in different ways and made me think deeper about how complicated a piece of music is. Even though I have only just started my GCSE Music journey, I am already loving it and can't wait to learn even more! Written by Freya 10TE



School Trips...

Normandy Trip



30 students, 3 teachers and lots of fun at the Château de la Baudonniere in Normandy!

We travelled on Saturday and upon arrival at midnight, we were greeted with hot chocolate and instructions to go straight to bed!

Throughout Sunday and Monday, we were able to use the extensive grounds and the days were filled with epic activities such as aeroball, raft building, archery, bread making and



more. Other evening activities included games, quizzes and a good old Capture the Flag in the forest. On Tuesday, we

went to a market to explore how well we can really speak French and enjoy purchasing local cuisine. After that, we ventured to Mont Saint-Michel where we learnt its history and walked through the bustling village — it was a real life Diagon Alley with the Abbey being Hogwarts. That evening entailed full-out French fancy dress, trying delicious snails and a talent show that had a cheeky disco at the end to commemorate our last evening before heading back on Wednesday. It will definitely be a trip to remember! Written by Ella 10TE and Isabelle 10ST

School Trips...



Year 9 Field Trip to West Wittering

This week, over 200 Year 9 students visited West Wittering for their second geography field trip. Led by teachers based at the Chichester Harbour Conservancy, students saw the depositional landforms that they had studied in lessons. They also

considered the role of coastal management in this location and how coastal processes are altered by the presence of groynes. Students had opportunities to collect a variety

of primary data including sand dune/beach transects, sediment measurements, field sketches and environmental surveys.



Art Trip to Wisley

On Wednesday 9th October, 54 Year 10 students went to Wisley. The purpose of the trip is to collect research that can be used back in school and help develop their coursework. We spent time in the vegetable garden, exotic garden and the green house.

All the students immersed themselves with the tasks set and spent time sitting in the beds recording from life and engaging with the public as they commented on the work being produced.

Thank you, Year 10, for a lovely day and we look forward to seeing your work embedded in your coursework.



School Trips...

Year 9 Visit to the Shah Jahan Mosque, Woking



At St Peter's, we are lucky to be near the country's first purposebuilt mosque, the Shah Jahan in Woking, which was built in 1889 by Dr Leitner with funding from the Begum Shah Jahan of Bhopal Province in India.

On 3rd October, Year 9 were privileged to visit the mosque, the only Grade I listed mosque in the UK and hear a talk from Imam Hashmi about the mosque itself and the role that it plays within the local community.

Imam Hashmi gave a fascinating lecture about the history of the mosque and the unique place it holds in the development of the Islamic faith in the UK. He explained such features as the Mihrab and Qiblah Wall which ensure that Muslims are directing their prayers to Makkah, the holiest site in Islam. He explained the timings of Muslim prayers which form part of the second Pillar of Islam – Salah and how many ra'kah must be completed at each prayer session. He also demonstrated for us the different movements within

the ra'kah and gave some very honest commentary about the physical impact that prayer can have for Muslims!

We learnt about the various contributions that the Shah Jahan Mosque community makes to the local area. For example, providing cooked meals and shopping to those isolated during Covid, visiting the sick and housebound, working with other local religious groups

including the Bishop of Guildford and organising a local Muslim-Jewish community group to enable the two faiths to work together. The mosque also hosts community sporting and fundraising events as well as weddings and Arabic education programmes.

Imam Hashmi shared with the students his experience of going on Hajj and how it allowed time away from the business of ordinary life to focus on Allah and his relationship with him. The information learned about the significant impact of going on pilgrimage will surely stay with our students long after the visit ended.

PE Round Up

Since starting the autumn term, we have had numerous netball and football fixtures as well as taking our GCSE PE students kayaking over four days in Richmond on the River Thames. Despite battling a range of weather conditions, they came out smiling and have completed the course to contribute towards their practical marks at GCSE.

Girls' Netball

Our newly established Sixth Form netball team headed to St Teresa's for a tournament on Wednesday 9th October. They played a range of private schools securing a joint second place but ended up third on goal difference. Special thanks to captain Georgie, who brought the team together and drove them to success. We are looking forward to seeing more from this team in the coming weeks.



The Year 11 netball team competed in a tournament against many schools at George Abbot in early October. All the girls played with great teamwork, spirit and sportsmanship. They worked tirelessly throughout all the six matches and came fourth in the tournament.

Years 7-11 went to George Abbot to compete in some friendly matches. It was great to see the Year 7s play their first game and although they just missed out on a win, they showed fantastic teamwork throughout! Years 8/9/10 and 11 all managed to win their games!

Girls' Football

Years 10/11 girls played in a national cup fixture against St Teresa's. They all played



brilliantly and we were leading 1-0 after 15 minutes. St Teresa's came back a few moments later to draw 1-1. At half time, the score was 1-1 and it was not until the end of the game that the other team scored two goals, resulting in the final

score of 3-1. Despite the score line, the girls played very well together and it was fantastic to see some new faces playing football for the first time!. Well done, girls!

The Year 7 team went to Guildford County to play a tournament against other schools. From the start the girls were focused and determined. After playing four matches, they found themselves in the final against George Abbot where it was neck and neck the whole way until the last kick of the game where George Abbot managed to get a goal. It was a superb first tournament!

get-go and showed some brilliant teamwork. The game was filled with goals! St Peter's was trailing near the end of the game 3-2 but right before the final whistle, they pulled one back to get a 3-3 draw. Well done, boys!

The Year 8 boys also played against Howard of Effingham. From the start the boys played with fantastic effort, sportsmanship, determination and respect. Despite some great chances created, the boys lost 2-0 but they should be proud of their performance.

The Year 9s started off their football fixtures magnificently by beating their opponent Guildford County 5-0. There were some great team goals scored and the boys showed such commitment and respect throughout the game.

The Year 10s have played two games so far. The first game was against Howard of Effingham and they were unlucky to lose 5-4 but showed fantastic sportsmanship throughout the game and commitment.

However, in their second game they handsomely beat Guildford County with a very strong 6-0 win!

The Year 11s have started off their final year of football fixtures by beating Guildford County 4-0 with some fantastic team goals on display and brilliant levels of respect for everyone. Well done, boys!



Boy's Football Round Up

Year 7 played against Howard of Effingham on Wednesday 9th October. The boys played amazingly from the





Christmas Fair

Saturday 23rd November 2024, 1 - 4pm

The St Peter's PTA would really appreciate your help with the Christmas Fair.

Here are ways in which you can help:

WHAT?	WHEN?	HOW?
Raffle & Auction Prizes	Now until 9 th November	Do you know of local businesses who could donate a prize for the Raffle or Auction? If so, please contact PTA@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk
Christmas Market Stalls CHRISTMAS MARKET	Now until 9 th November	Do you have a small business? Would you like a stall at our Christmas market? If so, please contact PTA@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk
Toiletries & Gifts	11 th – 22 nd November	Please send in donations of good quality toiletries and gifts for the Find-a-present stall.
Raffle & Auction Tickets	To be confirmed	Tickets will be on sale for a range of amazing prizes.
Decorations	11 th – 22 nd November	Please send in donations of decorations to help us decorate the school for the fair. E.g. Tinsel, garlands, large baubles etc.
Second-Hand Uniforms	11 th – 22 nd November	Please send in donations of branded items for the second-hand uniform stall. (Blazers, blouses, skirts, new PE kit, ties, jumpers)
Mince Pies	11 th – 22 nd November	Please send in boxed mince pies for the festive mulled wine stall.
Bottle Mufti-Day	Friday 22 nd November	Students can wear Mufti in exchange for a bottle for the Bottle Tombola. We plan to have an alcohol tombola for the over 18's and a soft drinks tombola for all.
Volunteers We Love our VOLUNTEERS	Always welcome!	Can you donate some of your time to help out at the Fair? Please contact PTA@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk
Charity Match Funding	Always welcome!	Do you work for a large UK company? If so, they may offer you Charity Match Funding. Please contact PTA@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk

All donations to be brought into School Reception. Thank you!



BEHAVIOUR CONVERSATIONS

FREE ONLINE SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

With Charlotte Clarke from When the Adults Change

Understanding and supporting the behaviour of children and young people is a tricky business. Lots of our intuitive responses to challenging behaviour can be damaging to our children's mental well being and can have a negative impact on our own mental health, too.

Charlotte will share highly practical and incredibly effective strategies that will help you hold firm boundaries and nurture positive behaviours without arguing with your children; without feeling exhausted and without compromising the quality of your relationship.

The workshop is **FREE** and open to all Surrey Schools parents, carers and families. You can register by scanning the QR code below, or by emailing **Clare@whentheadultschange.com** for more information.



The next 'Behaviour Conversations' workshop will be held online on 6th November at 6:00pm.

















Dear Parents and Students,



To celebrate this important milestone, we are having our first ever



from 22 October to 1 December. We invite you to check out our very special **40**th **Anniversary Collection**, all created by our participants. You can reach our online brochure by clicking the link below.

 $\frac{https://issuu.com/newboldphotography/docs/the 2024 bigart venture auction?}{fr = sNGYOMDY4ODU3OTU}$

If you like what you see and wish to visit our **Auction site**, please click the link below or scan the QR Code.

https://app.galabid.com/artventure40auction/register

If you wish to see the collection on display, visit us in our Studio in the school grounds (on the left at the edge of the green playground.) weekdays from 9.30 am to 2.30pm during term time.

All income will support Artventure Trust and we hope it will help to keep us going for another 40 years.

Thank you for your support.



























