



Summer Term
2024

Careers NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our St Peter's Careers Newsletter!

Welcome again to our careers newsletter, updating you on our activities this term and giving you a peek at what is to come next term.

The summer term has been busy with annual events such as Year 10 Business Day, Year 12 Work Experience Week and our year 7 Meet an Author event in addition to the second Whole School Careers Day.

Our careers programme was inspected by Ofsted when they visited in May. They were very impressed with our provision and we were very pleased with their comments.

The school year ended with all year groups completing a questionnaire where they could assess their work related learning over the last 12 months. We would also like to hear your views on our careers program and would be very grateful if you could take a couple of minutes to complete our survey [here](#).

I hope you enjoy the newsletter and seeing what your children have been doing this term. As always, we would be delighted to have you involved in the careers events that we run and if you would like to know more about this please contact me at the email address below.

In the meantime I hope you have a lovely summer break.

Mrs S Calvert
Careers Lead and Careers Adviser



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YOUR CAREER, YOUR FUTURE

Our regular tutor time careers programme, 'Your Career, Your Future' has continued this term with each year group focusing on key career related topics.

Year 7 have explored careers in the NHS and looked at the transferrable skills that are developed in different careers.

Year 8 have focused on the different routes available after GCSEs looking at different types of courses, such as A Levels, BTECs, T Levels apprenticeships and institutions where they can be studied for example, sixth forms or vocational colleges. They had an assembly with Guildford College who gave them an insight into the types of courses they offer and what it is like to study there.

Year 9 have spent their sessions learning about CVs and starting to create their own. Students will continue to build their CV in Year 10 and the early part of Year 11.

Year 10 used their career sessions to prepare for their Business Day in July, researching the companies they were going to visit and coming up with questions to ask.

CAREER MANAGEMENT: BUILDING RESILIENCE, MOTIVATION AND CURIOSITY IN STUDENTS

In today's rapidly evolving job market, career management is an essential skill for students to develop early on. It's not just about choosing a profession, it's about preparing them to navigate a future filled with opportunities and challenges. By fostering resilience, motivation and curiosity, we equip them with vital tools to thrive.

Resilience helps students to overcome setbacks and adapt to changes, which are inevitable in any career path. Whether it's bouncing back from a low exam grade or learning from a failed project, resilience builds the mental toughness needed for long-term success.

Motivation drives students to set and achieve goals. It's the fuel that keeps them moving forward, even when the going gets tough. Encouraging students to pursue their passions and stay committed to their aspirations cultivates a sense of purpose and direction.

Curiosity ignites a lifelong love of learning. It encourages students to ask questions, explore new fields and stay open to diverse experiences. This mindset is crucial for continuous growth and innovation in any career.

Career management is not just a task for the future - it starts now. By supporting our students in developing these attributes, we prepare them to confidently and competently manage their careers, no matter where life takes them.

CAREERS PROGRAMME - YEAR 7 NEWS

In June, award winning author Ally Sherrick visited Year 7 to talk about her career journey leading up to her becoming an author and how she goes about writing historical fiction. Students learned about research and the writing process and were able to show their fantastic knowledge of history answering lots of questions.



YEAR 7 TRANSITION GUIDANCE

For the first time this year, we introduced the Year 7 students to small group meetings with Mrs Calvert to chat through how their first year at St Peter's has gone, what they have enjoyed and what they are looking forward to next year. The response from students was excellent and they were able to give many examples of what they have enjoyed this year, including making new friends, school lunches, DT lessons, history lessons, sports, music and clubs. They were all extremely positive about moving into Year 8 and were particularly keen to start deepening their knowledge in their subjects.

OPENDAYS

Guildford College

16th October 4.30pm to 7pm
9th November 4.30pm to 7pm

Merrist Wood College

9th October 4.30pm to 7.30pm
16th November 9.30am to 12pm

Farnborough Technical College

15th October 4pm to 7.30pm
16th October 4pm to 7.30pm
20th November 4pm to 7.30pm

Farnborough Technical College (Aldershot Construction College)

17th October 4pm to 6.30pm
21st November 4pm to 6.30pm

Please check websites for booking links.

COMING UP NEXT TERM

September

Year 11 Post 16 careers guidance interviews

October

Year 9 GCSE Options interviews

Year 12 and 13

Apprenticeship workshop

November

Year 9 Speed networking

Year 11 Mock Interviews

Year 13 Face to face networking

WHOLE SCHOOL CAREERS DAY

We held our second whole school Careers Day in early June, the aim being to bring careers learning into every lesson during the day. Teachers looked at different jobs using the key transferrable skills that were being taught during the lesson and students 'collected' these on a work sheet. For example, RE lessons focused on listening as a skill and looked at jobs where listening is a key requirement, such as a politician or a priest. We'll be running more careers days next year!

Careers Day – Career Connections – How many can you collect?

	Subject	Topic/Skill	Career Discussed in Class	Career Discussed in Class	Career I have Researched
Lesson 1	History	analysis	researcher	Solicitor	history teacher
Lesson 2	Art	creativity	photographer	graphic designer	artist
Lesson 3	RE	listening	priest	politician	RE teacher
Lesson 4	PE	javalin	player	coach	PE teacher
Lesson 5	Maths	problem solving	Architects	math teacher	ambition

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Lesson 1	chemistry	Staying Positive	researcher	nasa	lab worker
Lesson 2	computer science	teamwork	Pollution consultant	builder	data analyzer
Lesson 3	PE	creativity	Athlete	chef	carpenter
Lesson 4	spanish	teamwork	Interpreter	translator	Journalist
Lesson 5	citizenship	Speaking	Social media Influencer	an activist	

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Lesson 1	graphics	drawing skills	architecture	to train people to advertise	architect and advertiser
Lesson 2	Spanish	speaking	teacher	journalist	interpreter
Lesson 3	music	all the skills involved	video game developer	producer	producer
Lesson 4	PE	cricket	Player	coach	Player
Lesson 5	maths	problem solving	Architects	stock analyst	sports coach

LIBRARY NEWS

The school's Library continues to attract students, with over 2,800 books borrowed by students this year!

We continue to add to our book stock but can always do with more! If you are planning a book audit over the summer holidays and would like to get rid of a few, we would be delighted to take them off your hands. They can be novels or children's/teen books, in reasonable condition. Any books we can't use we would like to donate to the Silver Jubilee Park charity which promotes mental and physical wellbeing in the Borough of Brent.



CAREERS PROGRAMME - YEAR 10

Year 10 students took part in their careers activities this term, comprising Business Day in Guildford and Woking and the Alumni morning.

Business Day enabled students to visit two businesses for a couple of hours each and get an insight into what the working world looks like. They were able to take part in activities and ask questions to help them explore career ideas that they might not have considered before.



Making a presentation for a 'new' marketing campaign for ice cream



On stage at G Live



Finding out about the wide variety of jobs in the construction sector.



Learning about the different roles within the fire service



Honing the drawing skills required for architecture



Learning about converting vintage cars to electric power



Finding out about safe surgical practices at The Whiteley Clinic



Learning to set a table at the Mandalay Hotel.

The Alumni Morning saw a group of former students visit our Year 10s to talk about their career journeys since leaving school. We had doctors, lawyers, publishers, civil servants, business analysts, IT consultants and engineers amongst our guests which gave the students a wide variety of careers to hear about. This is always a popular event and students had the opportunity to ask questions during the session and meet them during break time.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

MEG FITZWATER



When did you leave St Peter's?

I left St Peter's in the summer of 2018.

What are your favourite memories of school?

My favourite memories of school are all the extracurricular activities I used to do, particularly putting on shows with the music and drama departments! I still dance to this day so I've kept up that hobby in some way, which is such fun!

What do you do now?

I am a student at Southampton Medical School and I'm just finishing up my second year on the Graduate Entry Medicine programme (so officially halfway!).

What made you decide to do the degree you chose?

My undergraduate degree was actually in English Literature and French, which were subjects I absolutely loved in school. I've always been interested in people and their experiences and how they choose to articulate those experiences, both on a page and with each other, and I think that was what drew me both to my undergraduate and to medicine, strangely. I hadn't really considered medicine as a career path for me while at school (mostly because it would've involved studying Chemistry A Level, and I knew that wasn't for me!) and I wanted to continue with subjects I enjoyed and was genuinely interested in. Really it was when Covid hit while I was at uni, and my plans to move abroad to France were disrupted, that I started to think about what I wanted from my life and career. Ultimately I wanted to do something that was strongly people-oriented, with lots of intellectual challenges, and with a changing and varied environment. I started working as a Healthcare Assistant working with patients with advanced dementia, where I found that I could really see myself working in healthcare long term - and soon after that I found myself applying for graduate entry medicine courses!

How relevant was your degree to what you are doing now?

I absolutely loved my undergraduate degree and I wouldn't have done anything different! Although my route into medicine isn't the most time efficient or cost effective, to say the least, my first degree equipped me with so many important skills that I have been able to take forward into my life now. Most arts and humanities undergraduate degrees are also incredibly flexible with module choices and you can really tailor your learning to your interests, and again and again I found myself gravitating towards narratives that explored the experience of illness, disability, mental illness, and end of life, which taught me a lot about the patient experience and how our perceptions of illness are shaped by greater social and political attitudes. Although I can't say I find myself using the French grammar or the many Shakespeare quotes I spent hours committing to memory these days, I learnt so much about communication, abstract thinking and problem-solving from my degree that is invaluable to my studies now.

How did you get to where you are today?

It's been quite a long journey so far, and I still feel like I am right at the start! Taking the jump to apply to medical school did seem like a crazy decision at the time, but I am really glad I did - it was definitely the right decision for me.

What are your plans for the future?

I honestly don't know what the future holds in terms of specialty training—although at the moment there are definitely things I am more interested in than others! When I graduate in 2026 it will be onto foundation training, then hopefully I will have a better idea of what areas of medicine I can see myself working in long-term. I can also see myself going back to my academic roots a little bit and exploring illness narratives further one day!

Finally, what would be your advice to students?

My best advice is to do what you love! A genuine interest and following your curiosities will take you so much further than doing subjects or following certain paths just to tick a box on an application. Doing what you love and working hard will never close doors to you, as long as you are willing to put in that little extra effort along the way.

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit." Aristotle