



St. Peter's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 4 Friday 24th October

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Local Parish Mass Times	St Peter's	English Martyrs	St Augustine's
Saturday	6pm		6.30pm
Sunday	9am 10.30am 5.30pm	9am	11am

RE CURRICULUM

EYFS	I know God invites us to join his holy family.
Y1	Know that God called Mary and she said 'yes'
Y2	Journeys in advent
Y3	Week 1—Understand why Catholics go to Mass Week 2—Recognise the structure of Maths
Y4	How we as individuals can live a life of faith
Y5	WALT: become familiar with the context of the book of Samuel and under-
Y6	WALT: become familiar with the context of the book of Samuel and under-

Dear parents and carers,

We had a truly wonderful time on Wednesday when Bishop Bosco MacDonald visited St. Peter's! We are delighted he accepted our invitation to spend the morning with us.

After a short reception with staff and governors, Bishop Bosco joined us for a special assembly. He was welcomed into the Spiritual Space by our amazing children who were singing hymns beautifully. Bishop Bosco then talked about his very special role before he blessed our new altar.

Following a tour of the school with Father Gary (ably led by four of our children), he then officially opened the new library (more to follow on this) and blessed the space with a special prayer. In keeping with our industrious ethos and keen to ensure we worked him hard, Bishop Bosco was then interviewed by six children. Although he did confirm he is not a Celtic FC fan, he was truly wonderful with the children and answered all the sensible and silly questions with gusto and humour.

The visit concluded when Aine and Noah guided Bishop Bosco to the entrance and he officially joined our school family by placing his wooden fish on our St. Peter's display, alongside those created by each of our children and staff.

This was a truly wonderful visit. We are grateful to Bishop Bosco for his time, love and care. I would also like to thank Paige, Jan, Shayla, Roux, Bella, Jonathan, Siona, Noel, Heidi, Mateo, Aina and Noah for representing our school with distinction. I would also like to say a special thank you to Mrs Young, Mrs MacDonald, Mrs Desando, Mrs Harris, Mrs Ballard, Mrs Gill, Mr Sysum and Mr Desando for their incredible preparation work.

This was a wonderful reminder of our inclusive Catholic ethos and a great community celebration of our school.



Please can we remind parents that mobile phones are not to be used on the school grounds. The school grounds are private property and this polite request is made by the school in order to safeguard our children, and to safeguard adults from potential allegations. Further to this, it is important that children can interact with parents and carers as they leave the school at the end of the day. We know that if children do not develop effective verbal and conversational skills it is much harder for them to make sense of what they are reading and this has a significant impact on their ability to write clearly, cohesively and coherently later. Thank you for your support on this matter.

We have also noticed this term that standards around uniform have 'slipped' in some places. School uniform is an important part of our school identity and supports standards. It is something families commit to when choosing to join St. Peter's. Ties are to be worn at all times (children can remove them during PE and OPAL), polo shirts are only allowed on PE days, plain black or grey socks and tights, jogging bottoms (not lycra) for PE and they should be plain black, one pair of stud earrings (no other types are permitted) and black school shoes (not trainers).

We work hard here at St. Peter's to protect our environment. Our Eco Council organises a range of events, recycling, litter picking and supporting wildlife to demonstrate this commitment through action. Caring for God's creation is an important calling to us as a Catholic community. One of our pupils, Hugo, has helped to organise a fundraiser for a cause he is very passionate about. We will be having a non-school uniform day on Friday 14th **November 2025**. The goal is to engage local landowners in the benefits of tree planting and agroforestry and create new woodland in one of the least-forested regions in Europe. They will plant a tree for every £1 we are able to donate. We will be asking for a donation of £1 per family with all proceeds supporting this good cause.

Children's learning across the building has been amazing this term. I have especially been impressed with the rapid improvement in writing skills, including handwriting. This remains a key school improvement priority this year. However, I would like to share two really positive examples of learning in recent weeks: Year 3 have been learning orienteering skills. They have worked hard to learn symbols and read maps. It has been wonderful to see their team skills develop and become more independent during this term; A special well done to EYFS as they have completed their first term of school and have settled into school life beautifully. They've made friends, learnt the sign of the cross and school prayers, performed a fabulous Harvest song, started to develop a lifelong love of reading through Phonics and Drawing Club and of course most importantly come in happily each day and played beautifully.

Finally, Thank you:

I would like to say a special thank you and well done to our children. They have returned (or joined us) to new classes in September. Many of them are working with new adults and are working hard to build positive relationships. The behaviour has been excellent across the school, and the children are working incredibly hard, especially when they find it tricky.

I would love to take the opportunity to publicly thank our amazing staff team. I have and continue to ask a lot of them. They have responded to the changes we are making with real determination and energy and this is having a demonstrable impact on our work with children. I know many of you know this already. Thank you to the wonderful team we have here.

My very final thank you is to you, the parental community. I would like to thank you for your patience during changes, for your understanding as we have worked through these, and for your continued support of the school and your love and devotion of the incredible children you entrust to us here at St. Peter's.

I hope you are able to enjoy a restful and positive half term and we look forward to warmly welcoming everyone back to school on Tuesday 4th **November**.

Kind regards,

Mr. Kurt Doyle

GSSN RUGBY

Our Y2 girls had a fantastic time attending a special rugby session hosted by GSSN, joining pupils from other local schools. The girls practiced their catching and passing skills and even had the chance to take part in an exciting game of tag rugby!

They were especially thrilled to train alongside Gloucester Rugby Ladies' players, including England World Cup winner Emma Sing. Their enthusiasm and encouragement truly inspired our young players.

It was a brilliant day full of teamwork, fun and inspiration - well done to all of our Y2 girls for their energy and fantastic attitude!



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Applications for Secondary School are now open.

To register your application, please use the following link:

www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-admissions

The closing date for all applications is 31st October 2025.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday 24th October	Whole School	Finish for Half Term	Normal time
Monday 27th October	Whole School	HALF TERM	
Monday 3rd November		INSET	
Thursday 6th November	Y3	Stone Age Day	Wear stone age costume
Tuesday 4th November	Whole School	Start of the new term	8.45am
Thursday 13th November		School visit for new Reception Classes	2.00pm
Tuesday 18th November	Y6	World War II Day	Wear WWII costume
Wednesday 3rd December		School visit for new Reception Classes	9.15am
Saturday 6th December	Whole School	Christmas Fayre	12.00—3.00pm
Friday 19th December	Whole School	Finish for the Christmas	1.00pm
Monday 5th January	Whole School	INSET	
Tuesday 6th January	Whole School	Start of the New Term	8.45am

DINNER MENU – w/c 3rd November

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
INSET	Meatballs	Roast Gammon	Curried Chicken	Fish Fingers & Chips
	Vegan Burger in a Bun	Roast Quorn	Macaroni Cheese	Cheese Whirl with Chips
	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato

DINNER MENU – w/c 10th November

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mild Mexican Chilli	Sausage & Mash	Roast Chicken	Spaghetti Bolognese	Fish Fingers & Chips
Vegan Meatballs	Lentil Curry	Vegetable Wellington	Roasted Vegetable Pizza	Red Pepper Frittata
Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato