



St Peter's News

No. 10 18th July 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am finding it hard to believe that I am sitting here writing my final St Peter's News! The last five years have been absolutely fantastic, and I will be leaving St Peter's with a heavy heart, but taking so many wonderful memories with me. Since the middle of January, when I found out I would be leaving St Peter's at the end of the year, it has been a rollercoaster of emotions.

I began this academic year wanting to look for a new challenge and a new opportunity. St Peter's is an incredibly strong and stable place, and I felt it was the right time to begin looking for this new challenge. As I am sure you can imagine, the role of Headteacher does not come up very often, especially when one of my top criteria was to find a school close to my home and importantly, to my family.

Over the last seven months, a lot of work behind the scenes has been put in by the governors and Senior Leadership Team to prepare for the transition, and I am very pleased and very confident in the new leadership structure of Mr Way as Executive Headteacher and Mrs Duffy as Head of School. I know that they will continue to lead St Peter's in the right direction.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the children, parents, staff and governors for making my time at St Peter's so enjoyable and so memorable.

Yours sincerely,

Rob Garratt
Headteacher

We are an OUTSTANDING church school

On 21st June we had our statutory School Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS). All faith schools are subject to SIAMS inspections in addition to Ofsted inspections. SIAMS focuses on three areas;

- How the school, through its distinctiveness Christian character, is meeting the needs of all learners,
- The impact of collective worship on the school community,
- The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the school as a church school.

Based on the evidence provided, visiting worship and lessons, conversations with children, parents, staff and governors, and what the inspector sees and experiences around the school, each area is then graded as Inadequate, Satisfactory, Good or Outstanding.

I am incredibly proud and pleased to share with you that St Peter's Methodist Primary School has been judged as **Outstanding in ALL areas**. We received the following message from the Director of Education for the Methodist church:

"Please accept my warm congratulations and pass them also to staff and governors. A huge well done – and a real affirmation of the work of God in Canterbury, and of your work at St Peter's..."

If you have not had a chance to read the full report yet, it can be found [here](#).

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Farewells

As the end of the academic year draws closer, we have some goodbyes to say.

Mrs Hughes, the TA in year 5, was successful in gaining a full-time teaching assistant post at a local primary school. She took up this post in late June and it was lovely to see her again when she came along to watch the year 6 production.

Miss Nicholas, the TA currently in year 3 and after-school club, will be leaving us at the end of the year, as she will be beginning teacher training in September.

Mr Flatt, who has been working in years 5 and 6 supporting small groups of children, will be finishing with us at the end of the year.

Our contract with Premier Sport comes to an end at the end of this academic year. We are therefore saying farewell to **Mrs Jones and Miss Duncan** who have supported the school with sports and delivered after school sports clubs.

I am sure you will join me in thanking them for all they have done for the children at St Peter's and wish them well in the future.

From our Chair of Governors

As you are all aware, sadly, Mr Garratt will be leaving St Peter's at the end of the school year. As Chair of Governors and on behalf of the Governing Body, we would like to thank Mr Garratt for successfully leading our school over the past 5 years. His enthusiasm, professionalism, determination and genuine love for St Peter's has carried it from strength to strength, during this time building a dynamic team that will continue to do just that. We hope you enjoy your new venture and wish you luck for the future. Please keep in touch, it has been a pleasure working with you.

May I take this opportunity to congratulate Mrs Duffy, Mrs Pickles and Mrs Beard on their new posts. We feel fortunate to have such a strong and dedicated Senior Leadership Team in place alongside an already existing hardworking and caring group of staff at St Peter's.

I would also like to take this opportunity to let the parents and carers at St Peter's know that two long-standing governors will sadly be leaving us this summer. St Peter's has been fortunate enough to have had Malcom Burgess and Revd Geoff Boxer on the governing board for many years. Malcolm has been a Local Authority Governor at St Peter's for over 15 years, has been Chair of Governors and most recently has held the post of Safeguarding Governor. His experience, professionalism and dedication has helped guide the school through some tricky times and we as fellow governors have benefitted immensely from his willingness to help and support us.

Revd Geoff Boxer has been a Foundation Governor for 9 years and has been a Methodist bastion for the school with his unwavering commitment to ensure the school's ethos and Christian distinctiveness are maintained.

On behalf of the Governors here at St Peter's, I'd like to wish you both farewell and good luck in your new adventures. We will dearly miss your enthusiasm, input and experience- please do keep in touch!

Dr Gaby Roch

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A message from Mrs Duffy, on behalf of Team SP...

This week the St Peter's family are sad to be saying goodbye to Mr Garratt, who has led the school with huge dedication and care for the last five years. He has worked tirelessly alongside governors, staff and parents to provide our children with the best possible opportunities to enable them to develop as young people as well as to make progress academically. I know that you will join with me in thanking Mr Garratt for all that he has done for our school and in wishing him all the very best at his new school – we will miss you!

Welcome

The Methodist Church have appointed Revd Tim Nicholls as minister for St Peter's Methodist Primary School. Tim has sent us the message below.

My name is the Revd Tim Nicholls and from September 2018 I will be the new Minister with responsibility for St Peter's Methodist Church in Canterbury and of the chapel at Old Wives Lees. I have recently got married to Hazel, who is a primary school teacher. I will be moving down to Canterbury from South Manchester, where I have been the Minister of three churches on a large housing estate called Wythenshawe.

As part of my role as Minister at St Peter's, I will also be one of the Foundation Governors at St Peter's Primary School. I am particularly keen to extend the already strong links that the Church has with the school. I will be regularly taking assemblies and providing pastoral support across the School community.

I am really excited about our move to Canterbury and working alongside the Church and school communities.



Congratulations

On Sunday 8th July, Mr Maré competed in an iron man competition. You may have noticed he was hobbling a little at sports day! He did incredibly well, finishing 13th out of 85 which is an amazing achievement. We are all very proud of you Mr Maré – well done!

Can you help us?

Due to safety concerns, the 15 year old adventure trail is being removed over the summer break due to it failing the annual safety check. The equipment will be removed and the area covered in bark chippings so that the children still have an area to play in. Our caretaker, Mr Arthurs, will be completing these works and would like some help on 16th and 17th August, spreading the bark chippings. If you are able to come along to help out, please let him know by emailing caretaker@st-peters-canterbury.kent.sch.uk. A replacement adventure trail will be the focus of fundraising in the future.

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Sports News from Miss Bergin and Mrs McLanaghan

We have had a very busy time over the last few weeks and have travelled around the district to take part in an assortment of events and competitions. A huge thank you to the parents who have been able to provide lifts, not only to their own children but also to those without transport. We really would not be able to offer so many sporting opportunities to our pupils without you.

Cross country

On 8th June fourteen children travelled to Lorenden Prep school for a Methodist Schools partnership cross country event. We were expecting to be running around a school field, but arrived to discover that they had taken a fencing panel down at the back of their grounds, thereby creating an authentic cross country course through neighbouring woodland. Our team had a brilliant time as they negotiated nettles, brambles and a scramble up a muddy bank! Despite being the first time that any of them had run such a course, we achieved some impressive results - Clement and Tommy came 2nd and 3rd respectively in the Year 5 race, Carlos and Mason were 4th in the Year 3 and 4 races, and Mia was the 3rd girl home in the Year 4 race. A special mention should go to Anais and Millie who showed the Christian values of love and compassion by stopping in the middle of their race to help a Lorenden girl with asthma who had forgotten her inhaler. Everyone who took part made us so proud - you all behaved impeccably, made new friends with our host school and were a credit to St Peter's. Well done.

Minilympics

On 11th June the whole of class 4 were lucky enough to take part in the Canterbury Minilympics, an event run jointly by Kings School and Canterbury Christ Church and held at the Kings School playing fields. The children were split into groups of 4 or 5 and with the support of a Christ Church student team leader they rotated around four different activities – cricket training, athletics events, fitness testing and a healthy eating talk. We were also provided with a delicious barbecue lunch. At the end there was a closing medal ceremony at which the team leaders nominated one person from their team who had stood out for them throughout the day. Congratulations to Mia who was chosen to receive a medal from her team leader. The children really enjoyed themselves and it was lovely to see even the non-sportiest tackling the activities with enthusiasm. We look forward to taking part again next year.

Girls' Cricket Tournament

We braved a very pot-holed, over-grown, no passing places, single track to reach St Lawrence and Highland Court Cricket Club for the Year 5 and 6 Girls' Cricket Tournament – the first time that we have managed to enter a whole team of girls! A few of the team had gained some experience from playing in the Kwik cricket tournament at Polo Farm the previous week, others had only played in Miss Bergin's cricket club, but Beverly was the star of the day, agreeing to fill the final space in the team at the last minute having never played cricket before. Although we lost in the group stage matches against Bridge 1, Selling and Blean, who were all fielding very strong and experienced teams, our girls showed great determination and their confidence and skills began to grow as the afternoon went on. We went on to compete in the Yorker Plate competition, and after a very narrow defeat at the hands of Barham won our final match against Bysing Wood – a well-deserved victory.

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KS1 Multiskills

Ten year 1 and 2 children travelled to Littlebourne Primary School on 19th June for a KS1 multiskills competition. We had a really fun afternoon competing at different activity stations such as goal shooting, bean bag throw, shuttle run and speed bounce to earn bronze, silver or gold status for our team. Despite the hot weather, the whole team gave each activity their 100% best effort and we were pleased to achieve 5th place out of 11 teams.

Rounders

A team of eleven children recently travelled to Spires Academy for a Year 5 and 6 Rounders Tournament. The team had been practising hard at lunchtimes and this hard work meant that their throwing, catching and hitting skills were definitely in evidence over the course of the afternoon. In the group stages we won our matches against St John's and Petham, but were sadly defeated by Blean 2 who were the team that ended up progressing to the semi-finals. Well done all of you, and hopefully it will be us at the top of the group next year.

Football

Over the last few weeks our Premier Sport coaches have arranged some football matches against St John's after school on Friday afternoons which have proved very popular. Our boys' team had a 6-5 win in their first match although St John's turned this around with a 6-4 win next time around.

The girls had a 4-4 draw in their first match and won their second game!

Thank you to Mrs Jones and Miss Dunkin for organising these for us.

Sports Week and Sports Day

We had a busy and varied Sports Week this year with a carousel of different sporting activities on the playground for the whole school, KS1 trying out yoga and KS2 playing rounders at the St John's Primary School playing fields, as well as taking part in a Change 4 Life session focussing on healthy eating and making healthy choices.

Sports Day was warm and sunny, and after a busy morning of tennis, swimming, running races, long jump, games in the sports hall and playing in the adventure playground, we all enjoyed potted sports and class running races in the afternoon. The highest scoring individual team groups after the potted sports were Yellow 3, Red 5 and Blue 2 in joint first place, though once the scores from the running races were added it was Blue team who were triumphant with 267 points. The other teams were not far behind with Yellow team on 261, Green on 248 and Red on 245.

School Games Mark

We have recently applied for a School Games Mark which is a government-led awards scheme which rewards schools for their commitment to the development of competition across the school and in the community. **We are delighted to announce that we have just been awarded a Silver award** in recognition of the number of children engaged in sporting activity, the number of different competitions that we have entered and the number of children involved in sports leadership activities. A huge thank you to all the staff, pupils and parents who have helped us to achieve this.

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Reading books

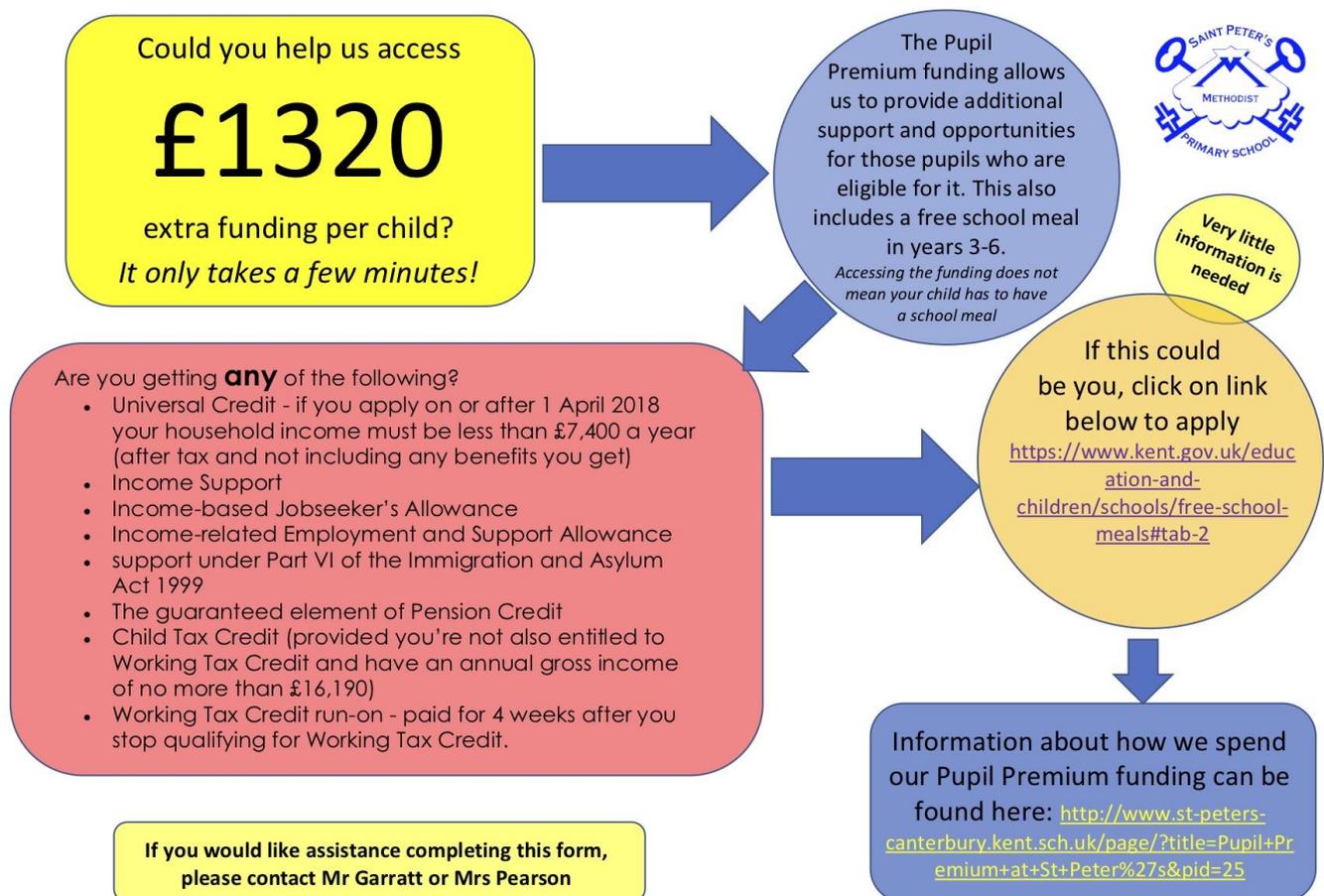
As we prepare for the end of term, please can we ask that all reading books and library books are returned to your child's class teacher.

Music news

From September, we will be offering guitar and flute lessons. Information for these can be collected from the school office.

From the office

Pupils moving up from Class 2 to Class 3 will no longer qualify for universal infant free school meals. This means that unless you qualify for pupil premium funding, you will need to pay for meals from September @ £2.05 per day. More information about the pupil premium funding can be found below.



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