



Autumn 2026 - Newsletter 1

Messages From Mr Hitchcock



I hope you all received our **new school brochure** this week. It was created to celebrate our school and the wonderful community we are part of. A big thank you to Martin Humphries for designing and printing it for us.

It has been lovely to return after the summer and welcome so many **new pupils**, both across the school and into Reception. They have all settled in really well, so a very warm welcome to you all.

It was also fantastic to see the newly **refurbished Oak and Ash classrooms**, including the new roof. This has taken many years to secure, but we now have a watertight block with new ceilings and freshly decorated classrooms – a much-improved learning environment for our pupils. Thank you to the Diocese of Exeter, the Normans Trust and H.I. Building for making this possible.

Our PTA has already met to plan **another year of events and fundraising**. Please do get involved where you can – whether that is helping at an event, supporting fundraising or simply coming along and joining in. It makes a real difference to the school. Look out for the next events being advertised soon - including the year 5 buddy/Reception pupils film night!

Please look out for the **class information videos** coming home this Friday, which will give you a little more information about the exciting academic year ahead.

As always, keep an eye on the newsletter, which will normally come out fortnightly, and our **Need to Know** page for important information and upcoming events. **There are some very important allergy alerts below.**

A quick mention for **Budleigh Scouts, Cubs and Beavers**, who are looking for more children to join. They meet on Monday evenings at Venture Hall. Come along at 6.15pm or contact Alan Lowe ('Skip') on 443815 to find out more.

Finally, the rules around **Free School Meals and Pupil Premium have changed**. Please check whether your family may now be eligible. It could save you money while also providing valuable additional funding for the school:

[Pupil Premium information](#)

And one last thing... **Budleigh Carnival is on 3 October**. Would anyone like to organise a walking entry for the PTA? It would be great to see St Peter's there!

Allergy alerts

To help keep our school environment safe, we would like to share important information regarding pupils in our school who have severe allergies. We ask that all parents in these

classes remain particularly mindful when packing snacks and packed lunches to avoid sending in specific allergen items. Children are NOT allowed to share food.

Below are the details of pupils with specific allergies listed by their class:

Chestnut Class

- **Felix B:** Allergic to peanuts.
- **Benji:** Allergic to nuts.
- **Millie/Emilia:** Allergic to nuts.

Oak Class

- **Piper:** Allergic to kiwi.
- **Michael:** Allergic to nuts including chocolate.

Cherry Class

- **Evelyn:** Allergic to dairy.

Beech Class

- **Erin:** Allergic to nuts.

Please try and avoid sending nuts or peanut-based products to school in snacks or packed lunches. We also enforce a strict "no food sharing" and "no external treats" policy across all classrooms to protect these pupils from accidental exposure. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping all of our children safe.

What's Coming Up Next...

Please check the need to know page: <https://st-peters-school.org.uk/class-info/>

Who's who? Emma Frost

Don't forget you can check out the staff bios here: <https://st-peters-school.org.uk/about-us/biographies/>

This week - Mrs Frost!

Emma Frost joined St Peters in February 2025 as Senior Administrative Officer. Her favourite teacher was Mrs Kent, who taught her Office Studies. Emma remembers Mrs Kent as kind and incredibly supportive, and was delighted to continue learning from her when she stayed on into sixth form to study Business Administration, also taught by Mrs Kent. After

completing her studies, Emma went on to work as a PA, where she had the opportunity to travel the world while managing a variety of events. In April 2023, Emma and her family made the move from Hertfordshire to Devon, where they have since settled. Her favourite children's books were The Large Family Series by Jill Murphy. In her spare time Emma enjoys spending time with her husband and 8 year old son Tommy, in particular spending time at the Beach. Emma's one wish for the school would be for better funding.

Smartphone Free Childhood: an update

What's it all about?

A group of St Peter's parents are working together through the Smartphone Free Childhood initiative to help delay the pressure to give children smartphones and to make it easier for families to choose a different path together.

The evidence is encouraging

New research from the Institute for Fiscal Studies found that schools where at least 1 in 5 families had signed the Parent Pact saw around 8% fewer recorded mental-health needs, with stronger effects as more families joined. Read the IFS study

We're already ahead of that benchmark! With 87 St Peter's signatures, we're at around 29%. Let's keep it going! 🙌

💛 Sign the Parent Pact If you haven't already, search for St Peter's Church of England School on the Parent Pact, or enter EX9 — St Peter's should come up first.

Already signed last year? No action needed! The pact has moved up a year, so, for example, last year's Year 3 families are now counted in Year 4, etc.

Looking for a first phone?

A child's first phone doesn't have to mean their first smartphone. There are more non-smartphone options than ever, offering independence and connection without the downsides of a smartphone.

The Smartphone Free Childhood Alternatives Finder is a great place to explore the options. <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org>

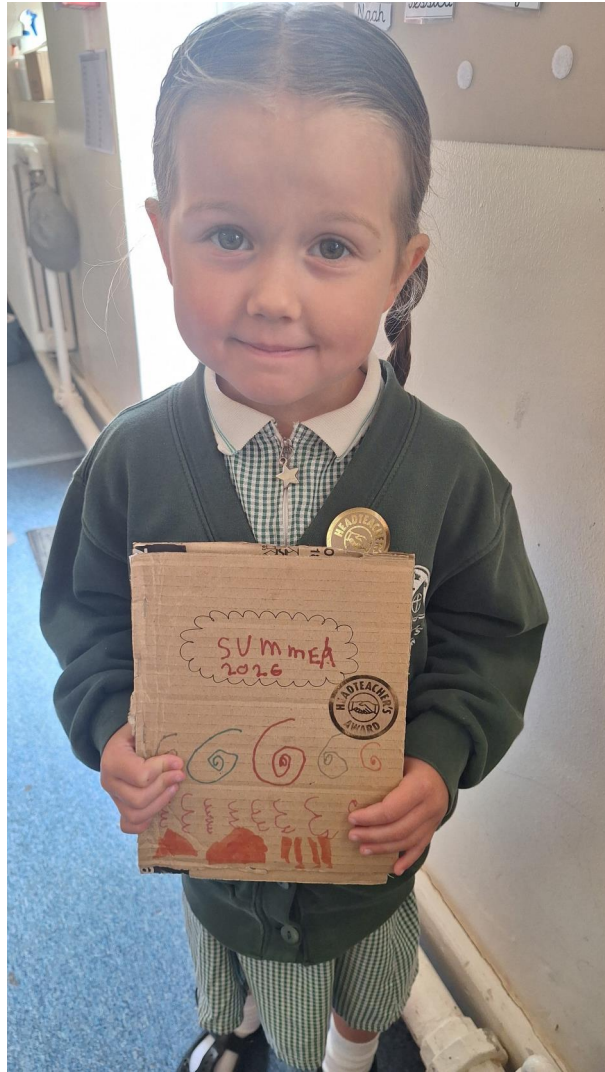
What's Been Happening In School...



Headteacher Awards...







Pupil Celebrations...



Coming Up In The School & Community...



Closure of Dark Lane to pedestrians

Has the recent closure of Dark Lane affected you? There is a campaign to get it reopened. Fill in this short survey and tell us how it has affected you.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SYLMH2C>

Quick Links...

- [Need to know pages](#)
- [Term dates](#)
- [Menus](#)

- [Uniform](#)
- [Stationery](#)
- [Online safety](#)
- [St Peter's Fundraising](#)

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Contact Us...



St Peter's C of E Primary School

Moor Lane

Budleigh Salterton

Devon

EX9 6QF

01395 443167

admin@sps1.org.uk

st-peters-school.org.uk