



Autumn 2026 - Newsletter 2

Messages From Mr Hitchcock



So, we're a few more weeks into the term, and I'm very proud of the start we've made. Our pupils have shown excellent focus and enthusiasm for learning, with real pride in the presentation of their work. The new Reception gang are dreamy, and our Year 6s are already setting a wonderful example of our Good Samaritan ethos. Do have a look at some of their news below!

I'm never prouder of our school than when someone visiting comments on how brilliant our children are. Please read about this and the NSPCC visit below.

And it's been busy, as usual! We've had our brilliant cross-country trials — I was so proud of everyone who took part, marshalled and supported. Look out for the lovely photo of Reception cheering everyone on! We've also had a fantastic piano concert, a lovely Harvest Festival led by our wonderful Mrs Walshaw, and the chance for our Reception pupils to receive their new Bibles. It was also lovely to welcome our new Vicar, Revd Sarah. Our brilliant volunteers are back, helping in classes and reading with our pupils. We appreciate them hugely. Thanks to Bronwen winning a pony visit, our Reception and KS1 pupils also had the very special opportunity to meet Mini the pony! We had a lovely visit to see author Matt Goodfellow at ECC, and thank you to everyone who came along and gave our new school menu a try. We hope you enjoyed it!

Congratulations, too, to Piper, Connie, Jack and Hugo, who had the honour of carrying the standard to church for the first time this year.

And, last but not least... can you believe we won the Literary Quiz again?! Find out more below.

There are a few other things to support and look forward to:

Please support our school by trying the School Lottery. You could win, and so could we!

[St Peter's School Lottery](#)

Don't forget the Year 5 and Reception Buddy Film Night is coming up. See the details and book here:

[Film Night bookings](#)

And finally, please consider sponsoring **Mr Newing**, who is taking on a charity run!

[Sponsor Mr Newing](#)

NSPCC Visit: *Speak Out Stay Safe*

We were delighted to welcome representatives from the NSPCC to St Peter's recently to deliver their vital *Speak Out Stay Safe* programme. The initiative helps children understand how to stay safe and recognize when to speak out to trusted adults. Following the visit, NSPCC Devon and Torbay Schools Coordinator Rachel Patchett shared glowing feedback from the volunteers about our school and wonderful pupils:

Confident & Thoughtful Pupils: Volunteers noted that our children were exceptionally confident when discussing their views and demonstrated brilliant listening skills with one another.

Supportive School Environment: The team praised the warm welcome from staff and highlighted how evident it was that staff know each child individually and support them so well.

Safeguarding Focus: The NSPCC team commended the school's active engagement with safeguarding and classroom management throughout the workshop delivery.

A massive thank you to the NSPCC volunteers for visiting us, and a huge well done to all of our pupils for being such wonderful representatives of St Peter's!



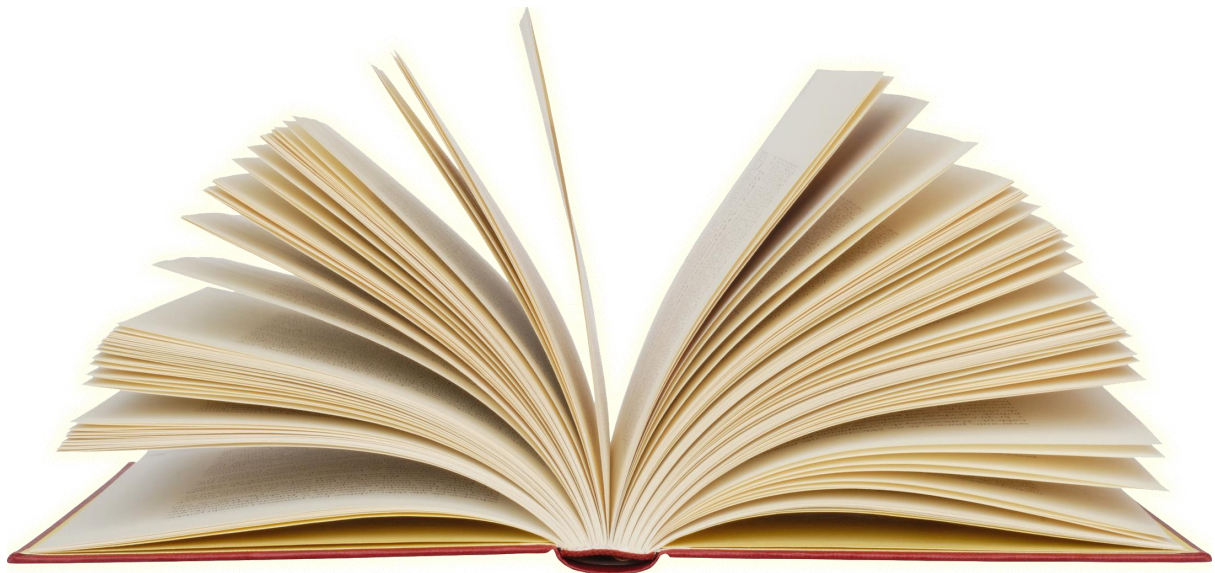








4-PEAT!



We're going to need another frame for our collection! 🏆📖 Our amazing readers at St. Peter's have only gone and swiped 1st place in the Budleigh Literary Festival Reading Competition — for the FOURTH year in a row! 🍌👏 We are absolutely delighted to be sharing the trophy with the brilliant team at St. Joseph's this year too. What an achievement! A huge thank you to all the wonderful people behind the scenes who organise this fantastic event for so many schools, and who spend the afternoon making us laugh, think, and celebrate all things bookish. 📖❤️ Well done team!

🎹 ✨ What a brilliant Summer Piano Concert! ✨ 🎹



Although postponed, it was certainly worth the wait! What a wonderful afternoon of music, confidence and achievement from our talented school pupils. We are incredibly proud of everyone who took part. ✨

A huge thank you to Louise Elliott for her care, patience and dedication in teaching and supporting our pupils. Your encouragement and expertise make such a difference, and it was wonderful to see the children's hard work shine through. 🎵

Thank you to all of our parents and families for encouraging your children to develop such an important and rewarding skill, and for providing such a warm and enthusiastic audience. Your support means so much. ❤️

And finally, a very special thank you to our wonderful admin team, Mrs Rogers and Mr Newing, for all the behind-the-scenes organisation and administration that goes into making an event like this possible. Your hard work helped create such a lovely occasion for our school community.

Well done to all of our young pianists — you were fantastic! 🙌 🎹 ✨

XC report by David and Edward (year 6)



In the Y5/6 girls race, it was a close battle on Lap 1, with Connie catching up to Karlotta on Lap 2, eventually making the overtake and completing the podium of Connie, Nora, Karlotta. In the Boys version of this category the result did not much reflect that of recent years with Archie.S winning following ed by Oliver Dovey who overtook Rudi.S. In the Y3/4 races, the girls race was topped by Evelyn, Sofia & Holly. The boys 3/4 was won by Edward Dutton, Henry and in the Y2 honorary race Toby, Elijah and Algie. Well done to all the children who took part, I hope you feel proud, because you should be! Everyone did great!

News reports from Ollie and Osian (Yr 6)

The football rota has changed. Now every pitch will have a individual ball for playing. Orange Ball will be for big pitch, blue ball will be for goal nearest road and finally black and white will be for goal nearest hedge.



30.09.2026 Harvest festival

At Tuesday morning, St Peter's went down to the church to celebrate the harvest festival.



1.10.26 Clubs

Clubs have now been established. Now yr6s can run a club for St Peter'ss from all years.

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.

Thanks for coming along and trying the yummy new menu!!



1 - Well done Sarah, Vicki and the kitchen team



What's Coming Up Next...

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

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 Peters 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.

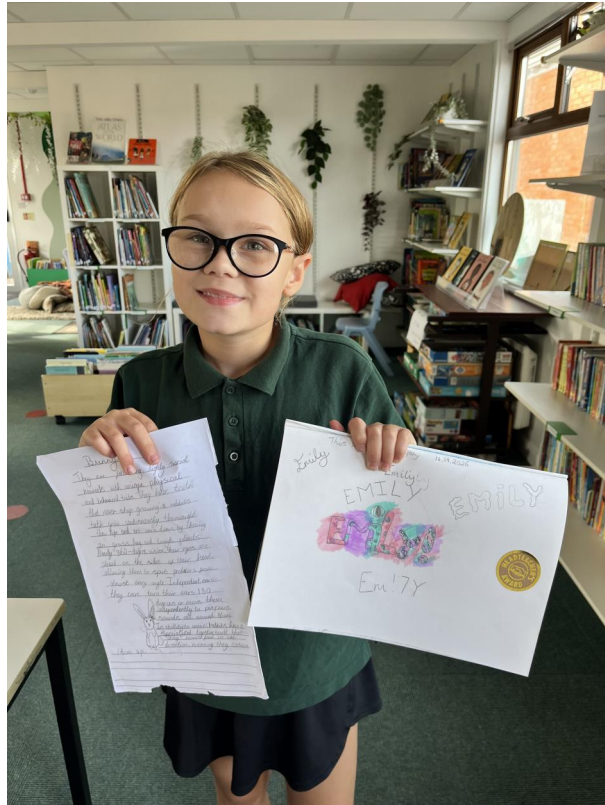
The Smartphone Free Childhood Alternatives Finder is a great place to explore the options.
<https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org>

What's Been Happening In School...

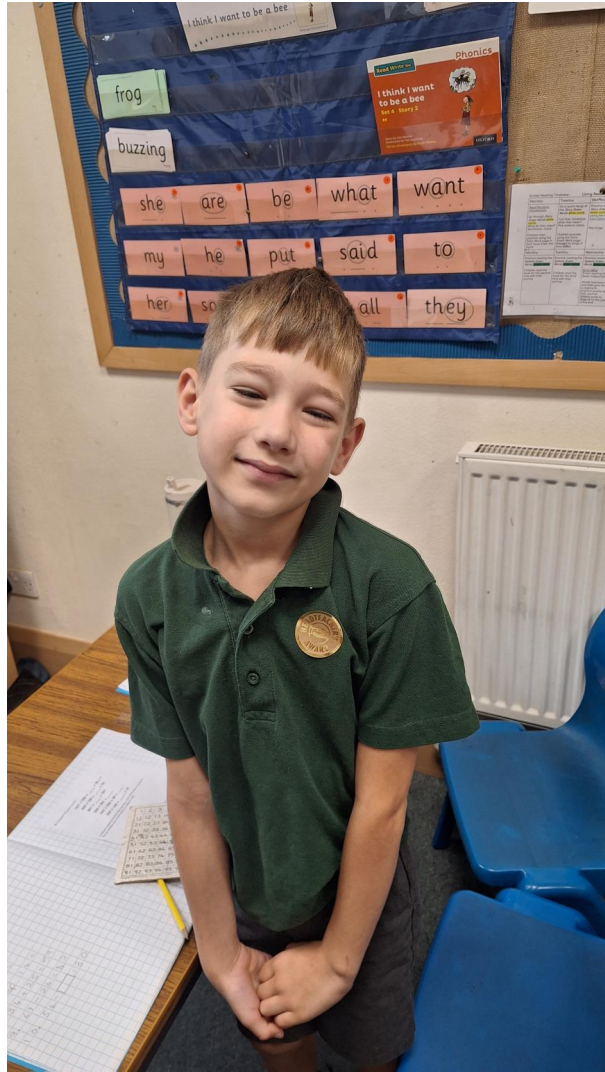


Headteacher Awards...

















Pupil Celebrations...



2 - Willow Nolan won the high achiever prize at Martial Arts and was awarded a special hoodie!



3 - Willow Nolan reached her half marathon milestone at Parkrun over the summer and is super excited for her Budleigh Blazers t shirt!



4 - Florence Beckett completed her first 3 day pony club camp this summer at Bicton Arena. She passed her E test and gained 6 care badges during the camp!



5 - Maeve and Orla Doyle climbed a mountain in Wales, and they also did the Merthyr Tydfil Junior parkrun!



6 - Willow Peart was disappointed by the amount of plastic and micro plastic found on the beach on holiday in Cornwall so we spent a long time picking it up and putting it in the bin.

Willow has also just moved up to stage 4 in swimming and has got her 15m badge!



7 - Oscar Rohrabaugh has been taking part in dirt biking activities!



8 - Agnes Cooper completed the summer reading challenge and did the book bingo scheme!



9 - Hugo has place silver medal in the Devon county championship for U11. He is currently number 2 only Devon in the county U11 ranking and 6th in the U12 Devon ranking!



10 - Arlo RK was the Focus Star of the Week at football today- 'Arlo was fantastic in his individual station and carried it into the game at the end. Great effort, attitude and football from him' - written by his coaches!



11 - Florence Beckett recently competed in the last show of the season with the Exe Equestrian Club and won 1st, 2 x 2nds and 2 x 3rd place rosettes plus she came in the top 6 of the Working Horsemanship ring out of 20!



12 - Reggie won best bowler of the year for under 10s softball for Budleigh Cricket Club and was so good at softball got moved up to the hardball team!



13 - Albie J received a trophy for "top tackler" at only his 3rd training session at Exmouth Rugby under 9s!



14 - Eddie was awarded U10 Hardball Best Batter at the Budleigh cricket junior awards this weekend (and he competed his 10th junior parkrun)!

Coming Up In The School & Community...





15 - Our new Vicar Rev'd Sarah Mounoury starts work in the Raleigh Mission Community on Sunday. To celebrate we have planned a community Harvest Festival Service at St Michael's Otterton on 11th October starting at 15.00.

Family Fun

SAT 26 - SUN 27 SEPT 2026

AT
BUDLEIGH SALTERTON
LITERARY FESTIVAL
CELEBRATING BOOKS BY THE SEA

Talks, workshops, craft and stories - A whole world of family fun!

LOUIE STOWELL

LOKI: A BAD GOD'S GUIDE TO CAUSING CHAOS

ST PETER'S CHURCH
10am-11am | TICKETS £4 ONLINE

Calling all mischief-makers! Bestselling author and Norse myth superfan **Louie Stowell** comes to Budleigh to share her hit Loki series. Dive into a world of chaos and fun with live drawing, quizzes and plenty of wild Norse myth facts.

budlitfest.org.uk



Online Safety Training & Consultancy

-  **Online Safety Pro** – annual and half-termly training and resources for staff and parents.
-  **Staff and parent training videos** – Primary and Secondary options available.
-  **School visits** – sessions for pupils, staff and parents.
-  **School webinars** – for staff and parent training sessions.

View all training & consultancy →

17 - Year 5/6:

For Parents and Carers – Find the Fake

How good are you and your children at spotting misinformation?

Internet Matters' free **Find the Fake** activity is designed for families to try together. It's a simple way to start conversations about whether something online can be trusted and what children can do before believing or sharing it.

Why not try it together and see who gets the highest score?

Link: [Find the Fake – Internet Matters](#)

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](#)

Support the school with your online shopping - it's free and easy! All it takes is the click of a button.

Choose us at www.easyfundraising.org.uk

Contact Us...



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