NEWSLETTER

Term 3
Issue 01
Date: 09.01.2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome all the pupils back after the Christmas holiday, Happy New Year and I do hope all of our families had an enjoyable festive season. As you are aware, we are continuing with the fortnightly newsletter, and we will also be reducing some of the repetition, to reduce the burden on families. Please find attached this weeks newsletter.

School Closure Arrangements:
In the unlikely event that the school needs to shut due to adverse weather conditions or a critical incident, the school would endeavour to inform parents before 8am, through our in house communications of email messages, the school website and our Facebook page. We will also be updating the Bristol City Council School Closure site, which can be accessed here: https://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/schools-learning-and-early-years/school-closures

If as a school we did need to close, this would be as a last resort after exploring all possible avenues and we would hope to provide as much advanced warning as possible. To support the school, we would ask that parents and carers avoid phoning the school and await further information through in house communications. Please follow us on Facebook for updates - https://www.facebook.com/Stpeterscofeprimary or visit our website St Peter's CofE Primary School - Home

Uniform Policy and PE Kits:
Please support us as a school by ensuring that your child attends school with the correct uniform or the correct PE Kit for PE days (Y1-Y6 only). This helps us continue to develop our strong sense of belonging to the St Peter's school community. May I also take this opportunity to remind parents and carers that pupils are not permitted to wear jewellery (with the exception of one stud earing) or makeup and nail varnish. I have attached the uniform guidance and policy for reference - Uniform Guidelines

Term 3 PE Days:
Monday—Year 5 & 6
Tuesday—Year 1 & 4
Wednesday—Year 2 & 5
Thursday—Year 2, 3 & 6
Friday—Year 1 & 3

Contact Us:
st.peters.p@bristol-schools.uk
https://www.stpeterscofeprimary.co.uk/
0117 3772186
Ofsted Good Provider

Non-Uniform
We will be having a non-uniform day on **Friday 13th February** (the last day of term 3) in exchange for £1 towards our school fund. Please pay via ParentPay or in cash on the day.

Reception Intake September 2026
The deadline for Reception September 2026 will soon be upon us. If your child was born between **1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022** you need to apply for a new reception school place through Bristol City Council. You need to apply by 15th January 2026. The link can be found here: https://parent.bristol.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/parents/. **Please remember that to secure a place at St Peter's, you will need to meet the admissions criteria as well as needing to put St Peter's as first choice / preference.**

Nursery Intake September 2026
Next term we will be sending out offers for our September intake for our nursery. If your child was born between **1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023** it is not too late. Please ring the office or email st.peters.p@bristol-schools.uk and provide details of your child and we will add them to our waiting list prior to offering places in Term 4.

Have a lovely weekend,
Matt Stannard
Headteacher

ATTENDANCE

We take a really strong approach to attendance in school and we ask that you commit to not taking your child(ren) out of school during term time schools hours for holidays or medical appointments. When your child cannot come into school please contact the school by 8.30am.

You can contact the school via:
Phone: ring and leave a message on 0117 3772186
Text: send a message to 07385 415275
Arbor: send an in-app message
Email: attendance@stpeterscofeprimary.co.uk

We need to know that your child is safe if not in school. If there is no reason given for your child's absence this will be an unauthorised absence.

Please click the link below to view the weekly attendance for week ending 8th January 2026

Weekly attendance ending 8th January 2026

Arriving late to school

Children that arrive late between 9.01am and 9.09am need to sign in at the office, they will be marked as late and receive an L Code. Absences after close of register (9.10am) are unauthorised. Please note that close of morning registration has changed from the start of this school year, please refer to the school Attendance Policy which is available on the school website Attendance Policy.pdf (stpeterscofeprimary.co.uk)

We would like to remind you that:

- Breakfast club is open between 7.30-8.30am—Homepage - Future Stars Coaching
- All school gates open at 8.40am
- Children should be in class ready to learn at 8.55am
- The school gates are closed at 9.00am
- All children arriving after 9.00am must register at the school office.

At primary school, children who attend school nearly every day in Year 6 (95-100% attendance) are **30% more likely** to reach the expected standard in reading, writing and maths compared to similar pupils who attend 90 -95% of the time.

The link is even stronger at secondary school. Year 11 pupils with near-perfect attendance **are almost twice as likely to achieve grade 5 in English and Maths** GCSE, compared to similar pupils attending 90-95% of the time. In other words, missing just 10 extra days a year reduces the likelihood of achieving these grades by

SCHOOL DINNER REMINDERS

Please remember that all school dinners must be booked **by midnight the night before**. **Same-day bookings are not available after 9am through ParentPay**, so if a meal has not been booked in advance, pupils will need to bring a packed lunch.

If your child is absent, please ensure you **cancel their meal on ParentPay** to avoid being charged. You can do this yourself, or you may **call the school office before 9am** and we will cancel it for you.

A further reminder that we are a **nut and sesame–free school**. For the safety of all pupils, **no food containing nuts or sesame** should be brought onto the school site.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in keeping our children safe and our lunch service running smoothly!

MEDICAL– Pain Relief

If your child requires pain relief, please administer it at home wherever possible, as the school only has a limited supply of emergency pain relief pain relief available.

Should your child need pain relief regularly during school hours, you will need to provide the medication and complete a medical form at the office.

Thank you for understanding and cooperation.

SCHOOL OFFICE OPENING TIMES

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
8.00am—4.00pm

Thursday
8.00am—1.00pm

Friday
8.00am—3.30pm

OPEN SESSIONS

You are invited in to your child/ren's classrooms on the dates below to view and celebrate their work. An email will be sent to you as a reminder nearer the time.

Year 3	**Friday 16th January 2026**
Year 6	**Friday 23rd January 2026**
Year 1	**Friday 30th January 2026**
Reception (8.40-8.55am) **Year 5 (3.20—3.35pm)**	**Friday 6th February 2026**
Year 2	**Friday 13th February 2026**

JOB VACANCIES

Teaching Assistant

School Meals Supervisory Assistant x2

NEWS FROM ST PETER'S CHURCH

Happy New Year from St Peter's Church!
There is so much happening across the St Peter's Campus! We have Sunday Services, Messy Church, Bubble Church, Coffee Pot, the Ark softplay, Bishopsworth Playgroup, and so much more! You can book tickets for upcoming Church events on our Eventbrite page here: eventbrite

Bubble Church is on **Sunday 18th January**, join us from 10am for lots of activities! Book your tickets here: January Bubble Church tickets

Book online here for our fantastic softplay, open 6 days a week: Ark Softplay

Do you know that you can hire the Ark Softplay for Birthday parties? Give the team a call on 0117 329 5997 to find out more!
To find out more about what's on at the St Peter's Campus, just email the Church team at out-reach@stpetersbishopsworth.co.uk

BUBBLE CHURCH
bubblechurch.org

You can also follow the Church on Instagram for lots of information on upcoming events: stpeters.bishopsworth

Messy Church

SEPTEMBER 2026 RECEPTION ADMISSIONS

You can now apply for your child's reception school place at St Peter's for September 2026, this will need to be done through the Bristol City Council web-site. The deadline to apply is **15th January 2026**.

Here is the link to apply for a new reception primary place.
[Apply for a new reception primary place]

If you require help or support with this, please pop into the school office and speak to Miss Metcalf.

TESCO STRONGER STARTS
HELP TO PROVIDE A WOODEN SHELTER FOR OUR FOREST SCHOOL AREA

We're in the customer vote for a Tesco Stronger Starts. It's a scheme which gives community projects grants of up to £1,500. Tesco customers will now vote in store during the first week in October 2025 until mid-January 2026 to decide how much funding we get, so please support us next time you shop at Tesco!

To vote, you will need to make a purchase of any value within store. You will receive one token per transaction.

[Tesco Stronger Starts]

Tesco Stronger Starts supports thousands of children's and young people's projects and good causes across the UK

Stronger Starts. In partnership with

TERM DATES 2025/26

Term 1	Tuesday 2nd September 2025 to Friday 24th October 2025
Term 2	Monday 3rd November 2025 to Friday 19th December 2025
Term 3	Monday 5th January 2026 to Friday 13th February 2026
Term 4	Monday 23rd February 2026 to Thursday 2nd April 2026
Term 5	Monday 20th April 2026 to Friday 22nd May 2026
Term 6	Monday 1st June 2026 to Wednesday 22nd July 2026

School will be closed for the following INSET days:

Tuesday 2nd September 2025
Friday 24th October 2025
Monday 5th January 2026
Monday 29th June 2026
Wednesday 22nd July 2026

School will be closed for the following public holiday:

Monday 4th May 2026

DATES TO REMEMBER

Anti Bullying Week Monday 10th-Friday 14th November 2025
Odd Socks Day Monday 10th November 2025
Children in Need Friday 14th November 2025
Children's Mental Health Week Monday 9th—13th February 2026
World Book Day Thursday 5th March 2026
Red Nose Day Friday 21st March 2026
KS2 SATs Monday 11th—Friday 15th May 2026
Phonics Screening W/C Monday 8th June 2026
Health Week W/C Monday 6th July 2026

NEWS FROM THE WINDMILL

This term we will be celebrating **Children's Mental Health Week** (9th - 15th February). This years theme is "This is my place" and will focus on the importance of children feeling they belong.

Monday 9th February our Educational Mental Health Practitioner Al Letch will be leading talks and activities to help teach children about their wellbeing and share ideas around belonging.

Friday 13th February there will be a **fancy dress day** to raise money for Place2Be, a children's mental health charity that supports families across the UK. The fancy dress theme will also be around belonging. Children can dress in uniform of groups they belong to e.g. Brownies/sports teams, or wear something that shows what they are a fan of e.g. Harry Potter costume, Pokémon hoodie.

SAFEGUARDING

Operation Encompass is a national information sharing scheme between police and education settings for children under 18 years where a child has experienced domestic abuse. The Domestic Abuse Act 2021 identifies children who experience domestic abuse as victims of domestic abuse in their own right.

Our school, like other schools, is part of the scheme where police forces have a statutory obligation to share information; so schools are able to offer the best possible support to children.

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads, known as a Key Adult, has been trained in the Operation Encompass procedures allowing us to then use the information that has been shared, in confidence, to support the child/ren in our care.

Please contact Deb Skuse, Designated Safeguarding Lead, if you would like further information.

OPERATION ENCOMPASS
In every force. In every school. For every child.

NEWS FROM THE LIGHTHOUSE

We're delighted to host our friendly, monthly Coffee Mornings in South Bristol — a welcoming, relaxed space for parent carers of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) to connect, unwind and feel supported.

Whether you're looking for a moment of calm, and hoping to meet
others who truly *get it*, you'll be met with warmth, understanding and a community that's here for you.

Although the atmosphere is relaxed and informal, we do ask that families book a free place via Eventbrite **here** so we can manage numbers and make sure the space is comfortable for everyone. We also know that life as a SEND parent or carer can be unpredictable — if you book and then can't make it, please don't worry. You're always welcome to join us next time.

At each session, our reps and other local families will be on hand for supportive conversation, whether you'd like to chat about challenges, share experiences, or simply enjoy a quiet moment with others who understand.

You'll often also find other local services joining us, offering everything from carer support advice to information about events and opportunities in the area.

Nursery—Ducklings

Thank you for all of your kind words, cards and gifts at the end of last term. We hope you all had a good Christmas and New Year. The children were very excited to tell us all about it when they came back.

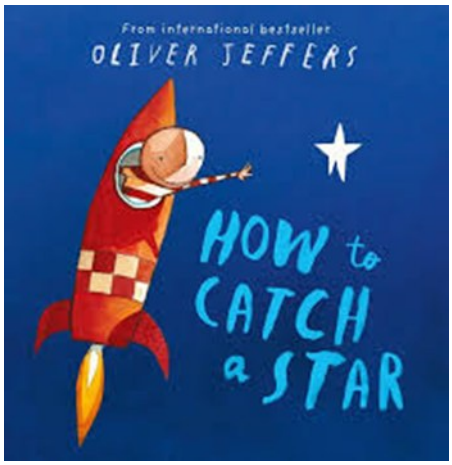
This week we have been reading the stories “How to Catch a Star” and “Lost and Found” by Oliver Jeffers. We made beautiful night sky paintings with different shades of blue.

We caught stars with nets in our tuff tray and made space themed puppets.
In Maths we continued to work on subitising, and counting forwards and backwards to ten. We went on a “Winter walk” spotting signs of winter and searching for snowmen pictures- we found 10.

Next week are learning the story “Each Peach Pear Plum”. We will learn to tell the story with actions and words.

ILDs

Please let us know if you need any help accessing the Interactive Learning Diaries. There are lots of lovely observations on them now.



Reception—Kookaburras and Robins

Welcome back – we hope you have all had a lovely Christmas and New Year! We have loved hearing all about the children's holidays!

Thank you so much for all of the kind words, cards and gifts we received at the end of Term 2, they were really appreciated.

We started the term with our Wellbeing Morning – connecting by playing games and sharing news, being active and learning by learning a new game / song, giving – thinking about ways we can give to others e.g. smiling, saying hi!

To start our ***"Terrific Tales"*** topic, we had a bread tasting session – tasting lots of different breads that the Little Red Hen might make including bagels, tortilla wraps, flat bread, and pitta! We have also shared all of the children's and teacher's favourite books.

Here is a link to the story of The Little Red Hen that we are focusing on for the next few weeks.	

Words

Each week we will have words we are focusing on. We will teach them and their meaning using a picture, an action and a song.

This week our words were: **wheat, grain, mill**

<u>Forest School</u>

We have finished our Forest School session now so you no longer need to send in Forest School clothes on a Tuesday.

Winter Weather

As it is very chilly, please send in your child with a hat and gloves as we will continue to play outside.

Please continue to encourage your child to zip up their coat independently to save them having to wait for an adult to help them.

Best wishes

The Reception Team

Y1— Doves and Kingfishers

We hope you had a wonderful break! We have had a lovely first week back together and especially enjoyed our wellbeing morning on Tuesday. We loved spending time reconnecting as a class and practicing some mindfulness ready for a busy week.

This week we have begun our whole class learning in English and Maths and have been so impressed by how the children have managed this change!

In English we have started our new text 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' and have been learning actions to read our story map. We have loved giving our best impressions of the troll under the bridge.

In Maths we have started our new unit, place value to 20. We have been busy using visuals to help us recognise our teen numbers and have done a fantastic job of counting forwards and backwards to 20.

In our DT unit this term we are designing and making bridges from junk modelling. Any toilet roll tubes or empty cereal box donations before Wednesday would be greatly appreciated.

A reminder that our PE days are now a Tuesday and Friday.

We hope you have a wonderful weekend.
Year 1 team

Y2— Owls and Kestrels

Happy New Year everyone! The academic year is speeding past. It's difficult to believe that we are in Term 3 already.

The children have returned with enthusiasm and they are ready to impress us all with their learning. The first day back, we had a well-being check in with the children and with talked about how a positive attitude improves your mental health as well as other around you.

This week we have learned the story of Snow White. We will use the story to examine the features of fairy tales and to write our own story with heroes an villains. In maths, we have completed to unit on money by working out how to make a pound and calculate change. Next week we will start to learn about multiplication and division.

In PE this term, we are studying gymnastics on a Wednesday and attacking and defending on a Thursday. Please remember that the children should come to school in PE kits on those days.

Have a lovely weekend!
Year 2 Team

Y3— Pelicans and Parrots

Welcome back to school! It's been so nice to see the children again and hear all about their holidays. Our first morning back entailed a well-being session which focussed on five key aspects of our mental and physical well-being.

The class connected with each other through a laughing activity, kept active by completing a daily lap and learnt some new skills throughout the morning.

In maths this week, both classes have revisited their work in division by dividing a two-digit number by a one-digit number. They were able to apply their place value knowledge and use partitioning to support them in doing this.

We can definitely see the progress that the children are making in maths and the quickening times table recall is supporting them in their progression, so please continue to practice these at home through the TTRS website:

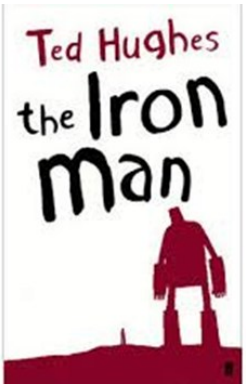
In English, the children were introduced to our new class reader; The Iron Man written by Ted Hughes. For this unit, the children will be learning about features that authors use to write stories focussing on setting description.

We began this journey by generating powerful adjectives for their very own drawing of the Iron Man.
In science, we began our unit of rocks, learning about the three main types (test them!) and how they are formed as well as learning about the different properties of each. We tested its durability, permeability and density.

Please note that our new PE days are Thursday and Friday. We will be learning gymnastics alongside sessions run by Bristol City. Exciting! Please do let us know if you can volunteer your time for our swimming sessions which start in March.

As always, if you have any questions, then please ask.

Mr MacDonald, Mrs Torrington and Mrs Hacker



SCAN ME

Y4— Penguins and Puffins

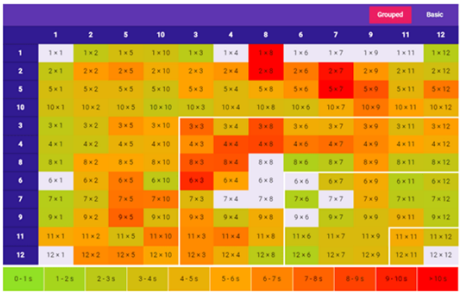
We've had an exciting first week back in year 4! We are moving onto our next maths unit, length and perimeter. We have moved onto our new English unit. Our text this term is Simic and the Forest, we look forward to learning our story map with actions!

Our class book this term is a fantasy story; The Legend of Podkin One-Ear KIERAN LARWOOD. We're also starting our unit of animal classification in science and looking at the work of Andy Warhol in Art. We are looking forward to all of the wonderful self-portraits the children create!

Thank you for supporting and encouraging your child with their weekly homework! Just a reminder; homework will be set every Friday, due in on Wednesday, with the weekly spelling test taking place on Thursday.

It is always helpful if you could encourage and support your child with reading at home. Remember, your child can also write in their reading records—it doesn't always have to be you!

This term, Miss Elliott and Mr Mac will be out on class on Wednesdays



Reminders and key information:

- Please ensure your child is following our school uniform policy and does not bring in fashion or costume jewellery and/or smart watches which take pictures and/or have games on.
- We will be going swimming in Term 3:

Penguins (12th, 19th and 26th January)
Puffins (2nd, 9th and 23rd February)

- When not swimming, our PE days are **Tuesdays and Wednesdays**. Please send your children in in their PE kits on these days. If there are any issues with PE kits, please speak to Mr Mac or Miss Elliott.

Y5— Flamingos and Emus

What a fab first week back in Year 5 in 2026! Emus and Flamingos have settled back into class routine, and we have begun many new topics and texts that the children are enjoying.

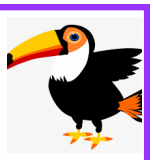
In Maths we have started equivalent fractions and decimals, looking at the difference between tenths, hundredths and thousandths and their value. In English, we have begun a lost and found tale, 'Dobber and the Silver Ring', which the children's homework is based upon.

Within our Reading lessons, we have started our new class book, 'The Boy at the Back of the Class', which the children are loving so far. We are starting out new unit in Geography learning about the slums and how the human and physical Geography of Bristol has changed over time.

In both classes, we have a new 'good choice of the day jar' whereby a new good choice will be chosen, and the children will earn points when they display the good choice.

Happy new year!
Year 5 team

Y6— Toucans and Eagles



Welcome back Year 6! Warm wishes for 2026 to you all.
The weather may be cold and wet but in the classroom we have been on fire with our learning.

This week has been a week of new units. In Maths, we have started our learning on Decimals. Our English work has been focused on letter writing. This week, we have started planning an informal letter, writing from the perspective of evacuees in WW2. Next week, we will finish our letters and move on to formal letter writing.

In Science, we have been looking at shadows - check out our practical work in the pictures below! In P.E., we have started working with Future Stars on our Netball skills. P.E. is on a Monday and Thursday this term. Please can all pupils be in correct kit on these days.

You are all warmly invited to an information evening about SATs on Monday 12th January at 3:30pm in the junior hall. We encourage parents and pupils to attend as we want everyone to feel reassured and ready. In the meeting, we will also be giving details about tutoring sessions that we are offering to all Year 6 pupils, free of charge, from Monday 19th January. This is a special opportunity for your children this year, voluntarily led by teachers, as we highly value your child's progress and attainment ahead of the next stage of their education.

Do wrap up warm for what promises to be a chilly weekend!

Best wishes,
Team Year 6

2026/27 TERM DATES

Term 1	Thursday 3 September 2026 to Friday 23 October 2026
Term 2	Monday 2 November 2026 to Friday 18 December 2026
Term 3	Monday 4 January 2027 to Friday 12 February 2027
Term 4	Monday 22 February 2027 to Thursday 25 March 2027
Term 5	Monday 12 April 2027 to Friday 28 May 2027
Term 6	Monday 7 June 2027 Friday 23 July 2027

School will be closed for the following INSET days:

- Thursday 3rd September 2026
- Friday 4th September 2026
- Monday 4th January 2027
- Thursday 25th March 2027

Monday 28th June 2027

School will be closed for the following public holiday:

Monday 31st May 2027