



Our Faith

Attentive to ourselves

In the week before half-term, we concluded our focus on the Catholic Pupil Profile values of being attentive and discerning, particularly about ourselves. Ms Yanez delivered thought-provoking assemblies reflecting on the Sunday Gospel. Jesus cleverly thwarted a question meant to trick him when the pharisees asked about paying the Roman tax. Jesus' response of "Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God" was a way of saying as humans we are created in the image of God and therefore we must use the talents given to us to do God's work, a message we can all be attentive to.

This half term, we will be focusing on the values of being faith-filled and hopeful, appropriate as we enter the month of November where Catholics traditionally remember those who have died, particularly during our remembrance masses that took place on Tuesday. A St Peter's tradition that goes back generations, we will be recalling the names of those past pupils and staff who have died. As we all remember, our 'Time to pray' bell will change to the chorus of 'I watch the sunrise' as we think of those we have loved and lost and that "you are always close to me, following all my ways, may I be always close to you, following all your ways, Lord", a beautiful way to think about our faith.



- Human Dignity
- Common Good
- Solidarity
- Subsidiarity
- Participation
- Stewardship
- Preferential Option for the Poor



Your Parish Priests would love to see you at one of the Sunday masses

Olton Friary – 9am, 11am and 6pm

Our Lady of the Wayside 5.30pm (Saturday) and 10am

St Augustine's, Solihull – 12.30pm (Saturday), 9am and 11am

St Thomas More – 5.30pm (Saturday) 9am and 11am.

St George and St Theresa – 5.30pm (Saturday) 8.45am and 10.30am

Parents' Evenings		
Key Stage 3	Key Stage 4	Key Stage 5
Year 7 11th April 2024	Year 10 7th March 2024	Year 12 8th February 2024
Year 8 9th November 2023	Year 11 14th December 2023	Year 13 14th March 2024
Year 9 1st February 2024		

Faith is Our Foundation



Message from Mr Shelton

We finished the half term with our usual rewards assemblies and the presentation of the Golden Tickets to the pupils who had achieved a high number of completed positive conduct cards and/or a high number of blue cards. One lucky pupil from each year group was given a £20 Amazon Voucher following the conduct card prize draw. It is really important pupils are rewarded for their continued hard work, effort, dedication and commitment to their studies as well as demonstrating the Catholic Values and Virtues that are so important and what makes St Peter's such a special school.

This half term, will be equally as busy as we prepare our Year 11 and Year 13 pupils for their first Mock Examinations and our Year 9 pupils who complete their autumn assessments as they start to consider and think about their GCSE options. I cannot stress enough how important these Mock examinations are, they form the basis for any college and university predicated grades and provide us with a greater understanding of the academic progress made so far. As we reach the end of the half term we celebrate a wonderful time of year, advent and Christmas, it really is a time of bring the entire school community together with Masses, carol services and the opportunity for a Christmas dinner.

Maintaining the highest of standards will always be a central aspect of our commitment to providing an outstanding educational experience, attendance, punctuality and excellent conduct will continue to be a focus and I ask that you continue to support the school, the Lead Tutors and Mr Stanton in maintaining these high expectations.

W/B	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
16th Oct	94.7%	95.3%	93.9%	92%	94.3%	97.5%	94.4%
23rd Oct	95.3%	91.2%	94.8%	91.2%	94.9%	94.9%	92.6%

Attendance



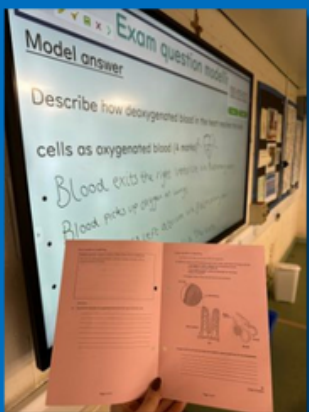
Faith-filled & Hopeful

October saw a continued focus on literacy here at St Peter's. Every year 7 pupil received a free book via BookBuzz and we are so proud of the reading culture created here particularly around our form reading time initiative. Staff were also given additional CPD around the importance of reading drawing on Alex Quigley's great work on teacher's modelling the reading to pupils. We were fortunate to use the expert teachers here at St Peter's to showcase this to others. We also use latest research such as EEF (Education Endowment Foundation) to inform our practice. In addition to reading, another key priority for us is oracy. Mrs Shelton delivered a session to staff and it is great to start to see the impact of this in our lessons. We encourage all pupils to engage orally in lessons and to deepen their vocabulary and extend their answers and to challenge them to offer alternative viewpoints and discussions. It was a privilege to visit so many science lessons this half term to see the great practice across the curriculum. Pupils particularly enjoy the science-based experiments. It is important for our pupils to take pride in their work, complete all work to a high standard and to keep workbooks neat and well presented.

Finally, at the end of the half term, it was great to meet a group of pupils to hear their thoughts, opinions and reflections on life here at St Peter's. They spoke highly of their provision here, particularly the rewards and less so on the demanding homework. Mr Shelton, Mr Williams and I really valued their honest feedback and look forward to doing more of these pupil voice opportunities in the future.

Teaching and Learning:
What to expect in our classrooms

Ms Keane, Deputy Headteacher



Golden Tickets

Mr Seickell

Congratulations to all our golden ticket winners for this half term. Award winners were selected for either receiving high levels of blue cards or completing the most positive conduct cards. Award winners in Year 7-10 will be enjoying a pizza & film afternoon after half term, whilst Year 11s will be suitably rewarded after their mock exams.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Layla D	Rithul R	Niamh M	Sean M	Daisy W
Veda R A	Paige O	Daniel M	Stephen W	Niamh L
Sadie K	Charlotte D	Fiona R	Blessing M	Grace M
Isabelle H	Zack A	Tia W	Peter L	Helena W
Grace M	Lilian D	Isabel A	Charlie W	Grace M
Samuel G	Mason L	Amelia N	Louis S	Hannah K
Ann D	Ashwin V	Katrina C	Luca D	Joanna C
Paris M	Harry S	Andrea F	Madeleine M	Hannah AM
Rebekah O	Minnie C	Sinead S	Joss B	Connor B
Emilie M	Isabelle B	Harry B	Lennon B	Laurie L
Arianna S	Maisie C	James T	Alfie H	Owen O
Talia G	Casper E		Liv L	William P
Joseph D	Patrick H		Tom N	Nicola P
Aaron B			Aiden W	
Pan C				
Bailey C				
Joseph H				
James M				
Lucas T				
Kyrell S				
Sebastian S				

The Year of St Joseph

University & Apprentice Search Event Edgbaston Stadium

St Peter's Sixth Form Year 12 pupils recently attended the UK University and Apprenticeship Search Event at Edgbaston Cricket Club on 10th October. This event provided our pupils with a valuable opportunity to explore their post-secondary education and career options.

The day was filled with informative seminars and stands, where our pupils gained insights into the wide array of university programs and apprenticeships available in the UK. They engaged with representatives from various institutions and companies, asking questions, gathering materials, and learning about admission requirements and application processes. These seminars are now available to watch via a link sent to all pupils as well as posted on the Sixth Form twitter handle (@StPeters_Sixth).

This experience was not only enriching but also inspiring as our Year 12 pupils took significant steps towards making informed choices about their future academic and career paths. The sixth form team would like to thank all the pupils for their exemplary behaviour and being such good representatives of the college. **Mr Grice**



Year 12 Talk on Future Pathways

Following closely on the heels of the UCAS Exhibition in Edgbaston, Year 12 had a presentation given by Dr. Tom Drewitt-Wex from Oxford Brookes University on Thursday 12th October. As a member of the university outreach team, Tom spent time outlining the various pathways available to the pupils post-18. He discussed pathways such as degree apprenticeships, apprenticeships, as well as foundation level and degree courses available at university.

He gave our pupils a thorough and comprehensive guide on what to research and how to explore their options moving forward. The talk helped to put the information they had collected from the Edgbaston UCAS exhibition into a manageable context and has made them realise they need to start their research right now starting with Open Days and lots of googling!

Ms Przyrodzki

Theatre Trips

Year 7 & 8 'Charlie and The Chocolate Factory'

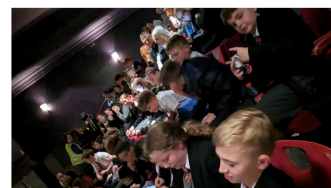
Birmingham Hippodrome

In an enchanting celebration of imagination and wonder, over 200 pupils from year 7 and 8 were treated to an unforgettable performance of 'Charlie and The Chocolate Factory'.



The spectacle that unfolded before their eyes was nothing short of magical. The vibrant sets, dazzling costumes, and talented cast brought Roald Dahl's beloved characters to life, transporting the young audience into a world of pure imagination. From the eccentric Willy Wonka to the endearing Charlie Bucket, each character was portrayed with such finesse and passion that it left the pupils mesmerised.

Laughter echoed through the theatre as the mischievous Oompa Loompas burst into catchy tunes and hilarious dances. The pupils found themselves unable to resist tapping their feet and joining in the infectious spirit of the performance.



Our pupils in year 7 and 8 were captivated by the incredible talent and enchanting storytelling. It was a delightful reminder that the power of the arts holds the key to a world of imagination and joy.

Mr Mallon

Year 10 & 11 'Macbeth'

Royal Shakespeare Theatre



Earlier this month our key stage 4 pupils enjoyed an immersive experience in visual and soundscape theatrics during their recent trip to the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of 'Macbeth'.

Over two nights, two-hundred pupils were catapulted into the haunting and atmospheric landscape of Scotland: from the eerie and unearthly beings of the witches to the grandeur of Macbeth's castle. The sensory impact of the performance sparked our pupils' imaginations and provided a vivid context for their study of the text.



By experiencing the play, our pupils gained a deeper understanding of the themes and characters they are currently studying for their GCSE literature exams. In the weeks and months to come, pupils will delve into discussions about the performance within their English classes and for those who are currently revising for their mock exams we are confident this will further ignite their passion for the play and enhance their academic progress.

Ms Davies

There are more theatre trips being planned for this academic year which include:

KS3	KS4	KS5
6th Feb 'Woman in Black'	7th Dec 'A Christmas Carol'	23rd Nov 'Othello'
2nd & 3rd July 'Hamilton'	1st Feb Poetry Live	
	1st May 'Jekyll & Hyde'	

Catholic Secondary Schools Events

St Peter's dominate the Catholic Secondary Schools Events!

Year 7 Maths Challenge

St Edmund Campion Catholic School

Miss Goodman and Mr Palin took 9 mathletes from year 7 for a maths challenge at St Edmund Campion.

It is a local competition which combines mathematical, communication and teamwork skills and offers pupils the chance to express and develop their enjoyment of Mathematics.

We were truly impressed to see our pupils demonstrate high levels of skill, teamwork and perseverance when faced with the challenges in front of them. At every stage, they managed to demonstrate critical thinking and determination and our values of being **learned** and **wise**.

There were 14 teams and we finished first and joint second, a fantastic result. A huge congratulations to Luca, Martha, Orla, Ellis, Layla, Isla, Finley, James and Luca for their participation and maths excellence.

Ms Goodman



Year 7 & 8 Winter Games

Bishop Walsh Catholic School

On Wednesday 25th October, St Peter's attended the Birmingham Secondary Catholic schools, Winter Sport Competition. Pupils had to compete in three sports: basketball, football and volleyball.

The competition was tough but St Peter's showed resilience, persistence and outstanding teamwork resulting in our girls team placing 1st and our boys team placing 2nd. Combining both teams' points, St Peter's were the overall team winners! Well done to all participants.

Ms Elton

Enrichment

We have been blown away by the number of participants at our extra-curricular sports clubs this term. Pupils now have the option to attend before school, lunchtime and after school clubs giving all pupils an opportunity for competition. Many pupils have represented St Peter's in Football, Netball, Basketball, Volleyball and Cross Country this term. We look forward to next term, with more opportunities available for our pupils including the introduction of both boxing and fencing clubs!

Ms Elton



Cross-Country Season

Following an excellent start to the Cross Country season, a number of pupils were invited to attend some recent County Trials. Congratulations to the following girls who competed in these trials:

Minor Girls: Orlagh M 10th
Junior Girls: Erin H 6th
Lily S 15th

Both Orlagh & Lily have subsequently been selected to represent the West Midlands in a forthcoming Inter-Counties race. We wish them all our best in their endeavours.

Mr Seickell

Human Dignity

Subject Focus:
D&T

Director of Learning:
Mrs Sanders



A massive well done to **Year 7** who have created their Charles Rennie Mackintosh rings, a superb achievement working safely in the metal workshop. Pupils have made excellent progress, developing their practical skills working with equipment such as pillar drills, jigs hacksaws. **Year 8** pupils have developed a CAD rotating lid for their Cafod inspired money box, they continue to develop their practical skills in the wood workshop. In **Year 9**, pupils are exploring various electrical components and their functions. This term, they are soldering their circuits to create a mood light inspired by the Memphis design style.

In Key Stage 4 GCSE D&T, **Year 10** pupils have just finished manufacturing a photo frame by integrating four distinct wood joints. Currently, they are engaged in developing a design specification for their upcoming project, centered around metalwork. In this phase, pupils will design and make a children's coat hook, and employ tools such as jigs, templates, metal shears, and the brazing hearth. To enhance the product's commercial viability, the final step will involve dip coating.

Congratulations to **Year 11** pupils who have reached the developmental and production phase of their coursework. This year's class boasts exceptional designers who are crafting innovative products—stay tuned for their creations! The deadline for finalised coursework submissions is in December.

Recommended revision resources: Revision guide- ClearRevise Revision AQA GCSE Design Technology 8552 Flash cards- Collins GCSE Grade 9-1 Revision - AQA GCSE 9-1 Design & Technology Rev

Year 7 Autumn Disco

A buzzing atmosphere at the year 7 disco on Thursday evening with excellent attendance from the year group. What a fantastic way to end the half term!

With brilliant tunes from the DJ, rave face paints with Ms Lakin and plenty of pizza to keep those energy levels up, Year 7 pulled out some show stopping moves. Our personal favourites were the 'Macarena', 'Cha Cha Slide' and a song always synonymous with Mr Williams: 'Sweet Caroline'.

No better way to end the night than with a few Oasis classics to sing together. Year 7 partied until the lights came up. We hope you all had a great time!

Miss Galligan

