



Our Faith



This half term, we are focusing on the Catholic Pupil Profile values of being intentional and prophetic, meaning our actions and words should set an example to others and we purposefully and proactively try to make the world a better place.

A recent Assembly theme was "Here I am, O Lord, I come to do your will", inspired by the Psalm sung on the previous Sunday, the second in ordinary time. Assemblies allowed pupils to reflect on the scripture from the Gospel of St John which recounted when Jesus asked the disciples the question of "What do you want?". It is a question that can be asked of ourselves, especially our young people, making key decisions about their futures; "what do we want to achieve?", "what do we want out of life?". Assemblies reminded pupils of the importance of prayer and listening to God's plan. The story of Samuel, the First reading on that same Sunday, reminds us that we need to listen carefully. Sometimes God's message may come through the advice of a parent, the wisdom of a grandparent, the lessons of a teacher or counsel of a priest – if we are listening carefully and following God's plan – our futures will be in the safe hands of the Lord.

Saturday 27th January was Holocaust Memorial Day. This date was the day in 1945 when Soviet troops 'liberated' Auschwitz concentration camp. In the days, weeks and months that followed, the world realised the scale of the evil that had befallen on the victims of the Holocaust. In school, we use this as a powerful warning about where racism and discrimination can lead. As the most famous quote put it "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." And for us, that is a call to be intentional and prophetic in standing up for what is right, spreading God's love and listening to God's plan for us.

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

Parent Questionnaire



Parent Questionnaire

As part of our ongoing ambition to improve our school community we would like to invite you to share your opinions on a variety of aspects within St Peter's Catholic School. Collaboration is important to us as we are committed to improving the experiences your son(s)/daughter(s) has at school. There are 14 questions and it should not take any longer than 5 minutes to complete. The questionnaire closes on the 23rd February 2024. Thank you for taking the time to answer the questions; we value your views.

<https://forms.office.com/e/kehkW1kp9W>

Faith is Our Foundation

SEND Team Update

Miss Yanez, Associate
Assistant Headteacher -
SEND/CO

At St Peter's, our pupils are at the centre of everything we do as a SEND team. We aim to identify the needs of all pupils as early as possible. This is part of our graduated approach, in which we Assess, Plan, Do, Review (ADPR). This ongoing cycle ensures that effective provision is put in place and also removes barriers to learning. We have a range of interventions taking place daily in to meet the needs of all of our children. We believe in inclusivity for all and strive to make this a reality for all our pupils. We are working hard to develop new ways to support pupils with additional needs.

This half-term we are excited to be involved in the Autism in Schools Project, led by the Specialist Inclusion Support Services ASD team. The project will involve working with a small number of pupils in years 7 and 8 to gain their views around neurodivergence in schools and share their experiences. This is an invaluable opportunity and will help us hugely as a school to support other young neurodivergent pupils moving forward.

In March, Mrs Thompson, one of our Learning Support Assistants, will be completing training from Ruth Miskin in Read Write Inc. Fresh Start, a highly successful, evidence based, literacy intervention to support struggling readers across the curriculum. We hope to roll out intervention groups in the summer term, in addition, Read Write Inc. provides everything needed to support parents in helping pupils practise reading at home. Miss Moscatiello, our Emotional Literacy Support Assistant, alongside Ms Yañez , will be attending training from Nurture UK as we have signed up to take part in the Solihull Nurturing Schools Programme, to be launched within school during the summer term.

We welcome feedback from all parents and carers, so please do get in touch with the SEND team via the school's enquiry email should you have any questions.

W/B	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
15/01	94.7%	93.4%	92.4%	90.4%	92.8%	-	91%
22/01	95.7%	94.7%	95.4%	91.3%	93.1%	92.6%	92.5%

Attendance



Intentional

During our latest training session, we discussed with staff about the importance of high expectations and consistency across the school in terms of behaviour in lessons and around school, punctuality and uniform. As well as looking at the classroom procedures, training was also given on techniques that could be used to ensure these standards are kept at the highest level whilst supporting pupil attainment such as building positive relationships, avoiding low level disruption and improving literacy. We are very much looking forward to seeing some of these techniques in action, and the positive impact this has on learning!

School Expectations

Mr Stanton, Assistant Headteacher - Behaviour & Culture

Year 9 - KS4 Pathways

Mrs Crees, Senior Assistant Headteacher

On 24th January, Year 9 had an extended assembly introducing them to the process of selecting their courses of study for September 2024 when they start their GCSE courses. They were given an overview of the KS4 Core and Optional curriculum, and received information about Modern Foreign Languages, Business Studies, GCSE PE, L2 BTEC Sport, Dance, Sociology and Health and Social Care. Over the coming weeks, teachers from other subject areas will be giving Year 9 pupils an overview of the KS4 pathways in their subjects. Year 9 pupils and their parents will also receive a detailed booklet about St Peter's KS4 curriculum and information about every course offered in KS4.

Year 9 Parents' Evening is being held on 1st February, which is an excellent opportunity to discuss course choices with teachers of all the different subjects Year 9 currently study. In addition to this, Year 9 pupils and parents will have the opportunity to meet with a member of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss course choices and receive information, advice and guidance about KS4 and beyond. This will take place between 4pm and 6pm on Tuesday 20th February and appointments can be requested using this [Microsoft Form](#). Pupils will complete and submit their KS4 choices online after this date, with the final deadline being 5pm on Friday 1st March.

A brilliant afternoon with Year 5 pupils doing the Year 5 maths challenge. There were two rounds, a logic and a speed one. Five teams participated and they were all engaged and worked hard as a team. St Augustine's took an early lead, scoring 73 out of 110. We look forward to the next two rounds where the scores could change! Thank you to Mrs Costello, Mr Slater and Miss Shaw and all the parents for supporting this wonderful event.

Year 5 Maths Challenge

Miss Goodman



Sixth Form Awards Evening



It was a pleasure and delight to welcome back our Year 13 pupils who left St Peter's in 2023 for pastures new. At our annual Awards Evening, dozens of our talented and successful past pupils returned to collect their A-Level certificates and many received special awards. The highest performing pupil in each subject received awards but there were also some special awards.

It was a privilege to welcome back a particularly successful former pupil, Richard Beale who having left St Peter's nearly 30 years ago, has gone on to have a very successful football career. The keynote speech was very inspirational with a message about the importance of resilience and determination. It was a pleasure to hear the stories and successes of the first few months post-St Peter's and as we said to all pupils on the night - "Please keep in touch - we love to hear how all our past-pupils are doing", whether they left three months or thirty years ago.

Mr Williams, Deputy Headteacher

Governors' Prize for Outstanding A Level Results

Matthew Coyne

High Achiever Award

Lily Plester

High Achiever Award

Louis Mulryan

High Achiever Award

Annabel McCartney

High Achiever Award

Ryan Cheung

High Achiever Award

Joseph Tucker

High Achiever Award

Leon Ip

Headteacher's Award for Progress

Amy Moss

Award for Service to the Community

Callum McAleer

Award for Service to the School

Siobhan Sweeney

Award for Service to Sport

Thomas Hegarty



Art & Design

Katherine Tobin

Biology

Charlie Davis

BTEC Business

James Thorne

Business Studies

Zach Yarnold

Chemistry

Matthew Coyne

Computer Science

Leon Ip

Criminology

Sofia Kelly

Drama

Madeline Barrett-Cox

English Literature

Elizabeth Sumner

Film Studies

Lily Plester

Further Maths

Louis Mulryan

Geography

Esther McGrath

Health & Social Care

Louis Court

History

Annabel McCartney

Maths

Noah Meehan

Medical Science

Jorja Walsh

Modern Foreign Languages

Connie O'Brien

Physics

Ryan Cheung

Politics

Conor Gallagher

Psychology

Isabella Ward

Religious Studies

Abigail John

Sociology

Isabella Ward

BTEC Sport

Sonnie Sheehan

Prophetic

Staff Panto

Mrs Hutchings

On the last day of term before Christmas our pupils were regaled with another festive tale performed by our ever-talented staff in the annual St Peter's pantomime. This year was our own special take on 'Peter Pan' which included a whole collection of grumpy fairies, warring Lost Boys, dancing pirates, a talent show and a singing crocodile who brought down the house.



The pupils had a wonderful time and seemed particularly enthusiastic in their booing of the villainous Hook! A huge thank you to all the staff who give up their time to write, rehearse and perform year after year to continue this wonderful tradition; it shows the very best of our school community and reminds us all how special is it to belong to the St Peter's family.

Social Science pupils have been working incredibly hard so far this half term preparing for mock examinations.

In Health and Social Care both Year 12 and Year 13 Pupils had the privilege of taking part in an educational workshop "The Best Start in Life: Health Hack" during lessons this week where they had an external agency come into school to educate and increase awareness around health attitudes and behaviours and the impact they can have on health – in particular, reproductive health. This was incredibly fitting for their Public Health unit within the qualification. It also informed pupils of the different career opportunities within healthcare, providing an opportunity to meet local NHS and other health professionals.

Shout out to Saskia B, Aminah M, Ava P and Milauna D who really engaged with the workshop and produced an excellent campaign!

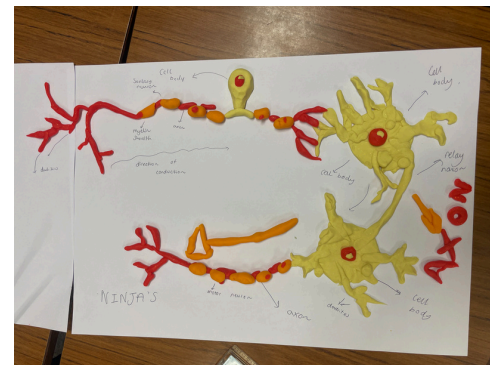
In Psychology, our Year 13 pupils are currently studying Forensic Psychology, a topic they have particularly enjoyed so far. Pupils have been able to look at how offenders are profiled from a British and an American approach and have also been able to apply the theories they have learnt to real life criminals.

Pupil shout out goes to Lucy Mc & Oliwia P who have taken forensics in their stride and are doing so well!

In Year 12 Psychology, pupils have been looking at Biopsychology. With the use of play-doh, pupils have managed to create and label neurons alongside showing how each neuron communicates with each other. Shahithiya in Year 12 has been a star in Psychology this half term so far, showing a great attitude to learning!

Social Science
Department

Miss Hall, Director of
Learning - Social
Sciences



Extra-Curricular

Both the Year 10 & 11 Boy's Football teams have been extremely competitive so far this season. Despite a narrow defeat to Lode Heath in the Birmingham Cup, the Year 11's recently had a superb 5-2 win against Tudor Grange in the Solihull Cup.

The Year 10s go into the new year still in the West Midlands Cup but will be disappointed to have narrowly lost recently to the current Cup Holders Bishop Challenor in the Birmingham Cup. On an individual level, congratulations to Julian WE and Angel K who was successfully selected for the West Midlands Representative Squad as well as Noah H who is making a positive impact at Birmingham City Academy.

The Year 7 passion for football has been consistent throughout the first term, with 40-50 pupils regularly attending training sessions. They are in the semi-final of the Solihull Cup, but lost in the Quarter Final of the Birmingham Cup. The pupil's consistency and desire to represent the school has led to there being the opportunity to represent one of four teams who will take part in round robin tournaments later in the year.

The Girl's Football Teams have had an excellent start to the girl's satellite football league and have really impressed Miss Elton and Miss Shaw with how they have worked well within the team playing some lovely football against the local Solihull schools. We are looking forward to seeing them excel in the next round of the tournament. Keep up the good work girls.



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School (8am-8.25)		Orchestra (Mrs Carroll)	K Pop Club (Mrs Carroll)		
		Choir (During form) (Mrs Carroll)	Badminton (Miss Elton)	Choir (During form) (Mrs Wolfe)	
Lunch Time (all sports clubs are in the sports hall) P4a	Badminton (Miss Lucas)		Dance (Miss Elton)	Danish Longball (Miss Lucas)	Basketball (Miss Elton)
P4b		Football (Mr Edwards)	Basketball (Mr Edwards)	Badminton (Miss Shaw)	Prison Ball (Miss Shaw)
After School (3pm-4pm)		Netball (Miss Elton & Miss Shaw)	Basketball (Mr Seickell & Miss Lucas)	Boys' Football (Mr Perret)	Debate Club, F1.9 (Mrs Przyrodzki)
		Boys' Football (Mr Edwards & Mr Seickell)	Gaelic Football	Boxing* Club (Mr Mallon)	Badminton (GCSE PE Only)
		Fencing* Club (Mr Mallon)	Rugby (Mr Edwards)		
			Girls' Football (Miss Shaw & Miss Elton)		
		KS3 Maths & Chess Club, G2.3 (Miss Shaw)	Fencing* Club (Mr Mallon)		
		KS4 Maths Drop-In, G2.2 (Miss Parton & Mrs McNeil)	Coding Club, B2.7 (Mr Branson)		
		Geography Club, K1.1 (Mr Hill)	Social Science Drop In, G1.5 (Miss Hall)		
		'We will Rock You' rehearsals, Drama Studio (Mr Newbold)	'We will Rock You' rehearsals, Drama Studio (Mr Newbold)	'We will Rock You' rehearsals, Drama Studio (Mr Newbold)	
	*Chargeable activity				

Faith-filled & Hopeful

The pupils exhibited commendable commitment and exemplary conduct during the recent mock exam week, garnering praise for their punctuality and dedication. Their unwavering commitment to completing the assessments and actively seeking feedback showcases a strong determination to excel academically. The pupil's punctuality not only reflects their respect for the examination process but also ensures a smooth and organised administration of the mock exams. This high level of engagement is indicative of a motivated and disciplined pupil body, laying a solid foundation for academic success. The pupils' collective effort in completing the exams efficiently underscores their responsible approach to their studies, fostering an encouraging environment for learning and growth. Overall, their outstanding conduct and commitment during the mock exam week are truly praiseworthy, reflecting their dedication to academic excellence.

Year 12 Mock
Examinations

Mr Grice, KS5
Director of Learning -
Academic Progress &
Achievement

Biodiversity Matters Retreat Day

Miss Gynch

On 18th January, 17 pupils from the Pupil Chaplaincy Team attended a Biodiversity Matters Retreat Day at the Columbans, led by the Justice and Peace Education Officer, James Trewby. Pupil Zoom called a missionary priest in Pakistan to talk about his views on biodiversity loss in Pakistan and its impact, and they collectively wrote letters to the local MP voicing their concerns about biodiversity loss in the local area as well as the UK's commitment to combatting climate change. Pupils spent the afternoon with a local ecologist, learning about recognising biodiversity and habitats and how this is surveyed. They used this knowledge to begin the biodiversity survey in the grounds of the Columbans' house in preparation for a project of tree-planting and rewilding. Pupils spent a fascinating day learning how faith can work hand-in-hand with ecology, biodiversity and our responsibility to care for the planet.



The much anticipated 2024 February Ski Trip is only 3 weeks away. Last week we held the parents' information evening, the 44 pupils and 5 members of staff are very much looking forward to this trip of a life time. The snow conditions in the Aosta Valley are excellent and the snow forecast is expected to continue to be good. During the week pupils will benefit from 5 hours of ski tuition each day and by the end of the week will have skied the majority of the mountain. This is an annual trip and if you would like your son/daughter to be considered for future trips please keep an eye out for the communication.

Ski Trip Update

Mr Shelton,
Headteacher

Human Dignity

Princess Diana Pupil Ambassadors

Mrs Shelton, Director of Learning - PSHE

A huge congratulations to our newly trained Princess Diana Pupil Ambassadors!

We had a great learning day looking at how to be Anti Bullying Ambassadors at Shireland Collegiate Academy on 16th January. We engaged in group activities and discussions which really helped to enable Ambassadors to feel ready to kick-start a youth-led anti-bullying campaign here at St Peter's. We explored:

- What bullying behaviour is and how to support peers.
- How to identify bullying behaviour and steps to address it as an Anti-Bullying Ambassador
- Social Action planning

Just like Princess Diana, we believe that young people have the power to change the world. As a consequence of our training, Ambassadors have decided to run a Community Action campaign to explore how our school can do all it can to prevent bullying and ensure everyone feels happy and safe in school. Watch this space as our campaign unfolds!



Duty Pupil

We are always impressed by how willing our pupils are to help out and contribute to the school and the community. This week, we have restored the role of having a Duty Pupil. One day in the year, pupils in Year 8 will take on leadership responsibilities around school, helping to welcome visitors, supporting visiting staff and undertaking responsibilities to help the school to keep running. We have always found it is a really good experience. Should you not wish your son/daughter to be involved, simply let Miss Shiner know.

Friary Fundraising 2024



Dates for your diary

Friday 26th January – January Jamboree (Joint event with Solihull Down Syndrome Support Group) at Shirley British Legion

Saturday 24th February – Race Night at the Friary

Friday 8th March – Defibrillator training and awareness workshop

Saturday 9th March – Irish Night

Friday 15th March – Bingo night

Saturday 16th March – Easter Craft Fayre

Friday 19th April – Bingo Night

Saturday 20th April – Classical Music Night in the Friary Church

Saturday 18th May – Friary Festival on the lawn

Saturday 15th June – Friary and OLC Summer Fayre

Olton Friary, one of our feeder parishes, has a very active Fundraising and Social Committee who wanted to share a number of events that our community are welcome to attend. Please see the poster adjacent for details. Interested parties are welcome to contact the parish office 0121 706 0505.

All are welcome!

