



Our Faith



**Faith-filled
Attentive
Intentionally loving
Truthful
Hopeful**

Entering the Kingdom of Heaven has been the theme from St Mark's Gospel over the last few Sundays and we have been reflecting on this in our assemblies. In our focus on the story of the 'Rich Young Man', we explored the importance of Jesus' message that it is in how we treat others that is most important to our heavenly father. Jesus' instruction to the rich young man was to help the poor: that invitation applies to all of us. On Wednesday 23rd October, we held a 'Go without Wednesday' - an invite to go without a treat or luxury and give some money to CAFOD's current appeal to help those affected

by the devastating conflict across the Middle East. It was heart-warming to hear our pupils say what they were going to go without in order to give a little something to help those who have nothing, remembering that we are 'rich' compared to large parts of the world.

This week in assembly, we reflected on the question of James and John asking for good seats in heaven. Jesus was clear, there are no shortcuts and it is not about who you know, rather what you do and hard work and sincerely following our St Peter's Mission and showing the virtues of our St Peter's Profile are essential.

On the subject of hard work, in our learning there is equally no shortcuts. We can't rely on last minute revision, borrowing our friend's notes or attending an extra class as a substitute for sustained hard work and challenge. Hard work and trying one's best every day is the secret to success as the 'Best seats in the house come at a price'. Our omnipresent God who knows all, sees all and rewards all is always calling us to use all the gifts he has given us.



Dates for your diary

4th November Year 11 Assessment Period begins	18th November KS5 Science Live Event	25th November Year 9 & 10 Assessment Period begins
13th November Year 11 Trip to Leavers Event	19th November KS5 Trip to see 'Othello'	29th November Inset Day (School Closed)
14th November Sixth Form Open Evening	28th November Year 8 Parents' Evening	5th December Key Stage 3 Prize Giving Evening

Faith-filled

Class of 2024 Awards Ceremony

We are always very proud of our pupils' achievements and this was particularly so for the Class of 2024 attendees at this year's awards evening. The highest scoring pupil in each subject area was awarded with the academic prizes with two very deserving pupils being commended with the Headteacher's Award for Outstanding progress. There were several Saintry Awards: the St Peter Award for embodying the St Peter's values and virtues; the Our Lady of Compassion Award for kindness; the St Joseph Award for hard workers; the Lead Tutor Award and the prestigious Mr Mullen Award for contribution to the school and community. It was really joyful to welcome so many parents and family members to congratulate. For many recipients they are currently at St Peter's Sixth Form but for those who have moved on to new exciting places - it was great to hear how they are getting on. All pupils were reminded that St Peter's will always be their school and they must always keep in touch.



Award	Name	Award	Name
Mr Mullen Award	Nicola Puchalska	Science Award	Ignatius Wong
St Joseph Award	Thomas Vallender	Religious Education Award	Ruby Joyce
St Joseph Award	Mollie Awre	History Award	Faye Holden
St Joseph Award	Daisy Williams	Geography Award	Aaron Noble
St Joseph Award	William Pitchford	Spanish Award	Helena Weir
Lead Tutor Award	Kieran Smith	French Award	Rodrigo Almazan Tena
Headteacher Award for Outstanding Achievement	Ryan Bourne	Business Studies Award	Viola Calcagni
Headteacher Award for Outstanding Achievement	Niamh Lenihan	Sociology Award	Yanice Chan
St Peter Award	Rosheen Bate	PE Award	Malachy McMahon
Our Lady of Compassion Award	Faye Holden	Sport Award	Ignatius Wong
English Literature Award	Aine McLean	Drama Award	Holly Monaghan
English Language Award	Grace Murphy	Product Design Award	Dawid Tchorz
Maths Award	Hiu Ying Cheng	Catering Award	Zara Chionuma
Biology Award	Ben-Joseph Shields	Health and Social Care Award	Tina Lin
Chemistry Award	Tung Chan Yan	Dance Award	Laurie Hopwood
Physics Award	Rowan Butler	Computing Award	Katie Huxtable

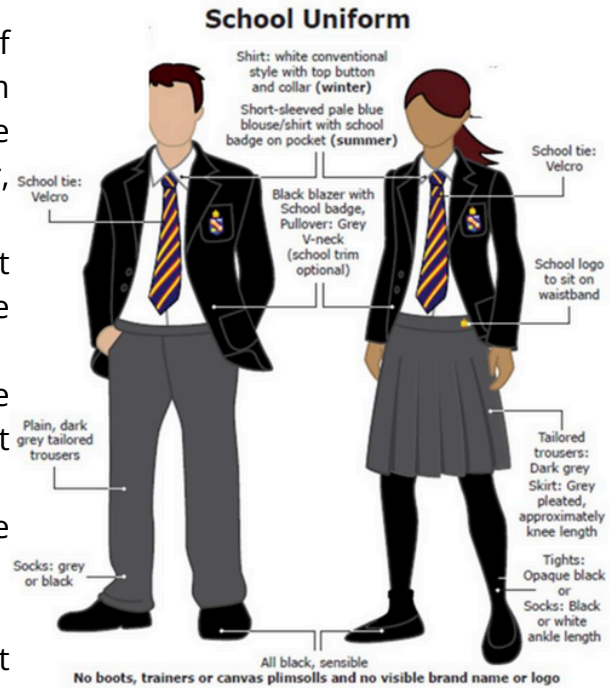
Attentive

Uniform Standards

We would like your support in ensuring the high standard of uniform for all pupils on the first day back after the half term break. We would like a positive start therefore, please make sure that all of our school rules are adhered to. In particular, please make sure that the following issues are addressed:

- Footwear should be smart school shoes. Trainers are not permitted and St Peter's defines trainers as those that look like a trainer and/or has a sports brand such as Nike or Adidas.
- No jewellery is permitted - this includes earrings. Please make sure that any piercings are removed. Please note that it is not acceptable to have new piercings.
- False eyelashes are not permitted to be worn at all. These should be removed before pupils return after half term.
- Blazers are compulsory and must be worn every day.
- As the weather inevitably gets colder, outdoor coats should not be hoodies or hooded tops.

Thank you for all your help and support in maintaining high standards and consistency.



Bullying & Mental Health



How can bullying affect someone's mental health?

How can I support my child with bullying?

Understanding the long-term impact of bullying

What is bullying?



A 2-hour workshop for parents & carers via MS Teams

19th November 2024
10am–12pm

Book your place via email to bsmhft.parenting@nhs.net or via the QR code



eventbrite



Intentionally Loving

Knife Angel

In A-Level Criminology we are creating campaigns for change and our topic is: knife crime. In 2024, knife crime remains a significant issue in Birmingham and the UK. Our campaigns offer solutions to prevent knife crime and the knife angel is an example of one. The knife angel is an outstanding display of craftsmanship with it standing at 27 feet tall and using over 100,000 seized blades. On Monday, while in Sandwell we visited this statue to learn more about its origins. While there we saw that certain knives on the wings were engraved with names and quotes. Clive Knowles the designer invited people who were devastated by knife crime first hand to engrave messages on blades, we all thought this was very meaningful and we didn't know this until we saw it in person. The design of the face made us all reflect of the issue of knife crime as the statue looks at the viewer as hopeless and asking for help to stop the issue. Overall, this statue gave us all a lot to think about due to its symbolism of the UK's intolerance to violence more especially knife crime and is a very invaluable experience, which has developed our understanding which will help us in our A-level and has left a lasting impact. **Amelia W Yr13**

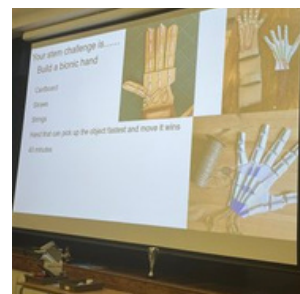


KS3 Careers Talk

We have been extremely lucky to have two in person careers talks for Years 7, 8 and 9. On Monday 14th October we had the really interesting and fascinating talk from Border Force by Matt Austin, who is a Border Force Higher Officer. For Year 7 and 8 we learned about careers in security at Birmingham airport. On Monday 21st October Darren Page, an Early Careers Resources Manager, from Tarmac Industries spoke about careers in the construction industry, describing about different routes into apprenticeships, engineering and sustainability. We asked the pupils for their 'take home thoughts' - they ranged from growth mindset to researching apprenticeships further. **Mrs Cross**

Catholic Schools STEM Challenge

St. Peter's hosted the KS4 Catholic Schools STEM event this half term. Seven schools from across the Catholic network entered teams. The teams were given challenges including making a working set of wings and making a bionic hand. The pupils all enjoyed the challenges and the opportunity to problem solve. Our team was made up of four of our wonderful year 10 pupils; Isabelle N, Josh B, Mason B and Seren M. They were a credit to the school both in their resilience and team work and claimed a well deserved second place. **Miss Doherty, Deputy Director of Learning: Science**



Truthful

Pupil Parliament

We are delighted to finally launch our very own Pupil Parliament which has been created to reflect the organisation of the UK government. Separate departments, linked to the St Peter's Profile based on FAITH, focus on key areas of school life and are working in partnership with senior and middle leaders to instigate positive change and action throughout our school and community. The Department of Well-being had a particularly successful meeting, receiving training from the Diana Award in support of anti-bullying work they are involved in. Pupils were thrilled to receive their Diana Award Community badges for the exemplary efforts made last academic year. The Department of Well-being have decided to focus on obtaining their Respect badge through the Diana Award this year. We look forward to all of our departments meeting and working together as pupil leaders through Pupil Parliament to #bethechange.

Mrs Shelton, Director of Learning: PSHE



'Aladdin'

In October, we organised three exciting trips to see Disney's 'Aladdin' for our pupils at the Birmingham Hippodrome. Over 350 pupils had the opportunity to experience the magic of this amazing West End production. The trips were divided by year groups, with KS4 and KS5 pupils attending one performance, Years 8 and 9 another, and a special outing for our Year 7 pupils. It was a fantastic chance for our pupils to enjoy live theatre, enriching their cultural experiences and bringing the classic story to life in a way that many will never forget. **Mr Mallon, Associate Assistant Headteacher**

What we are learning in Maths

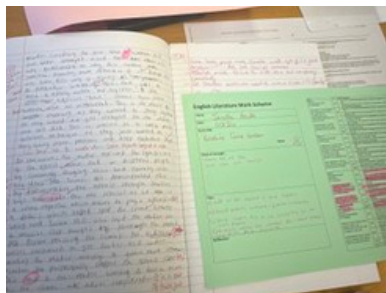
Year 7 have made a fantastic start to their maths career at St. Peter's. Over the past 8 weeks year 7 have been really impressing their maths teachers. They have been displaying their number skills, working on the four operations, place value and decimal subtraction and addition. More recently the year group have been pushing their money skills to the limit ensuring they can answer any money problem put in front of them. This week they will get ready for half term adventures by ensuring they can understand time problems as well as being competent at reading and understanding timetables. Well done year 7, keep up the good work! **Miss Parton, Director of Learning: Maths**



Hopeful

6th Form Curriculum Review

We were delighted to welcome colleagues from John Henry Newman who joined us to carry out a Curriculum Review of our 6th Form provision. We visited over 25 lessons across a range of subjects and were very impressed with the quality of teaching & learning and the challenge across the curriculum. As always, the best part of these Curriculum Reviews are our Pupil Voice interviews. It was great to listen to our Year 13s who shared with us the range of activities, enrichment and leadership opportunities as well as their Catholic Life provision they've been exposed to here at St Peter's. They spoke confidently, articulately and passionately about their experiences and have some superb exciting ideas for the year ahead. Likewise, our Year 12s although only in the Sixth Form for less than a half term, spoke about how happy, safe and supported they are here at St Peter's. They spoke about the extra demands and challenges that KS5 entails and they have some great ideas moving forward to support our younger pupils and to lead on some exciting charity and leadership initiatives within our 6th Form and across our school. Pupils were particularly proud and happy with our careers provision at our 6th form and the range of guest speakers, University visits, UCAS talks, work experience etc that they encounter. We are so proud of the talented, gifted and hard working pupils in our 6th form and equally proud of our hard working teachers and leaders of our 6th form and would like to thank them for all that they do. Keep up the great work. **Ms Keane, Deputy Headteacher**



UK University & Apprenticeship Fair

On the 11th of October, our Year 12 cohort attended the UK University Search event, marking their first experience of a University and Apprenticeship fair. It was an exciting opportunity for pupils to explore future pathways and begin making informed decisions about their academic and career aspirations. The year group conducted themselves with maturity and enthusiasm throughout the day, and they were a credit to the school. This experience will be invaluable as we begin the UCAS application process towards the end of the year, with further support from Unifrog before Christmas to guide them through their choices. **Mr Grice**



Oxford Brookes University talk

We were delighted to welcome Tom from Oxford Brookes University, who spoke to our Year 12 and 13 pupils about their next steps in shaping their careers and successfully applying to university. Tom provided valuable insights into navigating the application process, making informed decisions about courses, and preparing for life beyond school. His advice was both practical and inspiring, giving our pupils a clearer understanding of what lies ahead on their academic journeys. **Mrs Przyrodzki**

Faith-filled

Year 7

As our first half term draws to a close, we are thrilled with the fantastic start our Year 7 pupils have made at St Peter's. It has been a joy to see them grow in confidence and spirit over the past eight weeks.

I'd like to celebrate some of the outstanding work and exciting activities our Year 7 pupils have been involved in. This term has been incredibly busy, with Year 7s fully embracing school life. Their positive attitudes towards their peers and their focus on their studies have been truly impressive.

We now have Year 7 representatives in our pupil parliament, and they are already making valuable contributions. Thanks to the Book Buzz initiative, we were able to give each pupil a free book of their choice, which was a real highlight. Additionally, some of our pupils represented St Peter's at the Winter Athletics event, where the girls' team won, making St Peter's the overall champions.

Many Year 7 pupils have also taken part in extracurricular clubs, which has been fantastic to see. Both boys and girls represented our school in cross country, achieving excellent results. The boys' football team also had a tremendous victory, winning their last game 9-0 against Lyndon School.

We are fortunate to have many talented Year 7s, both in and out of school, excelling in activities like ice skating, football, diving, and even writing. A special mention goes to Tommy Stubbs, who will be competing in the Irish National Diving Championships in November – we wish him every success! I look forward to sharing more of their achievements as the year continues.

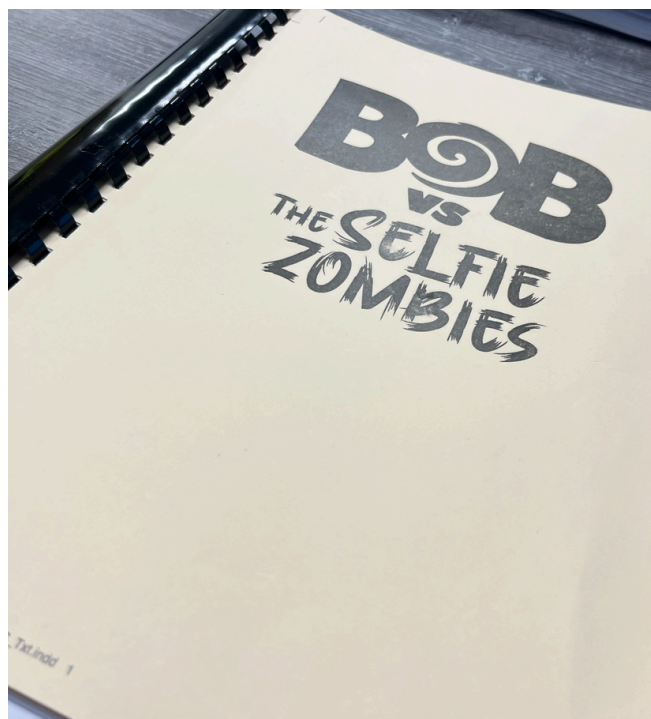
Mrs McNamara-Langan, Head of Year 7



Blue Peter

A St Peter's Alumni who currently works for the BBC contacted St Peter's to invite a small selection of children to take part in an exclusive book review. They had to read a pre-release copy of 'Bob vs The Selfie Zombies' and record a video review. Some of these may make it onto the Blue Peter episode broadcast on Friday 25th October. Thanks to all involved and it was lovely to work with a previous pupil who has gone on to be successful in the world of broadcasting.

Mr Williams, Deputy Headteacher



Attentive

Parking outside of St Peter's

As we all know, mornings and afternoons around St Peter's Catholic School can be busy with traffic. However, we have recently received reports of some parents parking on grass verges or blocking residents' driveways when dropping off or collecting their children.

We understand that space can be limited, but it's vital that we all park legally and, most importantly, safely.

Parking inconsiderately can cause inconvenience to our neighbours and put the safety of our pupils and other pedestrians at risk. We kindly ask that all parents ensure they are parking in designated areas and are mindful of the impact on the local community.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Our Lady of the Rosary



During October, the month of Our Lady of the Rosary every day a class or two have visited our Chapel to pray the Rosary. Here is an excellent Year 7 class who reflected on the Joyful mysteries: The Annunciation, Visitation, Nativity, Presentation of the Lord and finding Jesus in the temple. Jacob H is reading from the Gospel of St Luke. Staff have been extremely impressed by the reverence shown and the prayer intentions. Ava C chose the reflection music when her class entered the chapel - Our Lady of Knock. A beautiful way to uphold a traditional form of prayer. **Mr Williams, Deputy Headteacher**



Pupils of the week Friday 18th October: Libby-Louise, Trinette, Laura, Eoin, Nick, Regan & Frankie.



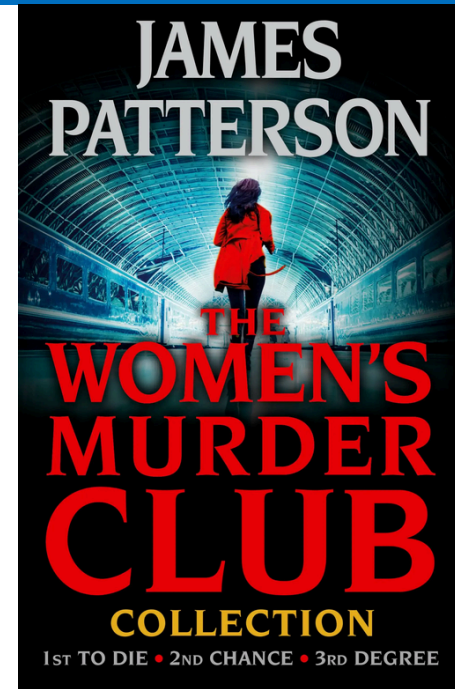
Intentionally Loving

What we are reading

As a science teacher and a lifelong reader, I often turn to books that combine engaging stories with real-world science. "1st to Die" by James Patterson, the first in his "Women's Murder Club" series, does exactly that. James Patterson is one of my favourite authors, and his ability to weave forensic science into a gripping murder mystery is what keeps me coming back. In fact, my dad and I often swap James Patterson books, and this one quickly became a shared favourite.

The story follows four women - a detective, medical examiner, journalist and prosecutor - who team up to solve a series of brutal murders. As a science teacher, I particularly enjoyed how Claire Washburn, the medical examiner, used forensic techniques to crack the case. It is a fascinating look into how science, particularly biology, chemistry and forensics, play a critical role in crime-solving.

While this book is a crime novel, its theme of friendship, teamwork and perseverance are relatable to all of us. The "Women's Murder Club" series demonstrates the power of collaboration over competition. These women, from different walks of life, come together not because they have to but because they believe in helping each other and achieving justice. This is a valuable lesson for us all: success often depends on working well with others and supporting your peers. In these series of books the author James Patterson promotes teamwork, friendship and female empowerment while offering engaging mystery plots which is why I love his style of writing! **Miss A.M. Jordan**



Massolit: Video lectures from top university professors for secondary schools

We have invested in Massolit service which is available to all of our KS4&5 pupils, providing them with access to literally thousands of short lectures from highly respected academics. These lectures are designed to both support and stretch their knowledge and understanding of their subject knowledge in English Literature, History, Government & Politics, RE, Sociology and Psychology. It is imperative that all pupils in Year 10 & 11, as well as those studying these subjects in Sixth Form, ensure they know how to log in.

All of our pupils automatically have access to the site: they simply need to go to www.massolit.io and go to 'log in'. Once there, they should select 'single sign on', type in the school name and then use their St Peter's username and password.

This site will be used by staff for homework tasks as well as signposting for revision and independent study. There's also an app version available if you want to download the lectures to listen to off-line, and any pupil struggling to access the internet at home is welcome to use the facilities in homework club in B2.8. **Mrs Hutchings**

Truthful

Year 8

What a fantastic start you have had, with over 6100 blue cards awarded you should all be very proud, an extra 'well done' to our top five highest achievers - Stacy A G, Jack C, Albert C, Charlie M and Ned M!

We've had a jam-packed half term! A speaker from Border Force inspired us with insights into potential careers with their organization. We also enjoyed a memorable live performance by the fantastic band The Mercians, who shared their personal experiences with mental health and encouraged everyone to speak up—a real eye-opener! We wrapped up the week with a trip to the Birmingham Hippodrome to see Disney's 'Aladdin' at the Hippodrome, Birmingham—what a treat!

We have an abundance of talent to celebrate in Year 8! The boys' football team recently achieved an impressive 3-1 victory against St Edmund Campion Catholic School, while the girls' football team, secured their spot in the next round of their competition. A huge shout-out to Kyrell S, England's National Boxing Champion, who is training diligently to represent the Midlands in Manchester in just two weeks. Let's also wish Orla M the best of luck as she takes the stage in the upcoming production of Oliver Twist at the Artrix Theatre in Bromsgrove. Additionally, take a moment to admire the hand-painted Warhammer figures by the incredibly talented Javier F, who recently entered them in the Armies of Parade competition and came third. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first half term as Lead Tutor of Year 8. I would like to thank you all for your continued hard work, the kindness that you show each other every day. I would like to thank parents for their support, and I look forward to working with you all when we return after a peaceful half term. **Mrs Fealy, Head of Year 8**

Y11 in class assessments 4th-22nd November 2024

Monday 4 th November	Maths (A Band P3, B band P4), Biology (A Band P4, B band P3), BTEC Sport coursework lesson (p1), Business (P1)
Tuesday 5 th November	English Lit P1 and 2 (all classes except 11A4), 11A/B French/Spanish writing (P4,P3), HSC (P3)
Wednesday 6 th November	English Lit P1 11A4 , A band Chemistry P4
Thursday 7 th November	B band Chemistry P2, 11B Geography P3, 11B French/Spanish Higher listening P2, 11C French/Spanish writing P4, BTEC Sport coursework lesson P4, GCSE PE P4
Friday 8 th November	A Band RE P1
Monday 11 th November	English Language P4 11B2, 11C Geography P1, 11C French/Spanish listening higher P1, BTEC Sport Practical video P1
Tuesday 12 th November	English Language P2 (all classes except 11B2), 11B Geography P3, 11A/B History P4, P3, 11A French/Spanish listening higher P4, 11B French/Spanish listening foundation P3, Sociology P4, Product Design P4
Wednesday 13 th November	Careers event
Thursday 14 th November	11C Geography P4, 11C History P4, 11A/C French/Spanish listening foundation P2/4, Sociology P2, Product Design P2, BTEC Sport Practical video P4, GCSE PE P4, Computing P2, Dance P2
Friday 15 th November	B band RE P1
Monday 18 th November	Physics A Band P4, B band P3, 11C History P1
Tuesday 19 th November	11A/B History P4, P3, Computing P4
Wednesday 20 th November	
Thursday 21 st November	Catering P3
Friday 22 nd November	



Year 10

Our year 10 pupils have made a fantastic start to the 2024/25 academic year. This is year is vital for pupils to make a positive start in their chosen GCSE subjects, and me and the rest of the teachers of Year 10 have been really impressed with pupils' positive approach to the challenging curriculum. I am pleased to say that I have also seen many pupils showing fantastic role modelling within our own year group and with the younger members of our school community. This has been demonstrated while giving tours to perspective pupils; helping Year 7s find their way; logging and organising conduct cards for all year groups and taking an active role in assembly. I am delighted to see so many pupils who have the potential to be our lead prefects when the time comes later this academic year. Keep up the hard work Year 10!

Mr Stowe, Lead Tutor: Year 10

Drama

Performance on 12th November after school. Coursework is due on 28th November.

Music

Composition to a Brief and log deadline 20th November. Performances on 27th November and 12th December. Mrs Carroll will confirm the timings for these

Hopeful

Attendance Matters

W/B	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
14/10	95.7%	94.2%	92%	95.2%	94.8%	92.5%	95%
Year to date	96.8%	95.2%	94.1%	94.7%	94%	95.5%	94.7%

Bonfire & Fireworks

With Bonfire Night approaching, it's an exciting time for many, but also one where safety must come first. As our pupils grow older and gain more independence, it's crucial that they understand the importance of acting responsibly, especially around fireworks and bonfires.

While the temptation to handle fireworks or attend unsupervised events may grow, it's important to remember that fireworks are not only dangerous but illegal for anyone under the age of 18 to purchase or use. We encourage all our pupils to attend organised events with adult supervision and to keep a safe distance from fireworks and bonfires.

Fireworks can be fun and spectacular, but safety should always come first. We hope you enjoy the festivities while staying safe and responsible.

PSHE

We ensure our pupils are presented with a rigorous and research led model for Personal Development which is guided by the: Catholic Education Service, the PHSE Association and University of Birmingham Jubilee Centre of Research – Character Education. The purpose of Personal Development is to:

- Develop character virtues - spiritual growth, good sense, practical wisdom; the capacity to choose intelligently between alternatives.
- Supports pupils to access diverse aspects of life
- Provides skills and opportunities to support them in adult life.

Mrs Shelton, Director of Learning: PSHE

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Topic 4: British Values: Respect	Topic 4: Body Image and Tolerance	Topic 4: Decision-making	Topic 4: Applying for a Job	Topic 4: Applying for a Job
Topic 5: How do I recognise and build my personal skills?	Topic 5: What is work?	Topic 5: Work Motivation	Topic 5: Interview Techniques	Topic 5: Interview Techniques
Topic 6: What is my career journey?	Topic 6: Health and Safety in the workplace			

Welcome to St Peter's



Sixth Form Open Evening 2024

**Thursday 14th November
- 6pm - 8pm**

The governors and staff of St. Peter's Catholic School extend a warm welcome to all prospective students and their families to our Open Evening.

Come and chat to our staff, find out more about our post-16 courses and help inform your future pathways.

Our current Year 11 are most welcome, as are students from other schools who are interested in joining a supportive, inclusive and successful Sixth Form.

Headteacher's address at 6.10pm and 7.10pm