

Newsletter



2

Friday 19th September 2025



Apple Tree enjoying the changes in our Forest School site!



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www.st-petersoxon.co.uk



THANKS FOR REMEMBERING THIS IS A



PEANUT/NUT FREE SCHOOL

We currently have children who have serious nut allergies. Please remember that we don't allow any nuts or nut products in school. **This includes Nutella.** Thank you for helping us to keep St Peter's School a safe place.

What a fantastic start we have had to the school year in Apple Tree class. The children have settled in beautifully and are busy making new friends already!!

During topic time we have been thinking about how we are all special and unique, in our own way, and how we should be brave to embrace this. We have thought about our own skills and strengths, thinking about what we can do now that we couldn't do in the past. We are learning how important it is to be confident and to be ourselves. Alongside ourselves, we will be thinking about other super people who live in our community, such as people who work for the emergency services, vets, mechanics, parents and so on...the list is endless. We will look further into some of these careers and learn about some of the people who can help us.

In art we have been learning the skill of collage, giving opportunities to layer various materials on top of each other. Collaging also provides lots of time to demonstrate and strengthen cutting skills, show their creativity and be proud of what they made. We then looked at the primary colours and mixed some of these together to make new colours. The children enjoyed mixing the colours and seeing the wonderful new colours made.



The children have absolutely loved exploring the changes to our Forest School site and have been able to explore some of the new areas, such as the texture kitchen and sandpit. Adding new diggers to the sand pit has definitely been a hit! The children have enjoyed their Forest school sessions and have embraced lots of varying weather, really testing out those waterproofs!!

We were very lucky to experience our first spirituality through music session with Heather, our chaplain, this week and start to learn what all her wonderful instruments sound like and start learning some lovely songs.

We look forward to continuing our topic and learning all about the heroes around us and we even hope to meet one or two. We will finish the topic with a special WOW day, where we can all dress up as a super hero, whether that is just our super self or someone we are inspired by!





Information



Weather appropriate clothing

Although the weather today has been beautiful, it probably won't be long until it's cold and wet again!

We try to get the children out at lunchtime every day, so unless it's absolutely pouring, they will be going outside. Therefore, please remember to send your child to school with a sensible, warm, waterproof coat and wellies.



Thank you.



Secondary School Applications

Parents of children born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015 (inclusive) need to apply for a secondary school place for September 2026.

Applications can be submitted from 12th September 2025.

The deadline to submit an application is **31st October 2025**.

National Offer Day for Year 7 is 2nd March 2026.

If you miss the deadline, your application will be processed later in the year, and you are far less likely to secure a place at your preferred school. It is very important to apply by the deadline.

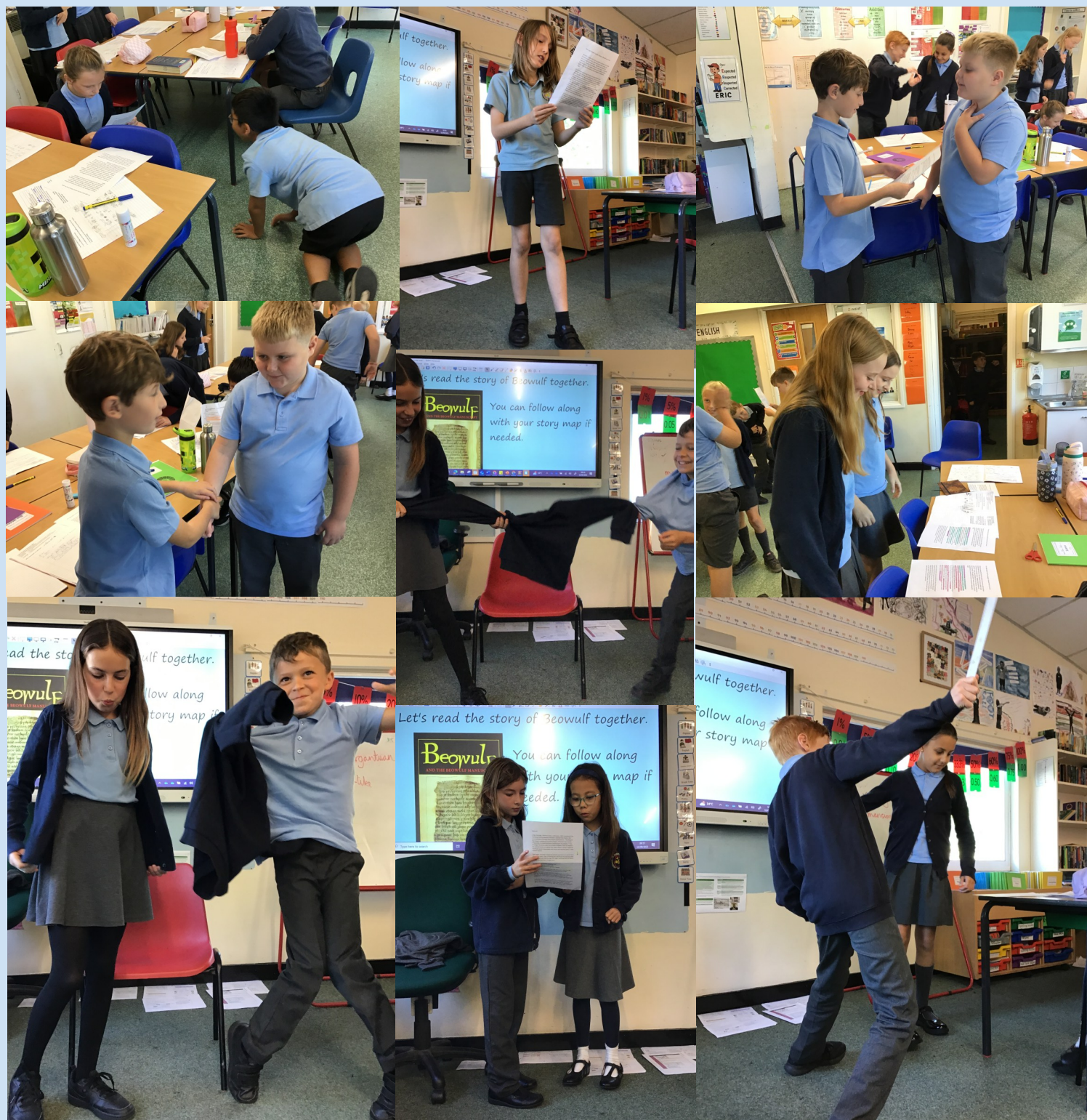
This is the link for applying online:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/apply-school-place/year-7-applications>

Request for Tissues!



It's that time of year again where we ask if you could pop an extra box of tissues into your shopping for us. There are lots of runny noses in school at the moment, and it's very easy for us to spend a huge amount of money on tissues, which could be spent on much better things! Therefore, if you are able to donate a box (or 2?!) to us, we'd really appreciate it! Thank you!



On 11th September, Willow class brought our learning to life by retelling the story of Beowulf, which links to our 'Defeating the Monster' unit of work. We used actions, our voices and a range of techniques to retell part of the story in a creative way and many of us then performed for the rest of the class. Maybe there is a potential thespian or two in our midst!

Chaplain Chat

Term 1

A retired Headteacher with whom I used to work as a music teacher recently attended a service at Christ Church cathedral, where I worship. He turned up out of the blue and introduced himself. We exchanged news, and he enquired, "How are your children? Have they left school yet?" My boys are now in their 30s, and married with children of their own! I was reminded of a brain teaser my husband taught our eldest son when he was a boy, which he has now taught our grandson:

"Time flies. You can't. They fly so fast. They sit upon the trees and bark. Many of them weigh a pound."

This is the time of year when we exclaim, "Where has the summer holiday gone?" or "I can't believe so-and-so is starting school / going to secondary school already!" It's a wake-up call not to take our lives for granted and that change is inevitable. We live in a world of change. On a global scale, the challenge of climate change with its weather extremes brings devastation in myriad ways, and day after day news reports of nations at war are accompanied by horrific footage of the suffering of ordinary people whose lives will never be the same again.



Closer to home, circumstances and relationships change, careers shift and unexpected events happen – even our bodies are constantly changing. For our children, the start of a new school year is a time of huge changes, and their heads will be bursting with questions as they navigate new routines and expectations. Change might be exciting and full of possibility, but it can also be unsettling and overwhelming, causing feelings of confusion, anxiety and even fear.



For I am persuaded that neither death
nor life, nor angels nor rulers,
nor things present nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height nor depth,
nor any other created thing will be
able to separate us from the love of
God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39 (CSB)



As a Christian, when I face change my faith reassures me that *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever* [Hebrews 13.8]. Throughout my life, time and time again experience has taught me that God is faithful. He can provide the steadfastness and stability we all long for, and be a reliable source of comfort at any time of day or night. In my role as School Chaplain, when I arrive in the morning I say a prayer asking God to walk with me through the door. I ask him to show me where I am most needed: perhaps someone needs my help, or wants to tell me something, or ask about something they don't understand / want to know more about. When I don't know what to say, I ask God to give me the right words, too.

Perhaps someone is lonely or feeling sad, or simply wants to offload - and that someone could be anybody, child or adult, because I am here for the whole school community: teachers and support staff, parents and families, as well as pupils.

So if you see me 'loitering with intent' in playground or corridor, do come and say hello, especially if you are new to the school. I'd love to meet you.

Every blessing

Heather (EPA Chaplain)



Calendar



Please see the website for more information - <https://www.st-petersoxon.co.uk/diary>

SEPTEMBER 2025

Wednesday 24th - Maple class trip to the Story Museum (Please remember a packed lunch!)

Friday 26th - Stay & Play in Apple Tree for children under 4 yo. 2-3pm

OCTOBER 2025

Tuesday 7th - SPSA AGM - 7:30pm in the Red Lion Cassington - all welcome.

Wednesday 8th- MHST Parent Workshop Part 1 - 8:45—10am - everyone welcome!

Monday 13th - Flu immunisations for Reception to yr 6

Wednesday 18th - MHST Parent Workshop Part 2 - 8:45—10am - everyone welcome!

Week beginning Monday 20th—Parents Evenings

Friday 24th - Stay & Play in Apple Tree for children under 4 yo. 2-3pm

Friday 24th - Hot Chocolate by SPSA! More details to follow!



Come to our stay and play to celebrate all heroes

Friday 26th September 2025

2-3pm

Suitable for all families with children aged up to 4 years

Please book and pay here
<https://bookwhen.com/stpeterscassington/e/ev-s4sh-20250926140000>
 £3 per family



HARVEST CELEBRATION AT ST PETER'S CHURCH

Sunday 5th October at 3pm

followed by afternoon tea

For all ages - everyone welcome



Contributions of non-perishable items will be gratefully received for local Food Banks. A list of items can be found on the North Oxford Food Bank web site.

Financial donations can also be made directly to:

North Oxfordshire Food Bank

<https://www.givefood.org.uk/needs/at/north-oxfordshire/>



After School Club



- 3:10pm School finishes
- 3:10pm - 3:40pm Registration/Snack
- 3:40pm - 4:15pm Activities
- 4:15pm - 5:05pm Activities
- 5:05pm - 5:15pm Tidy up
- 5:15pm After School Club finishes










After School Club contact details -

ASC@st-peters.oxon.sch.uk










07396 801472

Although we aim to stick to this timetable as much as possible, there may be occasions where we need to substitute activities.

Week 4 WC: 22nd September 2025

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3:10-3:40	Snack (cereal bars and yoghurts)	Snack (Toasties with fillings)	Snack (Hot dogs)	Snack (Nachos with cheese and salsa)	Snack/ (Bagels with a selection of toppings)
3:40-4:15	Lego Club 	Den building  Outside 	Hammer beads 	Outside Games 	Free Colouring and outside  
4:15-5:15	Outside 	Looking after and feeding the fish	Outside 	Children's quizzes on the big screen	

Week 5 WC: 29th September 2025

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3:10-3:40	Snack (Fresh Fruit and Yogurts)	Snack (Beans on toast)	Snack (Crumpets)	Snack (Hot dogs)	Snack/ (Bagels with a selection of toppings)
3:40-4:15	LEGO CLUB - 	Den building  Outside - Adventure playground 	Hammer beads 	Outside Games 	Free Colouring and outside  
4:15-5:15	Outside 	Looking after and feeding the fish	Outside 	Children's quizzes on the big screen	



CHANGE OF DATES

**Unfortunately Olivia is unable to run the sessions on the original dates.
Please see the new dates below.**

Please join us for a Mental Health Support Team (MHST) Parent Workshop - Introducing 'Helping Your Child with Fears and Worries': Empowering parents to manage and understand their child's anxiety. Part 1 & 2 at St Peter's on the following dates:

- **Part 1: Wednesday 8th October 8:45-10am**
- **Part 2: Wednesday 15th October 8:45-10am**

We are pleased to invite you to two workshops which will take place at school. The 90-minute workshops will focus on our parent-guided support for children experiencing anxiety difficulties.

The workshop Helping Your Child with Fears and Worries is based on the book by Cathy Creswell and Lucy Willetts. This program addresses the origins of anxiety, signs and symptoms, how it is maintained, and effective strategies to reduce reassurance-seeking behaviours while fostering independence. The book is available for purchase (though not required for the workshop), as well as for borrowing from the library, on Audible, or some schools that may have copies for lending. This is a parent-only workshop. Part 1 will focus on theory and understanding anxiety in children, and part 2 will follow on by introducing practical strategies and signposting support.

There will be opportunity at the end of the workshop to speak to Olivia and/or her colleague if you have any questions.

If you are unable to come to the workshops but would like information on what is covered from the Mental Health support team, please do get in touch with Mrs Glass.

We look forward to seeing you at the workshops.

Mrs Glass



A Message from Mr Jeffries



Dear Parents and Carers,

Today we welcomed our latest guest for our *People Who Inspire Us* project. Luke presented a fascinating talk about metal detecting and shared some of his amazing finds. This engaging session was inspired by a coin found by one of our children on our school grounds. We were lucky enough that Mrs Humphris knew Luke and thought that he might be able to help.

The coin in question is a trade token issued by John Stringer of Oxford, dating back to 1670. This token was likely used as change during a commercial transaction of that era. It is a tangible piece of local history and a fascinating link to the past on our very site.

Over the summer, we made a lot of improvements to the forest school site including new fencing, a forest kitchen and next week we will be installing a bird hide. Alongside this, Mrs Houghton has launched Forest Tots sessions which is now open for booking. These sessions represent our passion for providing enriching early years experiences that connect our youngest learners with the natural world. The first sessions have been wonderfully successful and it was a pleasure to see familiar and new faces exploring, learning, and connecting in our outdoor spaces.

The bird hide will provide our children with a unique opportunity to observe and learn about local wildlife, supporting our broader educational objectives of environmental awareness and scientific curiosity. We have a number of red-listed birds in our swamp area, so we cannot wait for the children to be learning more.

Warmest regards,

Jon Jeffries

Executive Headteacher

**St Peter's Church, Cassington Village Hall and
Cassington Sports and Social Club invite you to a**

HARVEST COMMUNITY SUPPER

Saturday 4 October 2025 6.30pm - 10.00pm

ALL WELCOME

Join us for a community evening of fun, music and laughter following in the long tradition of people in Cassington celebrating the gathering of the Harvest.

- ★ **Home-grown local entertainment**
- ★ **Buffet Supper included in the ticket price**
- ★ **Pay bar**



**Tickets in advance: Adults £10 / Under 16s £5
Family ticket (up to 5 members) £25 from ...**

Jan Macdonald: 07941 419219 - janmacdonald78@aol.com

Carolyn Hinton: 07747 621597 - chinton260@outlook.com



Peace Oak and Green TEA
invite you all to their annual



APPLE DAY AND GREEN FESTIVAL

Saturday 11th October
2 - 4.30 pm

at the Peace Oak Orchard

entry through Cobbetts Close, Newland Street

- **Apple picking, tasting and juicing** - taste Eynsham varieties
- **Discover the field** on a guided walk
- **Have a go at apple juicing**
- Bring your own apple (and leaf) for **expert identification**
- Buy our **unique Family Trees** with three varieties of apple grafted onto a single tree for £30 and other **plants for sale**
- **Craft Club** - have a go at woodcarving, willow weaving
- **Activities for children** including games and treasure hunt
- **GreenTEA** - Enter the **vegan plant based food competition**, bring your dish and win a prize, plus tasting and recipes**
- **Nature Recovery** - experts on wildflower meadows & more
- **More than a Shed** - discuss progress and get involved
- **Fungi Foray**

** for more details contact: greentea_food@outlook.com
Eynsham.org.uk/GreenTEA

ALL ACTIVITIES FREE!



**Summer
fun**



SKATEBOARDING: AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

ST PETER'S COFE PRIMARY SCHOOL
FRIDAYS 3.10-3.55PM



ALL GEAR PROVIDED

West Oxfordshire Hand me on - Families

GOT OUTGROWN SCHOOL
SHOES OR UNUSED LUNCH
BOXES? HAND THEM ON OR
FIND WHAT YOU NEED.

LENDING
LIBRARY

STAY LOCAL

Join our community of families to re-use
items needed for children or households.
Everything is free, just hand on again for
another family to use later.

Family Group

www.facebook.com/groups/handmeonwestoxon

Community Page

www.facebook.com/handmeonwestoxon



The hand me on community
group is for families of all
backgrounds within West
Oxfordshire. Our aim is to
reduce our carbon footprint
while helping families.

TRY RUGBYTOTS FREE*



rugbytots.co.uk

The world's favourite rugby play programme

TRY RUGBYTOTS FREE*



Rugbytots is the world's favourite rugby play programme.
Our dynamic weekly classes enable boys and girls aged 2-7 to
develop their social and physical skills in a fun, positive environment.
To book a FREE taster session, email or call us, mention
NURSERYOFFER and tell us your preferred class location
(scan the QR code or visit rugbytots.co.uk to find this,
or just tell us your postcode).

freetaster@rugbytots.co.uk
0345 313 3242

* Subject to availability



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Clubbercise with Zoe in Cassington and
Yarnton

Every Monday – Cassington Village Hall
– 7:30-8:30pm

£7 entry

One off payment of £6.50 for reusable branded
glow sticks

To book visit [bookwhen.com/
clubbercisewithzoe](http://bookwhen.com/clubbercisewithzoe)

Facebook -
[@clubbercisecassingtonandyarntonwithzoe](https://www.facebook.com/clubbercisecassingtonandyarntonwithzoe)

Instagram - [@clubbercisecassingtonandyarntonwithzoe](https://www.instagram.com/clubbercisecassingtonandyarntonwithzoe)

Tel: 07931249123

BE SMART ONLINE



S

SAFE

Keep your personal information safe. When chatting or posting online don't give away things like your full name, password or home address. Remember personal information can be seen in images and videos you share too. Keep them safe to keep yourself safe.



M

MEET

Meeting up with someone you only know online, even a friend of a friend, can be dangerous as this person is still a stranger. If someone you only know online ever asks you to meet up, for personal information or for photos/videos of you then tell an adult straight away and report them together on www.thinkuknow.co.uk

THINK
U
KNOW
CO.UK

A

ACCEPTING

Think carefully before you click on or open something online (e.g. links, adverts, friend requests, photos) as you never know where they may lead to or they may contain viruses. Do not accept something if you are unsure of who the person is or what they've sent you.



R

RELIABLE

You cannot trust everything you see online as some things can be out of date, inaccurate or not entirely true. To find reliable information compare at least three different websites, check in books and talk to someone about what you have found.



T

TELL

Tell a trusted adult if something or someone ever makes you feel upset, worried or confused. This could be if you or someone you know is being bullied online. There are lots of people who will be able to help you like your teachers, parents, carers or contact Childline – 0800 11 11 or www.childline.org.uk



BE SMART WITH A HEART

Remember to always be smart with a heart by being kind and respectful to others online. Make the internet a better place by helping your friends if they are worried or upset by anything that happens online.





Dino Digital Detectives

Name	
Class	
Potential harmful activity detected	
Date handed to office	

Action	
Review	

Unlocking....

Minds that learn, Hearts that love, Faith that gives

