

St. Peter's Catholic Academy

March Newsletter



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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of our Spring term, I want to say how proud I am of all our children. They have worked so hard over the past few months, and it has been wonderful to see them growing in confidence, learning new skills, and supporting one another. Every class has shown great effort, kindness, and enthusiasm, and we are thankful for the positive attitude they bring to school each day.

I would also like to thank our staff for their care and dedication. They work tirelessly to make sure every child feels safe, included, and ready to learn. Thank you as well to our families for your support at home. When school and home work together, children achieve their very best.

This month, many of our families celebrated Eid. We hope you all enjoyed this special time with your loved ones and that your celebrations were filled with joy and peace.

As we prepare for Easter, we are reminded of the messages of hope, new beginnings, and love. We wish all our families a restful break and a happy Easter. We look forward to welcoming everyone back after the holiday for a bright and exciting Summer term.

God bless,

Mr. Hodgson
Principal



Year 6 Confirmation Celebrations

This month, we were delighted to celebrate with some of our Year 6 pupils as they received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

It was a truly special moment for them, their families, and our whole school community. We are very proud of the thoughtful and mature way the children prepared for this important step in their faith journey. Their reverence during the Mass and their understanding of the gifts of the Holy Spirit were wonderful to see.

We pray that they continue to grow in faith, courage, and kindness, and that the Holy Spirit guides them in all they do.



The Pride of St Peter's – KS1 Footballers

This month, a team of superstar Year 1 and 2 children represented St. Peter's at a football tournament against 6 other schools in our trust.

They did brilliantly well, finishing 2nd.

We were so proud of them, how hard they tried and their amazing attitude – even in the pouring rain!

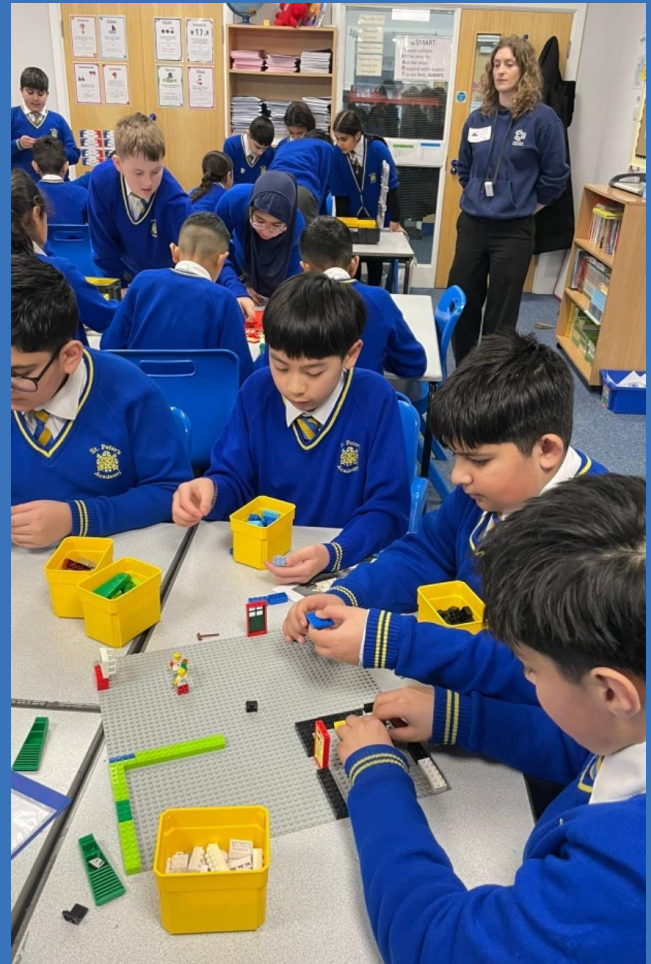
Well done children – you really made the school proud.

Children's University Visit

Year 6 recently took part in the Children's University Outreach Programme, where they learned about the wide range of courses available at university and what student life is really like.

Through a fun and engaging LEGO-building activity, pupils worked collaboratively in teams to design and construct their own university campus. This hands-on experience encouraged creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork, while giving them a glimpse into higher education.

The session inspired many pupils to start thinking about their futures and the exciting opportunities that university can offer, making it an enjoyable and informative experience for everyone involved on the day itself fully.



Year 5 and 6 visit the Halle Orchestra

Years 5 and 6 visited the Victoria Hall to see the world renowned Halle Orchestra perform.

To celebrate international women's day the theme of the concert was women. We listened to pieces by female composers and learned about female musicians who have made a big impact in the world of classical music.

The performance was inspiring and helped us to understand the importance of women in shaping music throughout history.





(Key Dates)



Monday 13th April	School reopens
Monday 13th April	Year 6 Forest School Trip to Middleport
Monday 20th April	Year 2 Forest School Trip to the Roaches
Wednesday 22nd April	09:00 - Nursery story time session with parents
Wednesday 22nd April	12:00 - Year 3 Parent Lunch
Week beginning of 11th May	Year 6 SATS Tests - GOOD LUCK!
Week beginning 18th May	Walk to school Week
Week beginning 1st June	Year 4 Multiplication Times Tables Check

To all our families who celebrated...





Year	Principal's Award	Goldfinch Award	English Award	Maths Award
YN	Dominik Paszkowski	EXX KXXXXXXXX		
YR	Elena Rocha	Fatima Adeel	IXXXXX IXXXXX	Milania Obeng
Y1	Aliyah Khaliq	Muhammad Irtaza	Henry Stubbs	Md. Unaiys Khan
Y2	Zainab Abbas	Zohan Ali	Samira Choudhury	Haider Chaudry
Y3	Khadija Ahmed	Hasan Saber	Oscar Akhanene	Arin Mariwan
Y4	Araf Islam	Ayaat Faisal	Aisha Farooq	Degbetua Igbiriki
Y5	Prince Barter Eneje	Sahad Khan	Laiba Noor Khan	Tahmid Ahmed
Y6	Sadia Rahman	Aleena Hussain	Oscar Stubbs	Uhban Ali

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about HOW TO COMBAT ONLINE BULLYING



Defined as "ongoing hurtful behaviour towards someone online", cyber-bullying makes its victims feel upset, uncomfortable and unsafe. In the digital world, it has numerous forms – such as hurtful comments on a person's posts or profile; deliberately leaving them out of group chats; sharing embarrassing images or videos of someone; or spreading gossip about them. Cyber-bullying can severely impact a young person's mental health ... so, in support of Anti-Bullying Week, we've provided a list of tips to help trusted adults know what to look for and how to respond to it.



1. GET CONNECTED

Playing online games together with your child or connecting with them on social media (providing they're old enough) is not only fun but also an excellent way of establishing some common ground to discuss things you've both seen or done online – as well as keeping an eye on who your child is communicating with in the digital world.

2. KEEP TALKING

Regular chats with young people about their online lives are good practice in general, but they can also be an excellent refresher to help prevent cyber-bullying situations. Topics you might want to revisit include why it's important to only connect online with people we know and trust, and why passwords should always remain secret (even from our best friends).

3. STAY VIGILANT

Observe your child while they're using technology and just after they've used it. Are they acting normally, or out of character? Possible signs of a problem may include seeming quiet or withdrawn, jumpy or anxious, angry or repeatedly checking their phone. When you feel it's the right time, you may want to check in with them to see if everything is OK.

4. MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE

If an online bullying incident does occur, it may take a while before your child is ready to open up about what happened. Just gently remind them that they can always come to you with any problems – and that they won't be in trouble. You might also suggest a trusted family member they could turn to, in case they feel too embarrassed to tell you directly.

5. BE PREPARED TO LISTEN

When conversations about online bullying do take place, they're likely to be difficult, emotional and upsetting for both you and your child. Actively listen to your child while they're bringing you up to speed, and try not to show any judgement or criticism – even if they haven't dealt with the situation in exactly the way you would have hoped.

FURTHER SUPPORT AND ADVICE

If you or your child need additional help with an online bullying issue, here are some specialist organisations that you could reach out to.

Childline: talk to a trained counsellor on 0800 1111 or online at www.childline.org.uk/get-support/

National Bullying Helpline: counsellors are available on 0845 225 5787 or by visiting www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/cyberbullying.html

The NSPCC: the children's charity has a guide to the signs of bullying at www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/ and can be reached on 0800 800 5000

6. EMPOWER YOUR CHILD

Depending on their age, your child might not want a parent 'fighting their battles for them'. In that case, talk through their options with them (blocking the perpetrator, deleting the app and so on). By allowing your child to choose the path they take, you're putting them in control but are also demonstrating that you're there to support them along the way.

7. REPORT BULLIES ONLINE

Cyber-bullying often takes place through a particular app, social media platform or online game. If this is happening to your child, encourage them to report the offender to the app or game in question – ideally with screenshots to support their complaint. Most games and apps have reporting tools specifically to stamp out abusive behaviour and protect users.

8. ENCOURAGE EMPATHY

Protecting themselves online is the priority, of course, but young people should also feel empowered to help if they witness other people falling victim to cyberbullying. Even if they don't feel confident enough to call someone out on their abusive behaviour online, they can still confidentially report that person to the app or game where the bullying occurred.

9. SEEK EXPERT ADVICE

Victims of online bullying frequently experience feelings of isolation and anxiety, a loss of self-esteem and potentially even thoughts of self-harm or suicide. If you think that an incident of cyber-bullying has affected your child's mental wellbeing, then seek psychological support for them. There are some useful contact details in the central panel below.

10. INVOLVE THE AUTHORITIES

If the nature of any online bullying makes you suspect that your child is genuinely in imminent physical danger – or if there are any signs whatsoever of explicit images being shared as part of the bullying – then you should gather any relevant screenshots as evidence and report the incidents to your local police force.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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