



# EDWARD PEAKE DECEMBER NEWSLETTER THE PEAKE POST

'LIVE, LOVE, LEARN'

"I WILL INSTRUCT YOU AND TEACH YOU IN THE WAY YOU SHOULD GO;  
I WILL COUNSEL YOU WITH MY LOVING EYE ON YOU."

PSALM 32:8

# Key Dates

Wednesday 3 January	Pupils return to school
Monday 8 January	Parent consultation evenings
Wednesday 10 January	
Tuesday 16 January	
Monday 19 – 23 February	Half term
Monday 26 February	Pupils return from half term
Monday 4 – 8 March	Year 8 French Trip
Friday 15 March	Comic Relief
Wednesday 20 March	Wellbeing Day

## Term Dates 2023 – 2024

School Holiday 

Bank Holiday 

Pupil Day 

Training Day 

September 2023						October 2023						November 2023						December 2023							
Mon		4	11	18	25	Mon		2	9	16	23	30	Mon		6	13	20	27	Mon		4	11	18	25	
Tue		5	12	19	26	Tue		3	10	17	24	31	Tue		7	14	21	28	Tue		5	12	19	26	
Wed		6	13	20	27	Wed		4	11	18	25	Wed		1	8	15	22	29	Wed		6	13	20	27	
Thu		7	14	21	29	Thu		5	12	19	26	Thu		2	9	16	23	30	Thu		7	14	21	28	
Fri		1	8	15	22	29	Fri		6	13	20	27	Fri		3	10	17	24	Fri		1	8	15	22	29
Sat		2	9	16	23	30	Sat		7	14	21	28	Sat		4	11	18	25	Sat		2	9	16	23	30
Sun		3	10	17	24	Sun		1	8	15	22	29	Sun		5	12	19	26	Sun		3	10	17	24	31

  

January 2024						February 2024						March 2024						April 2024							
Mon		1	8	15	22	29	Mon		5	12	19	26	Mon		4	11	18	25	Mon		1	8	15	22	29
Tue		2	9	16	23	30	Tue		6	13	20	27	Tue		5	12	19	26	Tue		2	9	16	23	30
Wed		3	10	17	24	31	Wed		7	14	21	28	Wed		6	13	20	27	Wed		3	10	17	24	
Thu		4	11	18	25	Thu		1	8	15	22	29	Thu		7	14	21	28	Thu		4	11	18	25	
Fri		5	12	19	26	Fri		2	9	16	23	Fri		1	8	15	22	29	Fri		5	12	19	26	
Sat		6	13	20	27	Sat		3	10	17	24	Sat		2	9	16	23	30	Sat		6	13	20	27	
Sun		7	14	21	28	Sun		4	11	18	25	Sun		3	10	17	24	31	Sun		7	14	21	28	

  

May 2024						June 2024						July 2024						August 2024							
Mon		6	13	20	27	Mon		3	10	17	24	Mon		1	8	15	22	29	Mon		5	12	19	26	
Tue		7	14	21	28	Tue		4	11	18	25	Tue		2	9	16	23	30	Tue		6	13	20	27	
Wed		1	8	15	22	29	Wed		5	12	19	26	Wed		3	10	17	24	31	Wed		7	14	21	28
Thu		2	9	16	23	30	Thu		6	13	20	27	Thu		4	11	18	25	Thu		1	8	15	22	29
Fri		3	10	17	24	31	Fri		7	14	21	28	Fri		5	12	19	26	Fri		2	9	16	23	30
Sat		4	11	18	25	Sat		1	8	15	22	29	Sat		6	13	20	27	Sat		3	10	17	24	31
Sun		5	12	19	26	Sun		2	9	16	23	30	Sun		7	14	21	28	Sun		4	11	18	25	

# Message from Miss Linington

As we approach the Christmas break, after what has been an incredibly busy and exciting term, I would like to thank pupils, staff and parents/carers for their continued support in everything we do.

This year has been incredibly difficult for many people for so many different reasons and we may feel very sad and lonely. But, we can hold onto the Christmas season because, during this majestic celebration, we can find hope in times of darkness. We can hold onto Jesus Christ as he is alongside us. Jesus is with us by his Spirit, he is with us in conversations and friendships that we will enjoy during the festivities.

2023 has not been easy for many; plans may have been unfulfilled and not delivered, and we may have had our challenges. But we have to rest and bathe in the light of Christ as we make our preparations to celebrate Christmas and continue to look with hope as we approach 2024. I invite you to remember God in Christ this Christmas and give thanks and radiate his love as we are all living candles made in God's image shining his light.

I would just like to wish you all a very happy, healthy and peaceful; Christmas. Please take care, stay safe and enjoy time with your friends and families.

We look forward to well coming everyone back on **3 January 2024**.

## Staff News

At the end of term, it is always with mixed emotions that we say "Goodbye and thank you" to some of our staff as they move on and "Welcome" or "Congratulations" to others as they join us or are promoted to new posts.

### **Goodbye and thank you to:**

*Miss Hooper*

*Mrs Owusu-Sekyere*

*Mr Mudaly*

### **Hello and welcome to:**

*Mrs Mwamatandala- Subject leader for MFL*

# Subject Consultation Evenings

Subject consultation evenings are being held on 8, 10 & 16 January. Please book an appointment with your child's subject teachers to discuss their attainment and progress during the first term of school.

Appointments will take place via video calls and can be booked via our parents evening booking system:

<https://edwardpeake.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Further details on how to book your appointments and access the video calls are in a letter that accompanies your child's end-of-term report. A video guide is also available on our school website:

<https://www.edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk/parents/parents-evening-booking-system/>

Bookings open at 8am on Thursday 21 December and close at midday on Monday 15 January. If you require any assistance in booking your appointment please contact the school office.

## The Big Draw

As part of our reward system, pupils gain achievement points on Class Charts for excellent, work, effort and contributions. For every 20 achievement points received, the pupils will gain a raffle ticket that is then entered into The Big Draw at the end of term to win a £25 Amazon voucher.

Autumn 2023 winners are:

**Year 5 - Isla Garrod**

**Year 6 - Kayla Cockcroft**

**Year 7 - Harmony-Louise Harman**

**Year 8 - Daniel Carr**

Remember you have to be in it to win it!

# STAFF & PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS



## SUMMER JONES

Summer performed in The Little Mermaid at the Gordon Craig Theatre 9th-11th November. She auditioned for it back in July where she had to sing a solo.

The show was a massive success, well done Summer.

## HANNAH GRAVES

Over the summer holidays Hannah received her Blue Peter Music Badge.

Blue Peter now have a range of themed badges as well as the traditional general blue badge. Hannah applied for her music and was successful. She had to answer questions and send in video evidence of her saxophone and steel band performances.



## AMY TURNER

Well done to Amy who continues to succeed in her diving, winning gold at the Beaumont Cup and collecting another diving shirt.

She also competed at the Sheffield Santa Skills, coming 9th out of 38 girls. Girls ranged from 12 to 14 years old, so to achieve 9th with such competition is amazing.

## HENRY ROUSSEL

Congratulations on passing your Rockscool Grade 2 electric guitar exam.

## LET US KNOW!

We are always delighted to hear of our pupils' achievements outside of school. Please email [info@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk](mailto:info@edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk) with any news you would like to update us on.

# STAFF & PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

Message from the PE department. If parents have any old football boots that they no longer need could we ask that you please donate them to the school in order to help our families in need.

## NETBALL TEAM SUCCESS

Congratulations to our year 7 and 8 girls netball teams in their recent games against Edwinstree Middle School. Year 7 score 6-6 & Year 8 score 12-6 for the win.

**Year 7 Team** - A. Shippey, V. Fullerton, E. Walker, L. Simmons V. Hooper, J. Finaughty, E. West

**Year 8 Team** - S. Prosser, L. Burrows, P. Outten, M. Fisher, S Rae, N Barbet, F Pallett, L. Tompkins



## DODGEBALL FESTIVAL



Congratulations to our Year 5 dodgeball teams on winning the East Beds school sports dodgeball festival. Supported by our sports leaders.

**Players** - R. Charlton, T. Fanimi, S. Hardaker, R. Pearse, O. Baldock, P. Evans, M. Grehan-Howarth, L. Fawcett-Molinari, D. Logan, R. Church, B. Prosser, I. White, A. Terry, I. O'Brien.

**Sports Leaders** - E. Smitham, I Walker, M Walker, H Dunham, G Taylor, H Farndell, T Walker, J Alliu, B Morley, C Gibson, M Lee-Bush, S. Baker, H. Graves, H. Taylor, M. Sunil, D Sheu, B Desborough-Smith, W Rons, T Wilkie

**A massive congratulations and well done to all our pupils on their fantastic achievements both inside and outside of school.**

# STAFF & PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS

## Values Winners

Here at Edward Peake, we highlight a different value each month. Pupils and staff are nominated to receive an award for living the value of the month.

In October, our value was **Cooperation**.

**Year 5 M. Grehan-Howarth** - For always being willing to work with others and support them to reach their goals

**Year 6 C. Eldrett** - Showing great care, patience and understanding when working with her peers.

**Year 7 C. Rudling** - For always being happy to volunteer to help others and assist with class tasks.

**Year 8 L. Burrows** - For always helping in class and always being positive.

**Staff - Miss Lee**

In November, our value was **Respect**.

**Year 5 P. Evans** - For always being prepared to help others wherever she can by treating everyone fairly with the same level of respect and care.

**Year 6 I. Pinnock** - For being respectful to all people and being supportive to other members of the class.

**Year 7 C. Sanders** - For respecting all others, offering help and support to pupils and staff alike.

**Year 8 E. Browne** - For encouraging others to be at their best by modelling respect and care in lessons and around school.

**Staff - Mrs Basra & Mrs Harris**

In December, our value was **Compassion**.

**Year 5 A. Whitbread** - For always asking to help those in need around the classroom, offering support and help to pupils and staff despite his injury, and always having a positive attitude to those he helps.

**Year 6 A. Woodman** - For always showing compassion to others inside and outside of the classroom.

**Year 7 E. West** - For supporting anyone she works with in a caring, compassionate way.

**Year 8 C. Williams** - For the care and empathy he shows when mentoring the new Year 5 steel pan players.

**Staff - Mrs Tookey**

**Congratulations to all of our values winners!**

# PUPIL ARTICLES



There is an upcoming Christmas service in the hall for all of the school. In this service, there will be religious readings, hymns and musical pieces performed by students.

On Saturday 9 December there will also be an 'eco fayre' In this fayre there will be stalls, choir and many other activities.

**E. Joyce, Year 7**

Mrs Thorn has put her efforts and her time to give all the parts of the school play (Matilda the musical) to the successfully auditioned people.

£353.50 was raised for Pudsey day!

Gardening club earned an award for their hard work and extra time which they didn't need to do.

**S. Bose, Year 8**



## YEAR 5 SPACE CENTRE TRIP

Year 5 enjoyed a fantastic and educational visit to the National Space Centre in Leicester on Monday 11 December 2023. It was a very early start for the pupils but it was clear they were excited for the day ahead. Upon arriving, pupils were keen to explore and learn as much as they could about space.

It was an incredibly busy day and pupils had full access to the centre. They were able to learn about the planets, space exploration, and so much more. Pupils were treated to the "Astronaut Education" show in the Sir Patrick Moore Planetarium. They learned what it takes to be an astronaut and explore space. Pupils also developed their knowledge of the Mars Rover and coding in NX - Martian Rover Exploration workshop.

It was an incredibly busy day but a day that was enjoyed by all pupils and staff.

**Miss Mall**



# THE LOCAL OFFER

This Local Offer sets out in one place what support and services are available for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).

The information will include how to access services and organisations for Children and Young People with SEND from birth to 25 years.

Our Local Offer has been designed and developed by a range of professionals from both Children's and Adult services including:

**Education**  
**Health**  
**Social Care**  
**SNAP Parent Carer Forum (PCF)**  
**Voluntary and community groups**

The Local Offer will include information on services that are available to support children and young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND) from birth to 25.

**<https://localoffer.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/centralbedfordshire/directory/about.page>**



Central Bedfordshire **SEND Local Offer**

## SAFEGUARDING

If you think a child you know is being harmed or at risk of being harmed, **please contact the Access and Referral Hub on 0300 300 8585**, who you can talk to about your concerns.

They will give you advice or may investigate the circumstances. All child protection calls are treated in confidence and you don't need to give your details.

Everyone has a responsibility to protect children from harm.

**Out of hours: 0300 300 8123**

**Email: [cs.accessandreferral@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:cs.accessandreferral@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)**

Further support agencies can be found on our school website under the parents and pupil support section.

# FAMILY SUPPORT

Christmas can be a very tricky time of year for so many families. MIND has developed a range of tips to assist families.

<https://www.mind.org.uk/information-support/tips-for-everyday-living/christmas-and-mental-health/christmas-coping-tips>

## Biggleswade Food Bank

Biggleswade food bank was set up by members of Biggleswade Baptist Church in 2009 to help local people who find themselves in financial crises.

Telephone: 07511 367066

Website: [www.bbchurch.org.uk](http://www.bbchurch.org.uk)



## Preen Food Bank

Preen are a local foodbank in Biggleswade.

Telephone: 01767 600 332

The flyer features a dark blue background with a white circle in the center. Inside the circle, there is a logo for SNAP Parent Carer Forum Central Bedfordshire, an illustration of a swimmer, and the text "Christmas Holiday SEND Swimming Sessions". A QR code is located at the bottom of the circle. The Central Bedfordshire logo is also present in a green circle at the bottom right of the flyer.

Additional support information and leaflets can be found on our website <https://www.edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk/support-leaflets/>

## FREE SEND CBC COURSE

Do you have a child with ASD or ADHD? Central Bedfordshire are running free courses from 15 January - 25 March for more information and to book please call **01582 660061**.

# Top Tips for a TECH-FREE CHRISTMAS

It can be difficult to stay away from technology and devices, and sometimes this means that people – of any age – can find it hard to be present in the moment. As a period when families are able to spend some quality time together and enjoy each other's company, Christmas is the perfect opportunity to step away from our phones, laptops and consoles and concentrate on the things that really matter. Follow our top ten tips for a tech-free festive period and make the most of this holiday season. Merry Christmas!

## 1. BOARD GAMES CAN BE FUN (HONEST)

OK, no one wants a repeat of that incident when your youngest had to pay triple rent on Mayfair, but going back to basics with a card or board game can be a fantastic bonding experience. Choose a game that even the youngest members of your family can enjoy and have a fun tech-free time.

## 2. MAKE YOUR OWN DECORATIONS

Spending time on arts and crafts is a brilliant way to relax and spend some productive time offline. Making your own Christmas decorations as a family can become a wholesome tradition and leave you with some treasured mementos, too.

## 3. GO FOR A WINTER WALK

Not much beats wrapping up warm on a crisp December day and taking a stroll. Whether alone or with the family, a walk is a fantastic way to clear your head and relish the break from hectic normal life. As an extra festive treat, why not make a flask of hot chocolate to take with you?

## 4. BAKE SOME FESTIVE TREATS

Not all Christmas cooking has to be a stressful chore that's timed with military precision. Baking some simple festive treats like cookies doesn't have to take hours – and will make sure you're stocked up on tasty things to offer any friends or family members who pop round.

## 5. READ A FAMILY STORY TOGETHER

Turn story time into an event. Make the living room or bedroom into a tech-free space, light some candles, make some hot drinks and reach for a classic Christmas tale. It's a fantastic way to relax before bed, and the right story will help to get the whole family into the festive spirit.

## 6. TURN OFF NOTIFICATIONS

It sounds obvious, but turning off email and app notifications can give you more control of your relationship with technology. Getting into the habit of checking your phone periodically – rather than reacting every time a notification arrives – helps you to stay present in the moment.

## 7. FEED THE BIRDS

Food's hard to come by for wildlife in winter, so helping our feathered friends is a very worthwhile reason to put down those devices and reconnect with nature. Fill a bird feeder in the garden or take a snack for the ducks in your local park (but ditch the bread in favour of oats, rice or birdseed).

## 8. SET DAILY LIMITS

Many apps and devices let you set reminders to let you know how long you've used them for that day. Setting daily limits puts you firmly in charge of your time and will help to ensure you don't miss out on any family Christmas memories because you're engrossed in your phone or laptop.

## 9. GET ON YOUR BIKE

Exercise, such as going for a run or a bike ride is an excellent way to burn off some of those Yuletide calories while giving your brain and eyes a break from screen-based activity. Physical exertion also helps reduce anxiety and releases endorphins which can improve your sense of wellbeing.

## 10. MAKE TIME FOR YOURSELF

There can be a lot of pressure to meet up with friends, make video calls and check in with people at Christmas – but remember that you need time to relax as well. Don't feel guilty about not replying to messages and emails immediately – the holiday is your chance to drop down a gear or two.



 **National Online Safety**  
#WakeUpWednesday

# ST ANDREWS CHURCH

## CHRISTMAS DATES

**Wednesday 20 December** – 6.00 pm Carols and seasonal refreshments, St Andrew's Church grounds

**Thursday 21 December** – 5.30 pm – 6.30 pm Carols at Sullivan Court, Kings Reach

**Sunday 24 December** – 10.00 am Parish Communion, Fourth Sunday of Advent  
6.00 pm Crib Service  
11.30 pm Christmas Eve Midnight Mass

**Christmas Day** – 10.00 am Parish Communion

**Thursday 28 December** NB No Holy Communion

**Sunday 7 January 2024** The Epiphany – 8.00 am Holy Communion [Order Two]  
10.00 am Family Communion

**Sunday 4 February Candlemas** – 8.00 am Holy Communion [Order Two]  
10.00 am Parish Communion  
3.00 pm Christingle

### Advance Diary Dates

Wednesday 14 February Ash Wednesday

Sunday 24 March Palm Sunday

Sunday 31 March Easter Day

*Unity is a precious thing, but it shouldn't mean that everybody has to believe the same thing or hold the same opinion. Unity can celebrate differences.*

*Peace, genuine peace, is possible where people are prepared to work positively to include those who are different from themselves.*

**"Wishing you a very Happy Christmas from Revd. Liz and all at St. Andrew's Church, Biggleswade"**



# THANK YOU

We hope you have enjoyed this Terms newsletter #TeamPeake.

Check out our curriculum pages to learn more about how we support our learners for the future



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