

Parent Bulletin

ISSUE 41 12/11/2021



'In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.' Matthew 7:12

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



We are delighted to announce our new Head Girl (Noestra Williams) & Head Boy (Rae-Kwan Jackson) this week.

The quality of candidates was strong and it was an excellent experience to sit in with our sixth formers as they watched the campaign videos that the candidates had expertly put together, and then voted. In all honesty, every single candidate would have been a worthy choice, but we have finished the process with two students that I believe will be fantastic ambassadors for our school. We are all eagerly awaiting the results of the process for all of the other year groups in school.

The idea of students taking a lead in their school is nothing new to any school and I was delighted to see so many leaders this week in ensuring that we celebrated Remembrance Day appropriately and in St. Peter's fashion yesterday. The students observed proceedings in such a polite and respectful manner, sometimes it can be a pleasure to be around such well-mannered and aware young people.

I have also had the pleasure of working alongside many of our Year 8 students who have been working with our Artist in Residence Debbie Todd to create what is starting to look like a fantastic piece of art that depicts our Christian values and will be displayed prominently in the school. We have even built-in that with the new build in mind, this will be able to be transported and placed prominently when the layout of the school changes.

It has been fascinating to watch as the Star Students reward scheme has re-started and the post box has been filling up every day. The most striking thing to me regarding this is the amount of smiles on the students' faces as they come to drop their ticket for the draw into the box!

The changes to the detention system are introduced next week (as mentioned in last week's Bulletin). As we have watched this week, it has already started to get darker much earlier. On this note, I would like to ask again for support that children are safe and visible on the way to and from school. The newly introduced late system has already had an impact with lateness falling since its introduction. We are determined to try to ensure that all students are punctual and getting all of the allotted time in class and enjoying the benefits of the morning form time activities.

On a much less positive note, we have had some incidents of students setting off the fire alarm again this week. This is not acceptable. All students concerned have faced serious sanctions and in all instances, parents have been involved. On every occasion, we have managed to identify and sanction the students involved. Any student setting off the fire alarm is putting others' lives at risk and seriously disrupting learning. On some occasions, the fire alarm has been set off via the use of aerosols. Aerosols are a banned item in school. Today we have spoken to students again about this issue and held an aerosol amnesty to alleviate the issue. I would like to ask for your support to ensure that no aerosols are brought into school. We will be carrying out several spot checks next week and confiscating all items found.

CONTACTS

Head of Year 7 - jpeacock@speters.org.uk

Head of Year 8 - gsmith@speters.org.uk

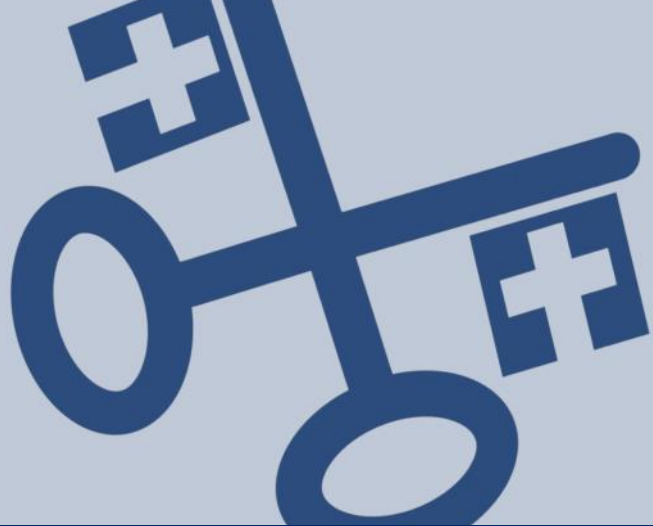
Head of Year 9 - elord@speters.org.uk

Head of Year 10 - ajohnson@speters.org.uk

Head of Year 11 - dmaullin@speters.org.uk

Post 16 - 6thform@speters.org.uk

For general enquiries speters@speters.org.uk



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I am grateful for your help in improving uniform standards and in particular as regards shoes. Please continue to support the school with this. If students are wearing black Nike trainers instead of school shoes, they can expect a sanction. We are also determined that students are not wearing hoodies in school. We have reminded students again this week that these will be taken off them in the same way as mobile phones.

Having had to communicate some of the above concerns, can sometimes paint a picture that appears less than positive. I much prefer to try to be open and work alongside parents/carers to solve these issues, rather than hide from them.

There is so much to look forward to in this term; not least, the return to St. Peter's church at the end of term to celebrate Christmas Eucharist, the Carol Service and our Presentation Evening. We are really looking forward to these events and excited to get students back into the Church after the last few years of education having been so disrupted (details will follow shortly).

FILM CLUB EXPLORING THE ENVIRONMENT THROUGH MOVING MEDIA

Our Wednesday lunchtime film club has been very successful since it started a few weeks ago. It is open to all students in Years 7-9 and takes place in D64 from 12-12.30 every Wednesday. Students are encouraged to bring their lunch to eat as they watch the films.

Each week, we watch a series of short films from a particular genre. Last week, we explored the science fiction genre and 24 students attended. A focus film, 'Hybrids' has an important environmental message which prompted a lively debate.

Links to the films we watched:

"Advent Rising" by Todd Allen and Ian Kyle (10 mins)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fRVemlOKXBo>

"You Will Never Guess the Ending" by cheekboardstudios (5 mins)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QcP7NZG8A-0>

"Hybrids" by MOPA (7 mins)

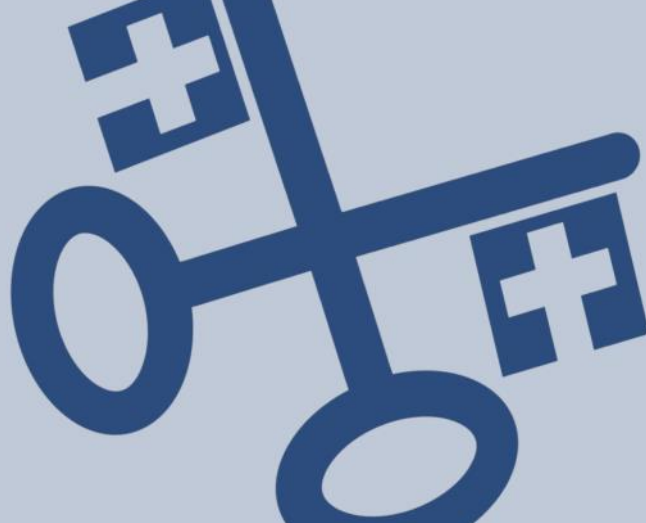
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=acnWy-tl3ng>

READING WIDELY AND OFTEN

This week our reading widely and often extract comes from Wilfred Owen. The extract is a letter from Wilfred, one of England's finest war poets, to his mother. The extract is particularly fitting with Remembrance Day taking place this week. Owen was born in Oswestry and was killed in action just one week before armistice was declared. Read the extract [here](#)

SPRING TERM DATES 2022

- **Term Time:** Tuesday 4 January 2022 – Friday 18 February 2022
- **Half Term:** Monday 21 February 2022- Friday 25 February 2022
- **Term Time:** Monday 28 February 2022 – Friday 8 April 2022
- **Inset Days:** Wednesday 2 March 2022 (half day following Ash Wednesday Eucharist) | Friday 8 April 2022



KEY DATES

- 16/11 - Interfaith Week
- 17/11 - Y10 Review 1
- 18/11 - Parent Drop-in
- 22/11 - Y9 Assessment Week
- 22/11 - Book Fair in school
- 1/12 - Careers Fair in school
- 1/12 - Y11 Review
- 6/12 - MFL GCSE Speaking Mocks all week
- 6/12 - Subject Discovery day
- 7/12 - Christmas Concert
- 8/12 - Y13 Review 1
- 9/12 - Y11 Parents' Evening
- 10/12–Y7 Theatre Trip
- 13/ 12 – Carol Service
- 15/12 - Presentation Evening
- 17/12 - Break Up for Christmas

INTERFAITH WEEK

Inter Faith Week is a time each year when across the UK the spotlight falls on faith communities and inter faith activity, including engagement between those of religious and nonreligious beliefs. You can find this year's dates and more information at www.interfaithweek.org How we get on as people of different faiths and beliefs is ever more important and this special week brings a focus to that.

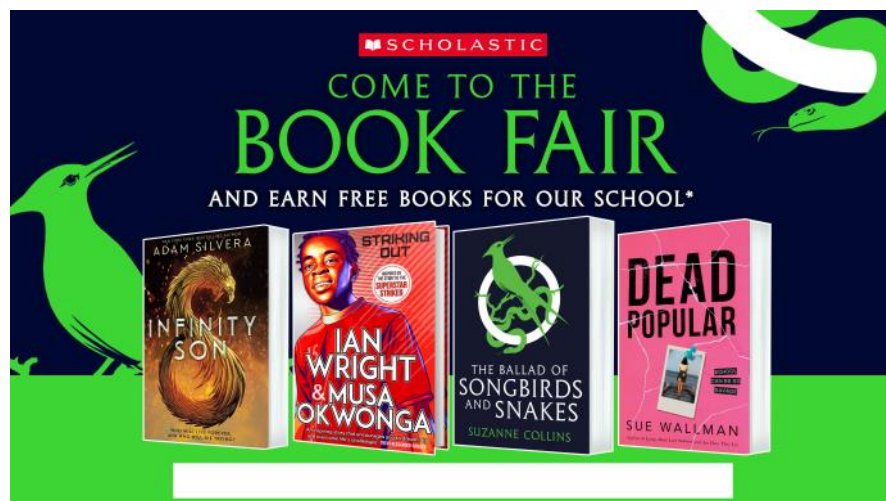
It is a time for:

- strengthening good inter faith relations at all levels - even during these difficult times
- increasing awareness of the different and distinct faith communities in the UK, in particular celebrating and building on the contribution which their members make to their neighbourhoods and to wider society
- increasing understanding between people of religious and non-religious beliefs

Creating an event or activity can be a great opportunity to celebrate and build on the work that is happening in school and we hope that in running this event, it will further engage students and strengthen their relations..

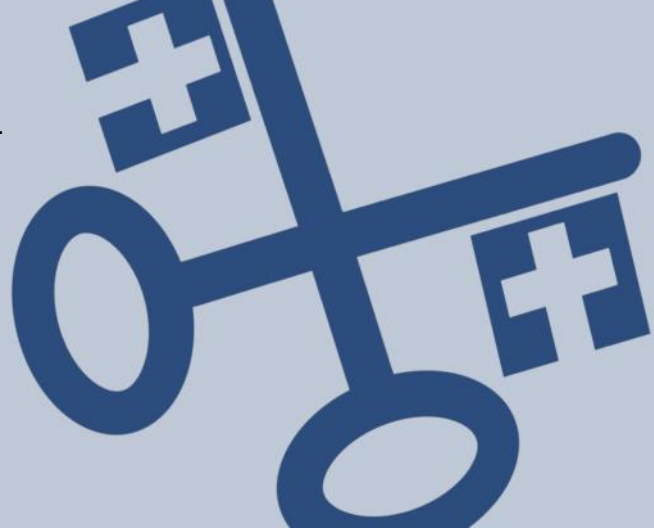
BOOK FAIR OPENS

Keep your eyes peeled for more information in next week's bulletin about our upcoming Scholastic Book Fair which will take place from 22/11/21 to 3/12/21 in the Learning Centre.



Reminder

We are hosting our first Parent Drop-in session next Thursday. A link has been sent by text to parents.



BASKETBALL ACADEMY 3 ON 3

These last couple of weeks have seen the Basketball Academy go from strength to strength. To witness so many focused and driven young people taking part is truly a privilege and testament to the hard work and effort of all those involved. This week we saw the first 3 on 3 tournament held in school with over 25 local schools in attendance. This format of Basketball is played on half a normal Basketball court, the game hardly stops after fouls or baskets.

We are very proud of the teams that took part from St Peter's both our Year 9 and 10 teams made it through to the quarter finals with the Year 10s narrowly losing out to a sudden goal overtime basket by St Chads.

After the tournament, Basketball Director Mr Anderson praised all those involved, and spoke very highly of our teams that took part. The teams showed promise and hopefully they can use this experience to help them achieve in the Wolverhampton 5 on 5 league this season.

BUSINESS BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROJECT WINNER

Huge congratulations to Dara in Year 9 who won Business Studies' Black History month competition. Students were tasked with researching a black entrepreneur and then producing an infographic identifying the 4Ps (product, place, price, promotion).

All Year 9 Business students worked incredibly hard but Dara's entry was a cut above the rest.

Well done, Dara!



ST PETER'S REMEMBERS

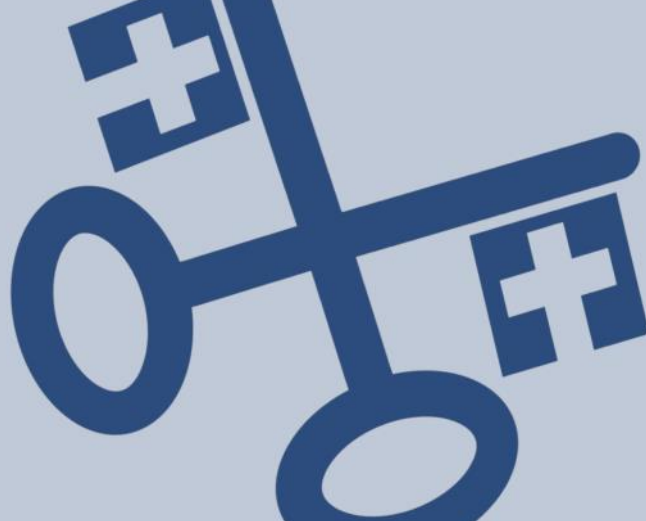


On Thursday 11th the entire school stopped to remember the service and sacrifice of the Armed Forces community from Britain and the Commonwealth.

The service led by the Principal and School Chaplain was fantastically observed by all involved. A special mention to the students who played the last post with Mr Peacock, you guys were awesome.

ENRICHMENT

- [Click here to view our full enrichment timetable](#)



HISTORY ENRICHMENT

The History Department offers a variety of Enrichment Clubs. For Key Stage 3, each Monday (3pm - 4pm) Miss Hammerton and a group of Year 7 and 8 students explore a section of history that students don't normally get to learn during the curriculum but that they are interested in. Horrible Histories Club bases its sessions around each of the Horrible Histories eras such as the Gorgeous Georgians or the Savage Stone Age, allowing the students to learn more about their historical interests and learn obscure facts from history. Available for Key Stage 3 and 4, Mr Smith is out of this world each Tuesday (3pm - 4pm) as he runs the Sci-Fi and Fantasy Club. This week, Dr Who was watched and discussed.

For our GCSE students, Mr Morgan leads a revision class online via the Google Classroom each week (7pm - 8pm). Each week sees an exam paper attempted with the aim of covering the whole course by the time the exams come round. Mr Potts also leads a revision session each Wednesday after school (3pm - 4pm). Mr Potts focuses on both the content and exam technique that our GCSE History students need to excel in their exams.

This year sees the first cohort of GCSE History students to complete the newly revamped course - studying the new units of Crime and Punishment through Time, Whitechapel (c.1870 - c.1900) including Jack the Ripper and Henry VIII and his Ministers. The new units are having a definite impact and students are enjoying learning about such interesting topics!

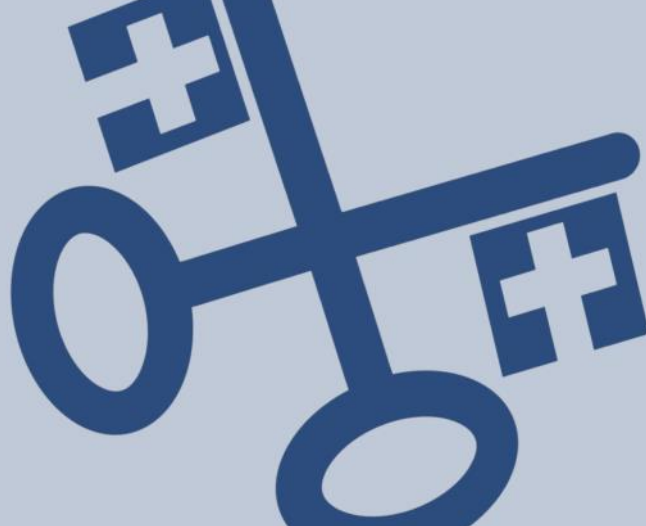
Due to the ongoing impact of the Coronavirus pandemic, some changes have been made to the GCSE exams by the exam board (Edexcel). This year we are able to drop one unit from the exam. As a result, Year 11 students have been informed that they will not have to learn or sit the paper for the Superpower Relations and the Cold War unit. This unit has been dropped by the department as it is the only unit that has not yet been taught to any class. The time gained from not having to teach this unit means that, once Year 11 have completed learning the Weimar and Nazi Germany unit, we will have completed all the content necessary for the exams and will have a greater amount of time in order to focus on the revision of past units and to sharpen exam technique.

In order to help our GCSE students develop and revise their knowledge and exam technique, we have implemented a number of strategies this year. Firstly, the department currently runs Session 7 revision sessions (see below for details) that focus on both content and exam technique using different methods of revision. Secondly, the department is currently reviewing the recommended revision guides for Year 11 to ensure that the most helpful guides are recommended. As soon as a decision is made, the department will bulk purchase the best guides and will then sell them to the students at the best rate possible. Finally, Google Classrooms for each GCSE year group have been set up which have lists and links to videos, websites, exam technique advice and numerous other revision resources in order to help students in as many ways as possible. Further material will be added to the Google Classrooms as we progress through the school year.

REMINDERS:

We are so incredibly proud of our students and their achievements in school but we are also aware that there are lots of wonderful things they are doing outside of school that we don't know about. We would love to hear all about these achievements.

[Fill our this form here](#)



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This year, each History class is being set their homework via the Google Classroom. Every week, a quiz is posted to the relevant Google Classrooms that every student has at least two opportunities to complete (as well as the option to complete the quiz on paper if the student speaks to their class teacher). The homework quizzes have been created to help students revise both the content covered in class and the relevant exam technique needed to tackle assessment/exam questions. I would urge you to encourage your children to attempt the quizzes as the practice of recalling knowledge has been proven to improve the retention of important knowledge and therefore improve exam performance.

The quizzes are set on the Google Classrooms as follows:

Year 7 - Mondays and Tuesday.

Year 8 - Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Year 9 - Monday and Tuesday evenings (4pm - 7pm).

Year 10 - Wednesday and Thursday evenings (4pm - 7pm).

Year 11 - Tuesday and Wednesday evenings (4pm - 7pm).

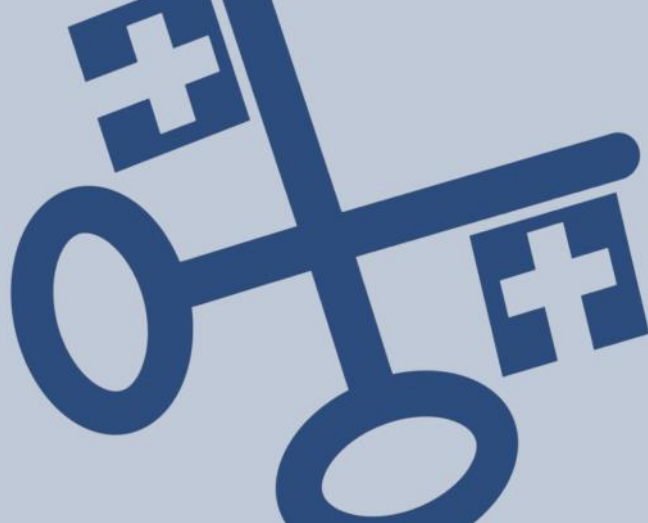
YORK UNIVERSITY FOR FORMER HISTORY STUDENT

History at St Peter's has taken me on a journey to love the subject beyond my time there. I found that the topics at both GCSE and A Level to be extremely interesting and thought provoking, as well as finding the skills that I gained during A Level to be highly useful at university. I am now studying History at the University of York, and this was through the dedication and support of the department throughout my time studying History. The variety of visits to historical places complimented the learning, as well as everyone being able to have a good time together. However, my most recent visit to Auschwitz was probably the most impactful, which I was given the opportunity to visit through the department's participation in the Lessons From Auschwitz Project, through the Holocaust Educational Trust; allowing me to become one of their Ambassadors. Overall, my time studying History has been an amazing experience which I won't forget.

- Olivia Yates

REMINDERS:

- Information on our curriculum offer can be found [here](#)



SPORTS RESULTS

FOOTBALL Year 7 St Peter's 1-1 St Edmunds

BASKETBALL Y7/8 St Peter's won 8 games to 1 against
Thomas Telford

BASKETBALL Y7 /8 St Peter's 24-16 St Mathias

FIXTURES COMING UP

Year 8 Football vs St Dominics

Year 7/8 Basketball vs Highfields

Year 10 Football vs St Dominics

Year 8 Football vs OLSC

Year 10 Football vs Highfields

Year 8 Girls Football vs Highfields

Year 9/10 Basketball vs St Edmunds