



9th January 2026

Reception – SPRING TERM 2026

Dear Parents & Carers,

Happy New Year and welcome back! We have enjoyed hearing all the children's news from over the holiday and are pleased with how they are settling back into school life.

Morning Routine

Our school day begins at 8:40a.m. and the doors close at 8:50a.m. If you arrive after this time, please go to the school office. During this first part of our morning, the children engage in 'Busy Fingers' activities, which support the development of their fine motor skills and play an important role in enabling them to be fluent writers. Thank you for your support in encouraging them to enter the class independently.

Home Consolidation Activities

Each term, we will upload a Knowledge Organiser (explaining the different areas of learning) to the website and Google Classroom. These will offer ideas to help you to support your child further at home. Please remember to take a look at the 'Top Tips' sections on our class pages with activity ideas to support progress in different areas.

Link to website: [St Peter's School - Knowledge Organisers](#)

Google classroom

We will be continuing to use Google Classroom to communicate with parents and pupils. You should have received an email with your child's log on details. Please speak to the class teacher if you need any help. If you have still not been able to log on and access this, please let us know.

WOW moments

We continue to share our Wow Moments with the class. You can upload these onto Google Classroom, accompanied with a photo or short video clip, to help your child to talk about their experiences.

Topics this term:

Spring 1: Let's Go on an Adventure

We will explore familiar stories, learning how to innovate/change parts such as settings or characters. Using maps, we will record journeys and stories that we have created. We will take the class on a local walk around the area, where we will observe different parts of our community and compare them with others. Lunar New Year falls in half term so we will be learning about this at the end of half term.

Spring 2: Once Upon a Time

This term, we will enjoy some of our favourite traditional and non-traditional stories and use them to inspire our role-play and imagination. We will expand our writing skills by exploring non-fiction writing, speech, and WANTED posters. We will then use all of the skills developed throughout the term to be "Awesome Authors" again and write our own stories.

Reading books

We will continue to change our reading books on Fridays. Please bring both the reading and sharing books in to change on this day. Due to a high number of sharing books not being returned, we will only give new sharing books if the previous ones have been brought back.

Please note that your child will bring home a reading book containing the sounds that they confidently know. This may mean that their book has a label indicating a different week/term than the one we are currently on; please do not worry. We continually assess the children and support them in closing any gaps in their knowledge. To assist us with this, please continue to read at least three times a week and record it in the reading record book. Please ensure you write in their reading record book when you have read with them at home, at least once but up to a maximum of three times. It is really useful for us to see how the children are progressing at home. We will begin to follow up on whether they are being read with at home if there is nothing written in the book.

This term in phonics is a review term. The children will learn a small selection of new sounds and we will then focus on consolidation of what they have already covered. We will also gradually move towards attempting to orally compose and write simple phrases/sentences by writing about their weekend news every Monday.

PE

This term PE lessons will take place on a **Friday**. If your child does not have a PE kit in school, please send one in as soon as possible in a named plastic or drawstring bag **only**. As space is very limited on the children's pegs we are not able to accommodate rucksacks of any kind. Please encourage your child to be as independent as possible when dressing at home as this will greatly support us in school. This term, we will be taking part in Gymnastics, which will be indoors and barefoot; therefore, they will not need trainers.

Curriculum Ambitions:

Last term parents and carers were sent a letter explaining what our Curriculum Ambitions are for this year. Each ambition has its own visual logo which you will now see on the Knowledge Organiser and in our floor book so that you can see how and when we are working on these different ambitions.

A few reminders:

- Please make sure everything is labelled, from jumpers to shoes, hats and gloves, to avoid them being swapped or misplaced. This is especially important now we are doing PE. It is not possible for us to keep track of every child's clothing, particularly if it is not labelled.
- Packed lunches must follow the school's healthy eating and **nut free** policy as we do have children in the school with severe allergies. This includes chocolate spread such as Nutella.
- The children are offered a selection of fruits and vegetables every morning for snack. They are also offered either milk or water. Please note that only water is allowed in the children's water bottles.
- Children may place **one** small keyring on their book bags to help them identify which one is theirs. Please refrain from putting multiple ones on as they then do not fit in their trays.
- We will be asking for a voluntary donation of £1 per week which is payable through the School Gateway app. This will allow us to buy additional resources to support the children's learning. We would like to say a huge thank you for the donations we have received so far. Last term we invested in new maths resources for outside, ingredients for making fresh playdough weekly, cooking ingredients, Christmas craft activities such as sewing decorations and this also supported the activities we were able to provide at the Learn and Share.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 19th January - we will be taking the classes on a winter walk around the local area (Sopwell). Please let us know if you would be able to accompany us for an hour. We aim to leave straight after registration and to return by 10.15am at the latest.

Tuesday 10th February: Learn and Share 8.40-9.30a.m.: This term our Learn and Share will be Maths focused. We hope to provide examples of some fun and easy games that you could try at home with your child, which are linked to the end of year Early Learning Goals. We appreciate that parents and carers may have other commitments/work so please feel free to come along for as long as you can- you do not need to have to stay for the entirety of the time. Due to limited space we ask that only **one** adult attends for each child. Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate younger siblings.

Week beginning 9th February - we will be celebrating and exploring Lunar New Year and hope to do some cooking on the Monday morning. If you celebrate this festival and would like to come in and discuss this with the class, or if you would like to help with cooking, please speak to the class teacher.

Half term: Week beginning 16th February

Week beginning 4th March – 100 Day Party – more information to follow!

We recommend that you regularly check the school calendar on the school website for any other events that may occur throughout the term. We will also use the Google Classroom to send updates.

Communication

If you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask. The end of the day is usually the best time. You can also send an email to your class email, which is badgers@stpeters.herts.sch.uk or hedgehogs@stpeters.herts.sch.uk. We will endeavour to reply to you as soon as possible, but please be aware that we will not be able to respond to emails during teaching hours. For any urgent communication, please contact the school office. Please also contact the office about absences and/or different people collecting your child. You can use the email: mychildtoday@stpeters.herts.sch.uk

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Miss Laffy, Miss Devine and Miss O'Doherty