

THE Peterite



2019-20



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Welcome



Jeremy Walker,
Head Master

A warm welcome to the first whole school edition of *The Peterite*. Whereas previous editions of *The Peterite* have focused on our senior years, this year's edition celebrates the achievements of the whole school during the academic year 2019-2020, following the renaming of Clifton School and Nursery to St Peter's 2-8 and of St Olave's to St Peter's 8-13 in summer 2020.

It has certainly been an extraordinary year which will no doubt have its own place in the history of our school. While Covid-19 may feel like the dominant story of the year there has been much more to make this year stand out and to celebrate across the school.

Who would have thought it possible to close a physical school, reopen remotely and online in the space of five weeks and then move back into a gradual reopening with planning for being fully onsite again in September 2020? It was an incredible achievement and made possible due to the individual and collective efforts of the whole school community – working in solidarity and pulling together to face adversity with creativity.

We have done so much and learned a tremendous amount during this year and I have been so proud and impressed by the way my colleagues and pupils have responded. From Nursery through to Sixth Form, our pupils have shown themselves to be creative, adaptable, resilient, resourceful and collaborative, all vital skills required not only for life in school but for happy, successful and fulfilled adult lives.

I hope you enjoy reading about everything our pupils have achieved this year, both at school and at home. I hope that all of us will see this as positive proof that, whatever life throws at us in the future, we can overcome challenges, thrive and flourish no matter the circumstance.



Phil Hardy,
Head of St Peter's 2-8

St Peter's 2-8 Welcome

What a fantastic year we have had at St Peter's 2-8, full of exciting adventures for children and staff, even for some of the parents! Although none of us could have predicted the challenges that lay ahead, our children have proven themselves to be true Learning Superheroes, demonstrating collaboration, reflectiveness, resourcefulness and resilience against all the odds. Their curiosity, adaptability and unbounded joy of learning has continued throughout the year, enabling them to embrace the new realities of remote learning.

It has been an incredibly difficult year at times and the staff at St Peter's 2-8 have been sensational. The effort they make for the children is staggering and the children are incredibly fortunate to have them as their teachers, teaching assistants and support staff. Every single member of staff works incredibly hard to create such fabulous learning spaces and environments for the children, preparing exciting and innovative lessons that inspire them to learn. They have overcome so many unexpected challenges this year, changing their teaching methods and preparing the most amazing lessons on video that I am sure could be on TV!

I hope you enjoy reading about the adventures of children at St Peter's 2-8 in this edition of *The Peterite* magazine. I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the extraordinary people who make our school and nursery such a special place to be.



Andy Falconer,
Head of St Peter's 8-13

St Peter's 8-13 Welcome

We have certainly had an unforgettable year at St Peter's 8-13 and so much has been achieved. Before lockdown, children participated in the national Shakespeare Schools' Festival, Yorkshire Schools Dance Festival and celebrated British Science Week. Teams competed in national maths competitions and the national MFL Spelling Bee (with much success) and we ran maths masterclasses for local primary schools involving our staff and pupils.

In sport, we enjoyed a rugby tour to Venice and played in the IAPS national hockey finals (boys and girls) for the first time. In amongst our sporting victories, we were especially proud to win the "Most Sporting Team" award in the Aysgarth School Spirit of Soccer tournament whilst our swimmers achieved success in the HMC North East of England championships.

Our pupils and teachers responded incredibly to the challenges of lockdown. Sports challenges, music concerts, drama workshops, clubs and activities, including dance club and cookery club, were all delivered virtually online, to ensure that children could continue to develop their skills and interests. Music continued throughout lockdown, with 156 online lessons every week and 164 live performances as part of our Virtualosity concert series.

I am so grateful to all members of the St Peter's community, including parents, staff and pupils, who have learnt vital new skills to ensure an exceptionally high level of learning still took place during a difficult year. This edition of *The Peterite* magazine is a celebration of everything they have achieved.



Jeremy Walker,
Head Master

St Peter's 13-18 Welcome

Underpinning all we do at St Peter's is the goal of preparing our pupils to be amazing adults. We give them a huge range of opportunities to make sure their teenage years are full of serious fun, based on our four pillars of qualifications, skills, interests and values. One of the key decisions we made going into lockdown was to preserve as much of that as possible and I am grateful to everyone who worked so hard to make that possible.

It was tremendous to see our vast co-curricular programme continuing throughout lockdown. From virtual debating to online music concerts, our remote co-curricular programme brought the school community together and helped to maintain a sense of normality during a challenging few months. This edition of *The Peterite* includes a wealth of stories which celebrate the academic and co-curricular achievements of our pupils both before and during lockdown.

Another theme of the year has been the sense of community – both our school one and also our role in local communities. In June 2020 we became the Chorister School for York Minster following the sad closure of the Minster School, and we were delighted to welcome the Choristers and their families to St Peter's from September 2020.

We have continued to play a significant role in the York Independent State School Partnership and it was heartening to see the school community coming together to provide vital supplies of PPE and face masks to key workers on the frontline of the coronavirus pandemic.

It was also wonderful also to see our Houses continuing to flourish during lockdown. Pupils across the globe were united by regular House meetings on Zoom and virtual inter-House challenges including the much-loved House Isolation Olympics.

Sadly the Upper Sixth had the most unexpected conclusion to their time at school which brought challenge, frustration and uncertainty. However, it also brought out the very best in them and they can be enormously proud of all they achieved. This year's A Level results are testament to all their hard work, and I hope this edition of *The Peterite* is a source of happy memories for our leaving Upper Sixth and all pupils at St Peter's for many years to come.



Standing Together

Holocaust Memorial Day provides an opportunity for people in the UK to stand together with those of differing faiths, ages, and ethnicities within their communities. Each year, we commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day at St Peter's School with a special service in the Chapel and a range of associated events.

This year's theme for Holocaust Memorial Day was 'Stand Together' and we joined the nation on Monday 27 January to remember the 75th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

We were especially honoured to host BBC Radio 4's Sunday Worship programme for Holocaust Memorial Day on Sunday 26 January, broadcast live to the nation from the St Peter's School Chapel.

The service was led by the School Chaplain, Rev'd Daniel Jones, and the Chapel Choir was directed by Mr Paul Miles-Kingston, Director of Music at St Peter's School.

The Chapel Choir sang the congregational hymns 'The God of Abraham praise' and 'Lord of all power' and two anthems, featuring William Miles-Kingston who won



BBC Radio 2's Young Chorister of the Year competition in December 2019.

The Rev'd Daniel Jones said: **"It was a privilege to host this special service for Holocaust Memorial Day. Here at St Peter's School we encourage self-respect and care for others through the timeless Christian values of compassion, friendship, and humility. These values help to create a welcoming, caring and inclusive school community in which everyone can feel valued and grow in confidence."**

"Holocaust Memorial Day encourages us to reflect on the significance of these values and the devastating consequences for society if we lose sight of them."

Mr Miles-Kingston said: **"The Chapel Choir were delighted to have the opportunity to sing live on BBC Radio 4. I am incredibly proud of each member of the choir for their whole-hearted commitment and dedication, and the service enabled them to showcase their talents to the nation."**

Meanwhile, at St Peter's 8-13 pupils created a 'Stand Together Wall', each writing down what this means for them on a flame. Their thoughts included 'hope', 'belief' and 'peace'.

The Stand Together Wall was coordinated by Mrs Helen Sayles, who was previously

"St Peter's is a welcoming, caring and inclusive school community in which everyone can feel valued and grow in confidence."

(Rev'd Daniel Jones, School Chaplain)

a freelance educator with the Holocaust Education Trust, to leave pupils with a positive message of hope out of a time of darkness.

Mrs Sayles said: **"The wall shows that even by doing something small we are stronger together and can support each other."**



The House System is at the heart of life at St Peter's School. Each year, Houses across the school from Reception to Sixth Form engage in friendly Inter-House challenges, teaching the children the values of trust, endurance and humility. Our Houses create a welcoming, caring and inclusive community in which we can all feel valued and grow in confidence, and where lifelong friendships are established.

Our School Family 2-8



The House System is at the heart of our pastoral care provision at St Peter's 2-8, encouraging the children to take responsibility and creating a sense of community between year groups.

When entering Reception, each child is placed in a House, named after a gateway to the City of York: Walmgate, Micklegate or Monk.

House Captains

Well done to this year's House Captains, who are elected on a termly basis. In the autumn term, the Houses were led by Una (Micklegate), Henry (Walmgate) and Torben (Monk), followed by Jess (Micklegate), Magnus (Walmgate) and Issy (Monk) in the spring term. Our summer term House Captains were Poppy (Micklegate), Daniel (Walmgate) and Benji (Monk)

House Points Trophy

House points are awarded in lessons for hard work, with the winning house for each week being declared in assembly by Mr Hardy. There are also termly awards for house achievements and weekly awards for individual pupils including the PE Award, Music Award, Value Champions Award and Learning Superheroes Award.

This year, Walmgate won the House Points Trophy eleven times, Micklegate won the House Points Trophy nine times and Monk won the House Points Trophy seven times. Monk also won the House Year Trophy. Congratulations to all our pupils who have been awarded House points throughout the year.





House Competitions

House spirit is at its best in Inter-House competitions, which foster friendly competition and community. We enjoyed several Inter-House competitions this year, from sport to music.

In December, we had a wonderful House Singing competition which was won in fine style by Monk. To celebrate the occasion, we also performed our traditional end of term whole school rendition of 'Clifton Does the Twelve Days of Christmas'.

In March, Years 2 and 3 participated in this year's Inter-House Netball Competition. The children thoroughly enjoyed cheering on their house mates and participating in the Netball matches. It was fantastic to see the children's abilities in the sport and their progression throughout the term. It was also clear to see they had an understanding of the game and enjoyed working with one another. A massive well done to all the children in Year 3 and 2!

Finally, we hosted our inaugural Virtual Sports Day on Wednesday 1 July, organised by Miss Flockhart. The children wore the colours of their Houses and participated in a number of physical challenges including sprints, welly throw, standing long jumps and keepy-uppies. Every child's achievements contributed towards the House total and Walmgate were the eventual winners of the Marks Shield. Well done to everyone who took part and thank you to the parents for supporting your children at home. It was wonderful to see the children participating with such energy and enthusiasm.





Our School Family 8-13

There are five houses at St Peter's 8-13, each with around 70 pupils across the age range. Our House System encourages children to make friendships across all five year groups, forming friendships that endure throughout their time at St Peter's.

The House System also gives pupils the opportunity to develop their leadership skills as Heads of House. Well done to this year's Heads of House who led their Houses admirably.

- **Ainsty** – Victoria, Fraser, Olivia, Dan, Aisla, Olliver
- **Alcuin** – Iona, Will, Evie, Billy, Charlotte, Monty
- **Elmet** – Imogen, Wills, Polly, Joshua, Zara, Harry
- **Fairfax** – Phoebe, John, Beatrice, Edward, Helena, Harry
- **York** – Alice, Thomas, Tassie, Max, Jemima, Edward





House Singing

The House Singing competition was a wonderful way to mark the end of the first half of term, and it was amazing to see how brilliantly the J5 children led their houses. The theme was chosen by last term's Heads of Houses, and the Houses themselves voted for which song they would like to perform and a fabulous variety of songs were chosen.

Many thanks to all the children who participated with such enthusiasm and to the House staff for embracing the whole experience. Congratulations to Ainsty on being the smiliest house, and to Elmet, who were worthy winners.

Wentworth House

Our junior boarders in Wentworth House each belong to one of the Day Houses at St Peter's 8-13 for day-to-day purposes, but Wentworth has its own special character and traditions.

September brought its customary languid sunny evenings, but there was nothing languid about the way Wentworth House began the 2019-20 academic year. The first week of term kicked off with a week of action-packed activities to welcome our boarders back, which included Zorb Football, Nerf Wars, BBQs, Domino's pizza, team building games and plenty of ice cream and hot chocolate – as well as the first birthday party of the year!

Breakfast and evening meals began 'in-House' for the first time too; a new set of House values, shaped by the boarders, forged the slogan #WeAreWentworth, developing some good old 'House spirit', enhancing a sense of belonging, fellowship and togetherness. Sunday activities to Dalby Forest, FootGolf, The Deep, the Christmas markets, Paintballing, and Go Karting were memorable, and midweek activities consisted of some really exciting trips to Old Trafford, Ten Pin Bowling, cinema trips, milkshakes in York and a karaoke bar...on school nights!

The year, sadly, was brought to a very abrupt halt due to the global pandemic; it was so sad to be unable to toast and salute our leaving boarders, but we wish them all well in their new Houses at St Peter's or new schools and hope to welcome them all back to see some of the new developments in House. Thanks to all the House staff for their support, care and unwavering dedication to Wentworth House – Mr Sharp, Mrs Sharp, Mr Collister, Miss Jeffrey, Miss Shelley, Matron Babs, Kerri, and our beloved colleague and much-loved friend, Mr Dan Woods.



Our School Family 13-18

The famous House spirit at St Peter's 13-18 has seen us through a challenging year. Undeterred by lockdown restrictions, our pupils embraced a number of exciting new competitions from home including the House Isolation Olympics and virtual Sports challenges. It was wonderful to see so many pupils participating in these House events with such energy and enthusiasm, and we are grateful to our brilliant staff who organised and judged the competitions, in particular Miss Tracey Mounter.

Full House reports for our six Day Houses and four Boarding Houses can be found in *The Peterite Review*.



House Sing

Pupils at St Peter's participated in our legendary House Sing in October to mark the end of half term. It was a wonderful day full of music, joy and laughter. Massive congratulations to the winners, Dronfield, and well done to our runners up, Temple in second place and Hope in third.





The Great Egg Race

The Great Egg Race made a welcome return in March after a few years' absence. The event was organised by the School's Engineering Society, led by Paddy Renwick, Sofiya Alexandrova and Harry Jones, with help from Mr Stephen and Mr Parr. The Great Egg Race is an Inter-House STEM challenge aimed at all year groups. This year, pupils had to devise a method of moving an egg along the maximum distance achievable within a two-minute time period. They were constrained by time, dimensions and the equipment had to be 100% recyclable. Along with teams from all Houses, the staff also submitted a team.

The pupils demonstrated their resourcefulness by developing highly innovative solutions, especially given the open-ended nature of the challenge. A special mention goes to Wentworth House with two teams of junior boarders who certainly held their own against the older pupils from St Peter's. The event was judged by the Engineering Society committee and Mr Wallace, a retired DT teacher who organised the Great Egg Race for many years during his time at St Peter's School. The eventual winner was judged to be Clifton House. Congratulations to all the teams, who came up with such excellent and inventive ideas on the night, and huge thanks to the organising team and Mr Wallace for being the chief adjudicator.



House Isolation Olympics

Miss Mounter launched the House Isolation Olympics on Monday 20 April to help pupils feel connected with their Houses despite being physically distanced from school. Two challenges were sent to each House every Monday morning and each House had a week to complete the challenges, by submitting two entries from each House. The weird and wonderful challenges included Bake a Rainbow Cake, the Paper Aeroplane Challenge, Pets in Fancy Dress, Toilet Roll Keepie Uppie, You've Been Re-framed, Reverse Home Clothes Day and Haiku Poetry.

Congratulations to all the pupils who took part and well done to Dronfield who were awarded first place, Temple in second place and School House in third place.



5k House Challenge

Wednesday 29 April should have been Sports Day at St Peter's. To mark the occasion, Mr Williams organised the 5k House Challenge, encouraging staff and pupils to embark on a 5km run from their homes. Over 20 staff and 103 pupils participated in the 5k Challenge, battling through inclement weather to submit their times. The heavy rain couldn't dampen their spirits and some excellent times were recorded. The overall House Results saw a joint victory for the girls in Dronfield and Grove, and Grove also took first place for the boys.

627 House Challenge

To keep our pupils healthy and active at home, the Sports Department organised several House Challenges in the summer including the 627 Challenge. Inspired by our foundation year 627AD, the challenge was to create and complete a physical challenge using the digits #627.

We were delighted by the creative entries and the pupils worked independently to interpret the challenge and adapt their specific fitness requirements to the task. Results were awarded for participation, distances covered and originality. The House results, based on participation, saw Dronfield win first place followed by The Rise in second place and Temple in third place.

Special mentions go to the following pupils:

James – ran 62 miles over 7 days, completing the furthest distance covered including a half marathon on the last day!

Madison – completed 7 exercises in 62 seconds in 7 different shirts.

Ben – ran 26.7Km and 76.2Km mountain bike in 7 days

Mollie – 62 somersaults on her trampoline in 7 days wearing her school blazer.

Minnie – completed 267 different activities in 3 days, including pulling a land rover, swimming in a pond, gymnastics, cheese rolling, caber tossing, axe throwing, cross country skiing, woodland pole vault and even the luge.

Commemoration

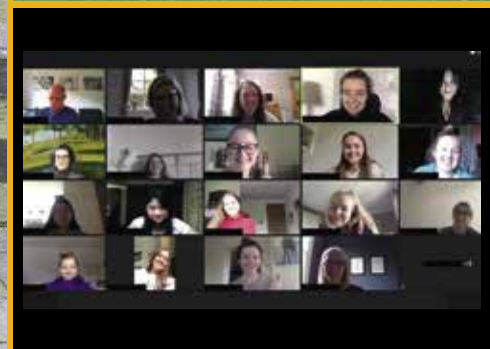
Commemoration is a chance to reflect on everything that we have achieved and learnt during the year, and brings pupils at St Peter's 13-18 together to celebrate their achievements.

This year has undoubtedly presented unexpected challenges and difficulties, but thanks to the individual and collective efforts of the whole school community we have pulled together to face adversity with creativity. Our ability to overcome the difficulties that we have faced is proof that, whatever life throws at us in the future, we can overcome challenges together and thrive and flourish under the circumstances.

This year, we held a Virtual Commemoration for the first time. Mr Walker's Commemoration Address focused on community, relationships and partnerships, pastoral developments at school which will support the well-being of our pupils, remote learning and technological advances, and the importance of face-to-face contact.

Mr Walker thanked staff, parents, governors and pupils, who ultimately had to draw on their own character and ability to adapt to new ways of being 'at school' whilst being at home. There was also a special message for the Upper Sixth, who left St Peter's School this year under extraordinary circumstances.

A full version of Mr Walker's Commemoration speech can be found in The Peterite Review, which accompanies this magazine.





Our School Family



Remembering Dan Woods



Dan Woods was a man of character, who every day displayed a set of traits which he epitomised and in his kind-hearted and inspiring way called for from his teammates, work colleagues and the pupils he taught; the spirit of self-negation, self-regulation, self-discipline, a sense of humour and happiness, personal responsibility, empathy, value to others, self-efficacy, and above loyalty.



As I was often reminded growing up, 'strive every day to be acceptable at a dinner; invaluable in a shipwreck' – a mixture of courtesy and courage, Dan was a man who evoked this notion every day.



For those who did not know Dan, he started at St Peter's in the summer of 2010 coaching cricket; we coached the 1st XI together from 2011-2013 taking the 2013 XI to the last 8 of the National T20 for the first time. We shared many happy times together, coaching, playing, or enjoying time musing about life in his favourite coffee shop. Dan completed his PGCE at St Peter's 8-13, where he taught PE, Games, and English. Dan then moved to Cundall Manor as a Year 5 class teacher and Games coach, before returning to St Peter's in 2019 to focus on teaching his passion, sport and first love, cricket, as well as becoming the live-out tutor in Wentworth.

Dan's records and achievements as a cricketer are unparalleled, as player, captain and legend of the club. Dan played for (*denotes captained) - Leeds/Bradford MCCU, Hyde Cricket Club*, York Cricket Club*, Lancashire Academy, Lancashire 2nd XI, The Unicorns, MCC, Cheshire CCC*, and trialed at Northamptonshire in 2011, before committing fully to teaching.



A people person and someone who was never happier than being surrounded by likeminded human beings; Dan's energy, positivity and endlessly optimistic outlook on life, combined with his luminous disposition, was infectious; he influenced every person he came into contact with, for the better. Dan had a way to make everything, just so - he could ensure light was shone on even in the darkest moments and would only entertain positive, progressive and enlightened mind-sets from those he taught and worked with.

He was a friend to so many people up and down the country, and made many friends across the world through sport; I feel very fortunate to be able to call him one of my own, dear and cherished friends.

Mr Gareth Sharp

In a memorable tribute to the late and much-loved Dan Woods, members of the St Peter's School community joined members of the Hyde Cricket and Squash Club to raise money for the Magnolia Centre in York with a 5k fun run in summer 2020.



Our Community

Compassion is one of our seven school values, and we encourage our children to care for others and take an active interest in the world beyond St Peter's School. This year our pupils have organised an extraordinary range of fundraising events to support their school charities.

St Peter's 2-8

The children at St Peter's 2-8 supported several charities this year, including the Little Princess Trust and Sport Relief. They also enjoyed participating in intergenerational music workshops in care homes and created a reverse advent calendar for the homeless.

Crazy Hat and Hair Day

St Peter's 2-8 celebrated Crazy Hat and Hair Day in style in October 2019. The children learnt about The Little Princess Trust, a charity which provides free real hair wigs to children and young people, up to 24 years, who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment or other conditions. The charity also funds pioneering, life-saving research into childhood cancers. A special thank you to Miss Beadle who raised a staggering £1,400 and donated 16 inches of hair!

Reverse Advent Calendar

In December, children at St Peter's 2-8 brought in different items each day to support homeless people in the city of York. Hundreds of donations were received, from toiletries to scarves and gloves, and distributed to those in need living in our local community.

Colour Run

On Friday 13 March, St Peter's 2-8 participated in a sponsored Colour Run in aid of Sport Relief. The children raised an amazing £500, which will help change the lives of many around the world. The day was a huge success, which was clearly evident from the big smiles on the children's faces. It was an extremely colourful afternoon!



St Peter's 8-13

Busking

We enjoyed festive busking in the foyer every morning in December from 8.00am to raise money for York Teaching Hospital Charity. We had a different musical ensemble and seasonal repertoire every morning, all making money towards our goal of refurbishing the parents' room on the children's ward.

Book Covers for Charity

J5 pupil Anna Calvert raised a fantastic £725 by making and selling book covers. The funds were split between her own chosen charity Destiny Children and our school charity York Teaching Hospital Charity. Anna had help from her two best friends working through their breaks and lunches to sell the products she made with her mum at the weekends. Her sales included a custom-made denim laptop case with an electric green lining for Mr Falconer (charged at double the usual rate of course!)

Charity Glow Walk

The St Peter's 8-13 Charity Committee organised a "Glow Walk" on Thursday 31 January to raise money for their chosen charity, York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. The glow walk provided a great opportunity for the whole school community to come together. Hot drinks and biscuits were provided for those who were cold upon return! "Glow" items were also on sale for everyone to wear during the walk, which made for an impressive walk in the dark.

Children's Heart Surgery Fund

J2 pupil Elizabeth Gee raised an incredible £2,681.80 for the Children's Heart Surgery Fund after embarking on a sponsored swim with her classmates. Elizabeth, aged 9, was inspired to raise money for the charity after spending many weeks on ward 51, the Children's Heart Ward at Leeds General Infirmary, as an inpatient in 2017 and 2018. When she returned to school in 2018, Elizabeth raised money for portable DVD units for the ward with a cake sale. In 2019 she shared her idea of a sponsored swim with Mr Nathan Savage, Head of Sport at St Peter's 8-13, who helped to co-ordinate the fundraising initiative. Every child in Elizabeth's year group joined in the sponsored swim in the school pool, aiming to swim as many lengths as they could in 1 ½ hours. The original goal was to swim the length of the English Channel but the children surpassed their target and swam a total of 3,588 lengths (56 miles).

Kindness and Books

Library Assistants at St Peter's 8-13 organised a fundraising campaign with the theme of 'Kindness and Books' to raise money for York Teaching Hospital Charity. Pupils and staff posted cards for 20p each in the Post Box in the reception area, nominating a friend to receive a brand-new copy of one of their favourite books, raising a total of £42.40.



St Peter's 13-18

Community Action

In December, our Community Action team spread Christmas cheer by organising and hosting an event for 75 senior citizens from the local area. Attendees enjoyed afternoon tea at St Peter's with musical entertainment, bingo, a raffle and carol singing. One pupil said: "it is wonderful for the older community of York to get together, catch up, deepen connections and celebrate." Miss Chapman, Head of Community Action at St Peter's, praised the pupils for planning this event.

They also organised a party for children from The Island, a mentoring service for

isolated children experiencing difficulties with their mental, emotional and social wellbeing.

Wellbeing

In addition to supporting our local community, we place the wellbeing of our pupils and staff at the heart of everything we do at St Peter's. This year, the Listening Space opened its doors to pupils and staff and a number of staff across the school completed a mental health qualification in Young People's Mental Health. The weekly Pastoral Newsletter and Isolation Olympics also helped pupils to feel connected throughout the lockdown period.



Our World

“There is a great deal of energy and commitment for a greener life at St Peter’s.”

(Mrs Hall, Head of Geography St Peter’s 13-18)

Our pupils are leading the way in creating a more sustainable future for St Peter’s School. Our Eco Councils and Eco Clubs have pioneered environmentally friendly initiatives this year which have had a huge impact throughout the school. We are also proud to be following the Eco Schools programme, and we hope to achieve the prestigious Green Flag Award for all three sections of the school. St Peter’s 2-8 and St Peter’s 8-13 have both achieved the Silver Award and St Peter’s 13-18 has recently achieved the Bronze Award.



St Peter’s 2-8

Save the Oceans

Led by the School Council and inspired by a theme on oceans, the children at St Peter’s 2-8 pursued a campaign to stop the use of single use plastic bottles at school. The Council devised a petition and collected over 500 signatures from in and around school, including Mr Walker’s and Dr Helen Sharman’s when she visited St Peter’s. The Council took all this information to the school Bursar and made recommendations to address the problem further by increasing the use of recycling in school and reducing the use of disposable plastic items in the kitchens. This resulted in the launch of the multi-use water bottle for every child at St Peter’s 2-8. The initiative is now being rolled out at St Peter’s 8-13 and St Peter’s 13-18.

Bonza School Bake Sale

In January, the children organised a special bake sale to raise funds for injured animals affected by the bush fires in Australia. Pupils from Reception baked kangaroo and koala shaped biscuits in the Dining Room to support the bake sale and the biscuits were available in the Atrium before school and at morning break for a minimum of 50p. Thanks to their pioneering efforts, the children raised £175 from the bake sale and all proceeds were sent to WWF Australia.

St Peter's 8-13

Nature on Your Doorstep

St Peter's 8-13 has an active Eco Club open to pupils across the school. The pupils raise awareness for the environment and look after the school's vegetable plots as well as the Library Garden. They champion the importance of recycling in school, carry out food waste audits, make eco crafts and gifts, and even created a tree of promises, where pupils wrote pledges on leaves to do their bit for the environment.

The Eco Club at St Peter's 8-13 continued to meet virtually throughout lockdown thanks to the online Eco Club co-ordinated by Mr Sewill. The children reported on nature and wildlife encountered on their daily walks and completed lots of animal quizzes.



St Peter's 13-18

Eco Club

Pupils at St Peter's 8-13 recently created an Eco Club to raise environmental awareness and drive change through a variety of initiatives in school. The Eco Club's first campaign was to raise money for wildlife in Australia affected by the devastating wildfires. The Club left jam jars in houses and the tuck shop for support. They raised £206.65, providing emergency funds to care for injured animals and help restore the forest homes for koalas and other wildlife. Donations were sent to WIRES and Wildlife Victoria.

Bronze Award

St Peter's 13-18 secured an Eco-Schools Bronze Award in recognition of the school's achievement in working towards a sustainable lifestyle. The pupils have set up an environmental committee with representation from across the pupil and staff body. Three targets have been set to move the school forward on its journey to become more environmentally sustainable: reducing plastic waste and recycling more, reducing energy wastage, and reducing traffic and air pollution. The pupils hope to action these targets and achieve the Silver Award within the next two years.

Terracycle

The Eco Club are working with St Nick's collecting 'hard to recycle' waste for processing through Terracycle. St Nick's use the funds generated to fund their environmental work in York. The Eco Club made their own Terracycle boxes and will be collecting toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, cosmetic bottles, tubs and tubes, crisp packets, Pringles tubes and plastic pens of all types to send for recycling. The collection boxes can be found across the school in houses and staff areas.



Partnerships

We are proud to work in partnership with several schools and organisations across the city of York. Although many events were unable to go ahead this year due to lockdown restrictions, we continued to celebrate our partnerships and connections with this great city.

York Independent State Schools Partnership (ISSP)

In November we hosted a special York ISSP breakthrough event, attended by over 130 pupils and staff from our ISSP partner schools across York. Teachers competed for Year 7 pupils' votes as they put forward compelling, and sometimes comical, arguments for the biggest breakthrough in mankind's history. By bringing together teachers and pupils from across the city, the day was an opportunity to celebrate education in York and foster new friendships and viewpoints.

We also welcomed over 100 year 9 and 10 pupils to St Peter's School on Saturday 7 March for the annual ISSP Masterclasses. This year the big question was 'What is Beauty?' Inspiring and exciting classes in Art, Art History, Philosophy, Classics, Psychology, History and Chemistry encouraged pupils to tackle this topic through a myriad of tasks, mediums and questions.

Visit yorkissp.org to find out more about the partnership.



Stargazing Live

Our ever-popular Stargazing Live event returned to St Peter's in February for the tenth time. Almost 400 people attended the event to explore the wonders of the University with hands-on experiments, a Planetarium Dome and the opportunity to look through telescopes with York Astronomical Society. We also welcomed Simon Goodwin, Professor of Theoretical Astrophysics at Sheffield University, who delivered a fascinating lecture about the possibility of alien life in space. The event, organised in conjunction with York University Physics Department and York Astronomical Society, is one of a number of science lectures hosted by St Peter's School throughout the year.

York Astronomical Society also helped pupils from all three sections of St Peter's School to observe the Transit of Mercury in November, a rare astronomical event. They provided specialist equipment and solar telescopes which helped our pupils to see the silhouette of Mercury passing the face of the Sun. Huge thanks to the visiting York Astronomical Society members who really enthused the pupils and allowed us to experience this spectacular event.



Public Lectures

Our Public Lecture series brings inspirational speakers to the school and members of the public are invited to enjoy the lectures free of charge.



In the Christmas term we were delighted to hear again from Tom McLeish, Professor of Natural Philosophy at the University of York, speaking about the poetry and music of science. We welcomed back renowned theologian and leading idealist philosopher, Professor Keith Ward, to explore the topic of the cosmic Christ and whether we should send missionaries to the stars. Jacquie McClade, Professor of Resilience and Sustainable Development at UCL introduced us to alternative views of prosperity and treated us to some glimpses of her life with the Masai in Kenya. Chris Ryan took us into the real and fictional SAS world as he spoke about this latest novel, 'Black Ops'. The beauty and meaning of stained glass was opened up to us by renowned artist Helen Whittaker.



The lecture series resumed in January with jet suit pilot and engineer Alex Wilson, from Gravity Industries. The lecture, supported by the Institute of Physics, gave the audience a unique insight into the world of jet suit technology.

In March we welcomed historian Greg Jenner who traced the history of celebrity from the Bronze Age to the Silver Screen with a lecture inspired by his new book 'Dead Famous'. Mr Ben Fuller, Head of the Public Lecture programme, said: **“Our public lecture programme continues to attract high profile individuals thanks to the hard work and dedication of so many people at St Peter’s School and our partners.”**

Physics Olympics

The Olympic Games may have been postponed until 2021, but the annual St Peter’s Physics Olympics went ahead this year with a total of 30 pupils taking part from schools across the North East and Yorkshire. Mr Andy Parr, Physics Teacher at St Peter’s School, launched this year’s Physics Olympics in June, challenging pupils to complete two virtual challenges: the Fermi Quiz and the Simply Complicated Challenge. The teachers at St Peter’s were particularly impressed by the entries for the Simply Complicated Challenge, an open-ended challenge which required pupils to create a Rube-Goldberg style machine to raise a flag. Well done to St Peter’s 8-13 who had the best performing pupil overall. St Peter’s 8-13 pupils also gained 1st, 2nd and 4th places in the Fermi Quiz.



York Minster Choir

In June we confirmed that St Peter’s School was to become the new Choir School for York Minster, following the sad closure of The Minster School at the end of the summer term. This new partnership will enable us to continue our 1,400 year association with York Minster whilst ensuring continuity of education for the choristers and reassurance for their families.

Head Master of St Peter’s, Jeremy Walker said: **“I am saddened that The Minster School is closing but look forward to welcoming choristers and their families to St Peter’s. They will be joining a school which nurtures and celebrates excellence, whether that be in music, academics, sport or all the other opportunities we share with our pupils. They and future generations of choristers will be a great addition to the life of St Peter’s.”**



Robert Sharpe, Director of Music at York Minster said: **“The Minster School can trace its origins back to AD 627 when St Paulinus founded the Minster and a school for its choristers. This school went on to become what is now St Peter’s School. The very sad decision to close the present Minster School is set alongside this excellent opportunity for our choristers to continue to be educated together a short distance away, and for the Minster’s mission and choral tradition to continue to flourish for years to come.”**

Supporting Our Community

“The pandemic has reminded us of our moral purpose. We are far more fortunate than others and we can have a really positive impact on our local community.”

(Jeremy Walker)

In March 2020, the government announced a national lockdown. Schools were closed, hospitals were overwhelmed, and many of our neighbours experienced feelings of loneliness and despair.

From the start of the lockdown, we were determined to do all we could to support our neighbours and the local community through this difficult time, especially the most vulnerable and those working with them.



Letters of Hope

Before school closed at the end of March, our youngest pupils from St Peter's 2-8 wrote letters and drew pictures for the residents of Fulford Nursing Home. 24 pupils aged 5-6 selected one name each from a list of residents. The children then used paints, crayons, colouring pencils and other materials to create their pictures and letters, which were posted to the Nursing Home. Popular themes included rainbows, hearts and flowers.

Donation of PPE

We donated over 6,500 pieces of personal protective equipment (PPE) to York Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, including four infection protection kits, 48 filtering facepieces, 626 surgical face masks, 150 pieces of eye protection (goggles and glasses), 5,500 latex free gloves, 350 disposable aprons and 25 disposable decorator's coveralls. The items of PPE were sourced from our on-site medical centre, science, design and technology departments, and donations from pupils.



Facing Up to Coronavirus

Mr Paul Cooper, Head of Design and Technology, manufactured visors in his classroom to supplement the 6,500 items of protective equipment donated to York Teaching Hospital. After hearing about the shortage of face masks for health professionals, Mr Cooper realised that his Design and Technology department had the machinery and equipment to manufacture visors for staff working on the front line against coronavirus. With the support of the Head Master, Mr Cooper proceeded with the production of the visors in his workshop at the school. Mr Cooper initially made 5 sample face masks for the approval of York Teaching Hospital Trust and, with help from Mrs Staniforth, produced almost 1,000 face masks overall to meet demand from local care homes and health care professionals.

Rory's Soup Run

Lower Sixth pupil Rory dedicated his spare time to helping people in need in his local community. Rory launched a soup run for the over 60s living in the village of Hushwaite who had been advised to self-isolate due to the coronavirus pandemic. Following the closure of St Peter's School on Friday 20 March, Rory wasted no time in distributing letters to the older residents of Hushwaite with information about the soup run and his contact details. Rory has continued to deliver nourishing soup to the villagers twice a week throughout the year, providing a vital source of support for his elderly neighbours.



And in other news...

The school remained open every day through the Easter holiday, providing childcare for children of critical workers. The children had a great time and our catering team provided a hot meal every day so that parents could carry out their essential work without having to worry. The children also made a series of spectacular rainbows to brighten up the corridor at York Teaching Hospital and bring joy and positivity to the hospital's patients.

One of our boarding houses was used as accommodation for doctors at nearby York Hospital, to help them get the rest they needed to continue with their vital work. Our car park was also available to staff at York Hospital, along with parking throughout the city centre.

Many staff signed up for coordinated volunteering through the NHS and the city council, whilst a 'Round the World' challenge organised by our pupils saw the school travel over 10,000km raising money for York Mind and York Foodbank.

Out of this World

“We should push forward not only our own individual boundaries, but also the boundaries of what humans believe is possible.”

(Dr Helen Sharman)

We were delighted to welcome Dr Helen Sharman, Britain's first astronaut, to St Peter's School in November 2019 for the official opening of the Pascal Building. Helen inspired our pupils by recounting her adventures in space and bringing science to life.





The day began with a special opportunity for Year 1 and Year 2 pupils to meet Helen in the chapel. Helen was brilliant at answering some very tricky questions from the children and described her experiences on the International Space Station.

Later in the day, pupils from St Peter's 8-13, along with Year 6 pupils from Burton Green Primary School and Clifton Green Primary School, were taken on a descriptive journey into space by Helen. She brought themes of science and space to life and answered a variety of questions from pupils including 'did you say the countdown to blast off yourself?' and 'what inspired you to go into space when it was such a male dominated environment?'

It was fascinating to hear Helen describe the training and what it was like living in space. Helen inspired the children on the limitlessness of their future career prospects by discussing breaking her own boundaries of what she thought she could achieve:

"We should push forward not only our own individual boundaries, but also the boundaries of what humans believe is possible. People are the biggest limitations in our own lives. There's a huge amount we can do, and we should

make the best use of our lives for the benefit of the world."

Helen Sharman then went on to carry out the official opening of the Pascal Building. In her opening speech, Helen recalled a Galileo quote printed on the walls of the Pascal Building; 'the laws of nature are written in the language of mathematics.' This led Helen to speak about her eighteen months' intensive flight training in Star City near Moscow. She recalled the importance of language; through learning Russian, calling on her schoolgirl French and using the universal language of mathematics, Helen was able to communicate with her fellow astronauts as she prepared for her space voyage. An inspirational speaker, Helen enthused her audience about the importance of language and mathematics.

Guests at the event were given a tour of the York Design Award winning building by Sixth Formers who are taught in the Pascal Building and who benefit from the purpose-built study spaces. Many other pupils from across York also use the building on a regular basis as it is used for GCSE lessons and masterclasses for the Independent State School Partnership (ISSP).





Learning 2-8

Every day is a new adventure for children at St Peter's 2-8. The children are given a new theme each term centred around a high-quality text which immerses children in learning. Our thematic approach helps children to become 'experts' in their theme, which unfolds and develops throughout the term. This year our children have explored a range of important topics, from deforestation to plastic pollution.

Great Clifton Bake Off

Pupils from across St Peter's 2-8 joined together for the annual Great Clifton Bake Off in September. Each child based their cakes around their year group's theme for the autumn term, and the inventive designs ranged from The Gruffalo to Egyptian Mummies! Well done to the winners Erin, Jemima, Savannah, Miles and Arabella.

Exploring the Solar System

To celebrate their 'Fabulous Finish' at the end of the autumn term, pupils from Year 1 and 2 visited York University to walk the Solar System Trail across the university campus. Inspired by their 'space' theme, they used the campus map to find the eight planets (and the dwarf planet Pluto). They

completed their mission to fill in a table with each planet's symbol, distance from sun and length of day (hours) on each planet. The University of York Astronomy Society answered the pupils' hard questions about all things telescope and planet related.

Animals in Tuition

Our pupils have been getting up close and personal with exotic animals from around the world this year. We welcomed Animals In-Tuition to St Peter's 2-8 twice this year to support our learning themes. In September, Reception met a range of fascinating creatures including snakes, tarantulas, and even an African pygmy hedgehog. The pupils enjoyed learning



about each animal, their habitats and some of their behaviours when in the wild and linked their experience to their theme Rhythm and Rhyme, inspired by the works of Julia Donaldson. In January, Year 2 had the opportunity to meet the exotic animals as well as woodland animals linked to their theme *The Wind in the Willows*.

Sublime Science

In January we welcomed Sublime Science to St Peter's 2-8 for a 'stunning start' to the term's theme for Reception; *Think and Wonder, Wonder and Think*. Pupils learnt about air, sound vibrations, and static electricity and even had a go at making whirlpools and sherbet. Pupils were tasked with re-homing a balloon called 'Bob' that couldn't fit in a cylinder after eating too much breakfast. In the end, heat was used to make space for Bob to go back inside the cylinder to nap. The theme *Think and Wonder, Wonder and Think* focused on metacognitive thinking to encourage problem-solving and STEM-based learning.

Amazon Adventure

Year 3's theme for the Easter term was '*Amazon Adventure*', based on their key text *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell. The children embarked on a real Amazon Adventure using virtual reality to explore different habitats and deforestation in the Borneo rainforest. Pupils learnt the difference between understory layers, forest floors, and canopies and discovered the animals which live in these habitats. Toward the end of the class, pupils were







shown the scenes of the rich, dense rainforest after it has been chopped down. They heard about the damaging impact of climate change and the removal of trees on habitats and animals' lives.

Their adventure continued later in the term with a visit to Tropical World, where the children enjoyed a morning of interactive, hands-on workshops led by a zoo education team. They drew inspiration from their key words for this term including deforestation, ecosystems, endangered and adaptation. After their workshop session pupils explored Tropical World on self-led tours. The monkeys and meerkats were a firm favourite among the children!

Tales of the Riverbank

The Wind in the Willows was the learning theme for Year 2 in the Easter term, and they explored subjects such as water pollution, habitats and life cycles. The highlight of the term was caring for a brood of six ducklings in February. The ducklings were sourced from an ethical company which supports conservation and education, delivering eggs about to hatch with an incubator, brooder and pen. The children nurtured the ducklings and watched them incubate, hatch and grow, learning how to keep them safe and well

cared for before they returned to their natural habitat on their farm.

Back to the Stone Age

In the Easter term, Year 1 read *The Wild Girl* by Chris Wormell and *UG* by Raymond Briggs, inspired by their learning theme *Back to the Stone Age*. Pupils enjoyed a Stone Age skills workshop, created stone age tools, mastered wood whittling in Forest School, created communities using roundhouses and even built a replica Stonehenge. Inside their 'Cave' classroom they learnt how to create cave paintings, moulded clay pots and even mastered the art of weaving to make some trousers for UG, which were showcased at a special fashion show in a class assembly. They also visited a windmill and ground grain to make flour which was used to make flatbreads, cooked over an open fire at Forest School.

The World is Our Classroom

Our "classrooms without walls" approach means that much valuable learning takes place outdoors making use of not only our school grounds but of the city of York and environment beyond. Before lockdown, our children enjoyed visiting some of their favourite places including the Museum Gardens, York Minster and the City Walls.





Learning 8-13

Our innovative curriculum at St Peter's 8-13 feeds the children's curiosity whilst also helping them to acquire key skills for life. Our Learning Habits and Growth Mindset approach encourage children to try new things, support each other and realise that learning from mistakes is a crucial part of the learning journey. This year the children have continued to expand their horizons with author visits, educational trips and fun learning activities in school to complement the curriculum.







Visiting Authors

Visiting authors introduce our children to another world, inspiring a lifelong love of reading and encouraging our children to discover new genres. In October we welcomed acclaimed author Robin Stevens for a morning of murder, mystery and storytelling. Robin is the author of the bestselling children's murder-mystery series, *A Murder Most Unladylike*. Robin explained the inspiration behind her book and treated the pupils to an extract from her latest book *Top Marks for Murder*, before bringing the stories to life by leading the pupils in constructing their own collaborative murder mystery.

We also enjoyed a fabulous day with Maz Evans in the Christmas term, bestselling author of the hugely popular *Who Let the Gods Out* series. After a lively and productive morning of creative writing workshops in the Library with the J4s, Maz talked to an audience of over 250 children in the Shepherd Hall, including pupils from Burton Green Primary. Maz's high energy delivery and hilarious anecdotes made for a thoroughly entertaining afternoon with much laughter. Pupils were enthralled by Maz's dynamism, wit and humour as well as hearing her wise words about perseverance, having a resilient spirit and how we should never give up on pursuing our dreams.

Challenge Your Thinking

Our thought-provoking curriculum encourages the children to think, debate and consider the opinions of others. In the Easter term, J5 were tasked with the challenge of exploring what it means to be "free", ahead of their new term topic on the transatlantic slave trade and abolition. J5 looked at various figures, contemporary and historical, and discussed how much "freedom" they had, before working together in groups to establish a hierarchy of "freedom". They considered the impact of control, responsibility, restrictions, health, choices, and money.

We also challenged our attitudes towards single-use plastic and recycling in February when we welcomed guest speaker Sarah Ferguson. Sarah is the founder of Breathe Conservation, an international non-profit organisation that believes in a plastic-free ocean and aims to eliminate disposable plastic. Sarah spoke passionately about her efforts to clean the ocean of single-use plastic and every child left the assembly understanding that everyone is responsible and that change starts with the individual.

Making it Count

Our talented mathematicians have been making every moment count this year. In January, we sent two teams to the Young Mathematician Award Competition run by Explore Learning held at Archbishop Holgate/Badger Hill School. The competition gives children in local schools the opportunity to compete in teams to demonstrate their reasoning and teamwork abilities whilst competing against other schools. As a school we were able to enter a team of four from J2/3 and another team of four from J4/5 to compete. Ms Hick said *"The pupils had the unique opportunity to tackle a never-before-seen mathematical problem! Collaboration is a huge part of it."*

A team of two J5 pupils also joined two Third Form pupils from St Peter's 13-18 in the Regional Final of the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust Team Challenge at the Mount School on 10 March. The competition puts the pupils' maths, communication and teamwork skills to the test across four rounds of mathematical problems and St Peter's were placed 4th in the competition, which involved 19 teams.

We welcomed over 40 pupils from 12 local primary schools to St Peter's 8-13 on Saturday 14 March to join forces with our own pupils and collaboratively problem solve and investigate sequences including



Fibonacci, Pascal's triangle and triangular numbers. The morning was fun-packed and the children worked with energy and curiosity.

Active Learning

We encourage our children to actively engage with the curriculum through fun trips and learning activities. Before lockdown we managed to enjoy a number of trips, bringing learning to life for our pupils.

Theatre Trips

J3 enjoyed a whole year group trip to York Theatre Royal in September to watch *Malory Towers*, following a day of interactive drama workshops on the theme of empathy led by staff from the theatre. Working in small groups the pupils collaborated to bring extracts of the play to life. Stepping into the characters' shoes, pupils could think about how some of the characters feel and what emotions they could be experiencing.

In January, J2 visited the newly-revamped Leeds Playhouse for a truly outstanding performance of *The Wizard of Oz* with vibrant staging, energetic choreography and amazing singing. Pupils were enthralled by the acrobatic aerial displays, spellbound by the *Wicked Witch of the West* and captivated by the appearance of a real-life sausage-eating dog Toto!

Mission to the Moon

Following a visit from Helen Sharman, Britain's first female astronaut, the whole of St Peter's 8-13 took part in a full day of space-themed activities which staff had been secretly planning for months. Over 360 children participated in this special Mission to the Moon Day.

The teachers announced their plans after Helen Sharman's amazing talk in the Shepherd Hall, and another astronaut (well, Mrs Miller in her astronaut costume) explained what would be happening the next day. Meanwhile, teachers transformed the foyer into Mission Control, so when the pupils left the Hall, we were ready to launch!

The following day began with a space fitness session outside, and every year group completed three space tasks on a carousel. Highlights included the Cosmodome in J1; the drones programmed by J2; the rocket creation in J3; the musical composition of 'Earth' by J4; and the TV news reports filmed by J5.

During the day, teachers added to a display in the foyer, so by the end of period 8, the entrance boasted an amazing collage of work from across the year groups. The whole school congregated in the Hall for the last lesson of the day, so we could share some of our inter-stellar experiences.



Theology and Religion

The whole of J5 visited a mosque and Hindu temple in Bradford as part of their exploration of Hinduism and Islam. Highlights in the Mosque included learning the order of Wudu (washing before praying) to the tune of “here we go round the mulberry bush” and understanding what praying means to Muslims. In the Hindu temple it was fascinating to experience a meditation and watch the midday prayers. Mrs Sayles said: **“The children asked great questions and really valued the chance to visit places that they wouldn’t normally experience. The contrast between both places of worship was particularly striking.”**

Living History

In December J1 pupils enjoyed a day in Viking costume with a carousel of hands-on activities throughout the morning: weaving, cookery (making flatbreads) and making jewellery using clay. In the afternoon all the children snuggled up under the blankets they had brought in, and listened to Viking sagas by candlelight in the Shepherd Hall. Earlier in the term the J1s visited Murton Park to experience life as a Viking in a Viking village. Activities included making clay candle holders, using a quern stone to grind wheat, collecting firewood, being on guard duty and farming.

British Science Week

St Peter’s 8-13 celebrate British Science Week each year in March to develop the pupils’ interest in science.

Science Week always begins with an assembly including a live demonstration – from rainbow flames to the whoosh bottle and ethanol rockets – and each year group has a special lesson during the week. The lessons range from investigating UV light

in J1 to demonstrations of exciting chemical reactions in J5.

There are plenty of quizzes to challenge the students. In the past students have had to guess which member of staff is behind the Einstein mask and which strange animal members of staff have adopted for the week. Houses also compete for the coveted House Science Week trophy.

Skills for Life

Our enterprising J5s raised over £500 for the NHS during lockdown as part of their Enterprise-in-Isolation project. The Enterprise project, which has been running for several years now, usually sees Year 8 pupils bid for a product, add a design using sublimation techniques, make adverts and ultimately sell the products to parents at a special fayre. The team with the best collaboration, design ideas, advert and profit margin are deemed the eventual winners.

Creativity was key as the class of 88 Year 8 pupils participated in the Enterprise-in-Isolation project from home. The children were split into 22 teams of four and used Microsoft Teams to communicate with other team members and allocate jobs.

Each team started with a budget of £40 and chose their products from Amazon. Their teachers co-ordinated the deliveries, which were sent directly to the two ‘manufacturers’ who had been selected for each team.

All groups had to write a formal letter to Mr Falconer, the Head of St Peter’s 8-13, to request the opportunity for advertising space on the school server. The pupils had to design, storyboard and film an advert for their product, all done in isolation. They also had to design a website for their product, including products, prices, GDPR

information and forms for placing an order. The websites went live for 48 hours and many products sold out.

The project resulted in some incredible designs, including face masks, bunny door stops, coasters, bags, keyrings, pom-pom animals and much more.

Usually, the profits are used to reward the winners and supplement the project the following year, but this year all profits will go towards the NHS. The winning three teams receive a nominal prize each, but many team members chose to donate their winnings to the NHS, resulting in a final generous donation from all 22 teams of just over £500.

Modern Foreign Languages Spelling Bee

The Foreign Language Spelling Bee is a national competition for students in Year 7 to practise and improve their vocabulary, spelling and memory skills in a foreign language (French, German, or Spanish). They have to translate words from English and spell them in the target language. The aim is to spell as many as possible correctly in one minute.

All pupils at St Peter's 8-13 enter stage 1 and learn 50 words in both of their modern

languages, with 4 pupils in each language progressing to 150 words for stage 2. Pupils who successfully progress to stage 3, the regional finals, learn 200 words.

This year three of our pupils successfully reached stage 4, the national finals, learning 300 words. This was the first time we had finalists in the national final in all three languages (French, German, Spanish). Congratulations to Sophie (French), Isabelle (German) and Will (Spanish).

iDEA Award

At St Peter's 8-13, J4 and J5 work on iDEA (Inspiring Digital Enterprise Award). Pupils complete a set of badges in four different areas; Citizen, Worker, Maker and Entrepreneur. Each badge is a mini course, teaching skills from digital literacy to games design, ethical hacking to designing websites. Once enough badges have been completed, pupils get a bronze award which they can place in their record of achievement or on their CV to help them further their career. Many pupils have completed the bronze award this year and are working towards their silver award. More information can be found at <https://idea.org.uk/>.





Learning 13-18

Our varied curriculum allows pupils to discover their passions and pursue their interests. Although this has been a challenging academic year, it has been wonderful to see pupils and teachers adapting to change with such optimism and creativity.

Man Booker Prize Debate

12 eager Sixth Form pupils participated in their very own Man Booker prize debate in October. Each shortlisted text had two Sixth Form pupils debating why their assigned books should win. The evening celebrated

literature with multiple rounds, Q&A and frightful eliminations. Following an enthusiastic floor debate, the audience announced its winners Hebe and Lilly with *Lanny* by Max Porter. The victorious pupils won the official 2019 Man Booker prize shortlist.





Lights, Camera, Action

Our annual Christmas Science Lecture **Lights Camera Action** took the audience on a journey of discovery in science, through a huge number of demonstrations and experiments and illustrations. The Chemistry department started the show, beginning with the origin of light and colour. Mr Smith and Mr Husband made multi coloured baubles for their Christmas chemis-tree, as well as producing some mesmerising multi-coloured flames. From the Physics department we found out about the science behind how we perceive colour and this was linked to the advent of Technicolor in the classic movie *The Wizard of Oz*. Mr Cannon re-enacted the Pepper's ghost illusion, as well as levitation and invisibility, before explaining that they can all be achieved by physics, of course. Biology and physics combined to uncover some good, bad and ugly science, as depicted in some of the department's favourite movies. Laser beams, lightsabers, dinosaurs, Godzilla and mutated sharks, were all under the microscope in this section. Mr Bateman finished the event with a quiz to honour the art of the Foley Artists, who produce sound-effects in movies.

Mock Election

On General Election Day, Thursday 12 December, pupils and staff voted in our mock election. Teams of candidates, from Third Form to Sixth Form, campaigned for six parties. Highlights included a lunchtime hustings, when we heard from all the candidates, and a 'Prime Minister's Question Time' when the lead Sixth Form candidate for each party answered student questions in front of the whole school at assembly. As a result of the question time a buzz developed around the Yorkshire Party candidate, James C, whose message had not been as widely heard on the national media as the other parties. The school was divided into constituencies – the

ten Houses plus the Staff as well as the votes being totalled up across the school. The Green Party and Labour both won a constituency each. In second place was the Conservative Party, which won three constituencies. Putting on a late surge to win the overall vote and five constituencies was James and the Yorkshire Party.

Modern Foreign Languages

Wednesday 26 February saw St Peter's welcome 30 teams from 16 schools for the 6th annual Northern Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) debating competition. A Level pupils were invited to put their foreign language skills to the test in a battle of words, with debates taking place in French, Spanish and German. The motions included whether travel abroad does more harm than good, whether new technologies are improving our lives and whether multiculturalism is harmful to our own national identity – topics that would be challenging to debate even in the pupils' native language. St Peter's entered teams in all languages, including James Hanson and Sarah Sullivan in French and Reuben Carter and Tim Burgess in German. After the first two rounds it was our formidable Spanish duo, Lottie McKelvie and Adam Dalton who progressed all the way to the final. They ended the day as overall runners up in Spanish to an excellent Huntington pair.

In March, Fourth Form pupils immersed themselves in the Spanish way of life with an evening of talks, salsa dancing and continental cuisine. The Catering Department prepared some authentic churros and chocolate, which pupils tucked into while hearing a talk from former students Ollie Millman and Rohan Choudhury. Ollie, who is studying Molecular Biology with Spanish at Manchester University, is currently on work placement in Barcelona and carrying out a project to find a therapy to stop excessive weight loss in cancer patients. Rohan is in

his final year at UCL University studying Modern Languages. He too spent a year abroad in Valencia and Paris. Operating rather like the popular duo Ant and Dec, their energy, cheek and enthusiasm was infectious. Pupils and teachers alike then took to the dancefloor in the Memorial Hall, as Tiempo España led the group through the basics of Cuban salsa dancing, before the pupils took the chance to showcase their new moves. The evening concluded with yet more food, this time a wide array of tapas. It was a fun and educational evening; a much needed breather at a challenging time.

This year we have also seen the highest number of pupils ever submitting and receiving prizes in university outreach activities such as essay competitions. Well done to Daisy Gilbert whose entry for Lancaster University Modern Languages Essay Prize was highly commended.

Physics Challenge

Lower Sixth pupil Kevin Xu was awarded a place on the prestigious Cambridge Senior Physics Challenge summer school. The Senior Physics Challenge is for Year 12 students at school / college in the UK. It has run for several years at the

University of Cambridge and has now been incorporated into the online learning platform Isaac Physics. Kevin won his place on the summer school in recognition of his commitment and ability in problem-solving on Isaac Physics. To secure his place, Kevin set himself the target of answering around 1,000 incredibly challenging physics questions online, which he completed over the last 12 months. With only 30-40 places available on the summer school each year, Kevin has proved himself to be one of the best young physicists in the country.

Top of the Bench

In January St Peter's entered its first team for the Royal Society of Chemistry Top of the Bench Competition. Charlotte, Jamie, James and Freddie worked brilliantly as a team to win the Central Yorkshire heat and were invited to the National Final in London. It is a real shame that this could not take place because of lockdown but these pupils deserve every congratulation for having already represented the School and Department superbly.

Manfred Goldberg

Pupils and staff at St Peter's School welcomed Holocaust survivor Mr Manfred Goldberg BEM on Wednesday 24 June for





a powerful and educational talk via Zoom, organised in partnership with the Holocaust Educational Trust. Manfred spoke frankly and openly about his experiences, from life in the Riga Ghetto to the final death march from Poland to Germany. Pupils and staff asked Manfred questions at the end of the talk, including whether he had returned to Germany since the Holocaust and whether religion had played a part in his experiences. It was 72 years after liberation when Manfred finally returned to Stutthof, accompanied by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

In his closing statement, Manfred said: **“If you take one thing from today’s talk, let it be this. Take to heart and act on the following: resolve never to remain silent when you witness injustice. Silence never helps the oppressed, it only helps the oppressors”.**

Maths Challenge

A team of two J5 and two Third Form pupils from St Peter’s competed in the Regional Final of the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust Team Challenge at the Mount School on 10 March. The competition puts the pupils’ maths, communication and teamwork skills to the test across four rounds of mathematical problems. The pupils had to tackle a variety of engaging mathematical activities while developing teamwork and communication skills. They completed four difficult rounds including a Cross Number, where each pair of the team is only given half the clues which are written to interlink with each other, and Shuttle, relay and group rounds. Staff and pupils were delighted to secure 4th place in this regional competition, with 19 teams participating.

Special mentions should also go to Alex Xiong for his outstanding achievement in maths this year. Alex Xiong scored a remarkable 120 marks out of a possible 130 in the United Kingdom Mathematics Trust Senior Mathematics Challenge in November. He (along with Xiang Zhang) was then invited to sit the 3.5 hour British Mathematical Olympiad Paper in which he achieved a merit.

Mini Literature Festival

The St Peter’s School English Department and Library launched a Mini Literature Festival in the summer term, inspired by the themes of ‘community’ and ‘friendship’. All pupils, across the school - and all departments - were invited to take part in a number of literary inspired virtual activities including an escape room, creative writing tasks and much more. To mark the event and to celebrate the theme, staff and pupils (old and new) were also asked to contribute to creating a short video celebrating ‘St Peter’s Together’ - where all read poems inspired by friendship, support and community: Because, as John Donne himself said ‘No man is an island’ - and what we have celebrated above anything else this year (and this term especially) is the value of support and the strength of the St Peter’s community.

Sixth Form Lectures

Our Sixth Formers have enjoyed several fascinating lectures this year as part of the Sixth Form Lecture series. Guests ranged from MEP Richard Corbett, who brought us up to date with the latest twists and turns of Brexit, to acclaimed journalist and writer Misha Glenny who wrote the novel *McMafia*.

We also welcomed Conservative candidate and activist Sue Pascoe to St Peter’s in January for a Brexit Day Lunch. Sue compared the significance of Brexit Day to our last big break with Europe, at the Reformation, and said that she was very optimistic about the new trading opportunities soon to be open to the UK. There was a broad range of questions about politics and Sue’s personal journey, all of which she answered fully and honestly.

Old Peterites are also regular speakers at St Peter’s and this year we welcomed Nicholas Hopton, who spoke to Sixth Form pupils about his role as Diplomatic Ambassador, as well as Councillor David Heaton who talked about his life in Politics and the work and importance of York City Council.



One of our last Sixth Form lectures before lockdown saw Martin S Taylor introduce our Sixth Formers to the art of Hypnotism without Hypnosis.

Educational Visits

Many of our usual trips and activities were postponed this year, but our pupils were able to enjoy a number of education visits before lockdown.

At the start of the year, Biology pupils enjoyed their annual trip to Malham and had an excellent time despite the rain. The final day rewarded them for their perseverance with a blistering blue sky.

English and Drama pupils visited York Theatre Royal in September to watch **Malory Towers**, and they were joined by the senior girl boarders from The Rise and Dronfield. Based on the series of Enid Blyton novels of the same name, Wise Children's production of **Malory Towers** follows a group of young girls in their first term at a girls' boarding school. Filled with mischief and adventure with a lot of laughs along the way, the musical took the audience on a journey of friendship and high jinks. Later in the year, English pupils enjoyed a 'remote' residential visit to the Globe and the National Gallery, alongside watching three great plays thanks to National Theatre Live.

History of Art pupils visited London, including Canary Wharf underground station which was designed by Norman Foster in the 1990s. Having spent a week studying it, it was fantastic to be able to walk through and explore it.

Taking advantage of the various classical events organised this year, 40 Fourth Form Classics students went to see artefacts from Pompeii at the Ashmolean in Oxford and our Sixth Form Classicists travelled to London for the British Museum Troy exhibition.

St Peter's Geography students spent a morning exploring York in January, including a visit to York's Chocolate Story. During the study of many topics, St Peter's used

York as a case study example. The topics include site and situation of settlements, growth of settlements over different time periods, and industry.

We were also able to run a limited number of overseas trips before lockdown, including the new German Cultural trip to Berlin prior to Christmas and an Art trip to Paris in February half term.

Virtual Exploration Week

Our Fifth Form pupils enjoyed a virtual Exploration Week at home in June, following the completion of their academic bridging courses. They were offered a range of online lectures and seminars, delivered by members of academic staff, to take them beyond their usual GCSE subject requirements. Every day, there were different offerings as teaching staff drew on their personal interest and experiences to offer a smorgasbord of entertaining titles, including 'Backpacking Crash Course', 'An Introduction to Psychology', 'Cryptic Crosswords', 'Contemporary Art', 'Logic Puzzles', 'Nutrition for Performance' and 'Restorative Justice', amongst many others.

Peternomics

During lockdown, Lower Sixth Formers studying Economics and/ or Business started putting together the 2020 version of 'Peternomics'. They researched their own areas of interest based on their studies to date, followed by extended writing on specific articles relating to the world of business and economics. From the economic impact of Covid 19 on all sorts of different industries, to articles on business success and failure, economic prosperity or woe, all sorts of current affairs issued were covered. Head of Department, Ben White, said 'it is always a pleasure pulling Peternomics together and seeing the range and breadth of individual interest and research that our pupils (now authors!) bring to the publication. Lockdown of course brought its own challenges but in true Peterite fashion, pupils rose to the unique landscape and this year's publication is a bumper edition of over forty articles – a true testament to their hard work and endeavour.'

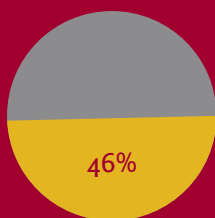
Exam Results and CAGs

The cancellation of exams in summer 2020 presented teachers and pupils with unforeseen challenges including the introduction of Centre Assessed Grades.



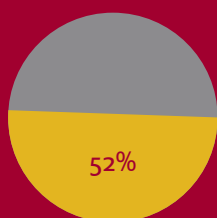
Our pupils should be exceptionally proud of everything they achieved in the 2019-2020 academic year, including their ability to respond to the challenges of remote learning. We were overwhelmed by their maturity, resilience and whole-hearted commitment during what was an unusual academic year.

A special mention goes to our Upper Sixth pupils, who left St Peter's without the usual end of year celebrations. As a year group, they fully embraced their time at school and we are delighted by everything they have contributed and achieved. They approached a difficult situation with energy and optimism, regarding challenges as an opportunity to develop valuable life skills and prepare for life after St Peter's.



2019, 46% of pupils achieved all 9-8 grades (A*) at GCSE

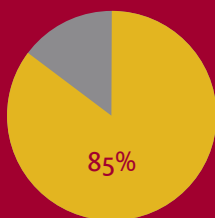
2020, 52% of pupils achieved all 9-8 grades (A*) at GCSE



GCSE Results

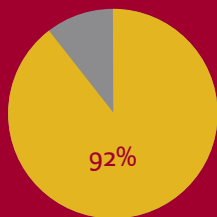
In 2019, 46% of pupils achieved all 9-8 grades (A*) at GCSE with 98% awarded grades 9-4 (A*-C). In 2020, 52% of GCSE grades were 9-8, with almost every pupil achieving grades 9-4 in all subjects.

Mr Walker, said: "I am incredibly proud of our Fifth Form pupils, my talented colleagues and grateful for the outstanding support of our parents. Their successes are fully deserved and we have a very strong year group progressing to Sixth Form, joined by talented new pupils from other schools in September."



2019, 85% of A Level and equivalent Pre-U examination awarded at A*-B

2020, 92% of A Level and equivalent Pre-U examination awarded at A*-B



A Level Results

In 2019, 85% of A Level and equivalent Pre-U examinations at the school were awarded at A*-B. In 2020, 92% of A Levels were awarded at A*-B.

Mr Walker, said: "I am so proud of this year's Upper Sixth, not just for how they have responded in recent months but for all their fantastic achievements throughout their time at St Peter's. There will be many happy memories of their contribution to school life in academics, music, sport and so much more.

"They are a very special group of young women and men and I am confident they will go on to great success in life and continue to be a vibrant part of the St Peter's community."

Lockdown

“Adversity drives creativity, and creativity drives community.” (Mr Jeremy Walker)

When pupils and staff returned to St Peter’s in September 2019, no one could have predicted the academic year that lay ahead. In March 2020 schools closed as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, and a programme of remote teaching and learning began. Despite the uncertainties and challenges we all faced, the St Peter’s School community responded with resilience and compassion, determined to overcome adversity with creativity and remain connected throughout lockdown.



St Peter’s 2-8

Staff at St Peter’s 2-8 were able to ensure continuity of education for all children during lockdown. They developed an outstanding online remote learning package over the Easter break that was wholeheartedly praised by parents. Then the staff in four year groups had to develop a new curriculum for the partial re opening of schools that was completely different to the normal way of teaching at St Peter’s 2-8.

The remote learning package at St Peter’s 2-8 sought to emulate the inspiring and innovative thematic curriculum usually enjoyed by the children in school. From measuring trees to creating potions, children were encouraged to explore the world around them at home and used their surroundings to actively inspire their learning.

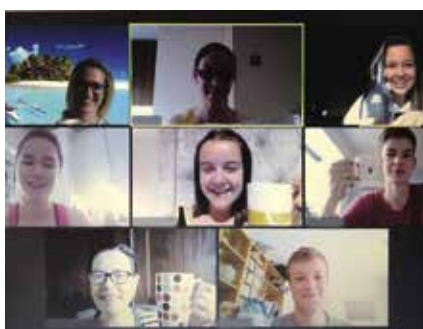
vn LEARNING



St Peter's 8-13

Remote learning in the summer term was delivered to all pupils at St Peter's 8-13 using Microsoft Teams. Teachers spent their Easter holidays learning vital new skills to ensure an exceptionally high level of learning whilst pupils were at home. Sports challenges, music concerts, drama workshops, clubs and activities, including dance club and cookery club, were all delivered virtually, to ensure that children could continue to develop their skills and interests. The teacher was 'live' throughout every online lesson, to provide support and guidance, not just at the start of a lesson or merely uploading work.

Children used objects and resources available at home to explore important themes from natural disasters to mental health. They composed music, created collages, designed video animations, produced silent movies, devised shadow puppet shows, baked WW2 recipes, made LEGO structures to represent earthquakes, and even recreated nerve cells using clay!



St Peter's 13-18

For pupils at St Peter's 13-18, lockdown brought the cancellation of GCSE and A Level exams, transforming our approach to learning. The teachers and pupils responded admirably, and a full programme of remote learning was provided throughout lockdown.

Even though pupils were learning from home, they enjoyed access to remote lessons across the full curriculum from Chemistry to Classics. Fifth Form participated in a Virtual Exploration Week and the Sixth Form Enrichment programme was also enhanced, with activities adapted for home learning. The time available for tutoring was significantly increased, with fewer pupils per Tutor and more time for one-to-one discussions, and Lessons for Life were introduced for all.

Stay at Home, stay active

Sport is an important part of life at St Peter's, with 15 sports, 250 teams and enthusiastic participation at all levels. When fixtures were cancelled in March 2020, followed closely by a national lockdown, our Sports staff were determined to deliver an active games programme virtually to encourage all pupils to stay active at home.

St Peter's 2-8

Sports Day is usually the highlight of the sporting calendar at 2-8, but our usual sports day activities were cancelled this year to ensure the safety of our pupils and to comply with social distancing guidelines. Instead, we launched a Virtual Sports Day and encouraged the children to join in from home.

Sports ranged from the Standing Long Jump and 40m Sprint to the slightly less conventional Egg and Spoon Collection, Star Jumps, Speed Bounce and Welly Standing Throw. We are so proud of all our little athletes who participated from home and at school.



St Peter's 8-13

The Sports Department at St Peter's 8-13 inspired pupils with their remote PE lessons online, including tennis, athletics and cricket, which would have happened if the children were still in school. All children were timetabled for games and PE during the same slot in the school day.

Mr Savage, Head of Sport at St Peter's 8-13, said: **"We have tried to inspire the children to not only be active, but to develop their skills too. The children's engagement and ingenuity has been an absolute pleasure to witness."**



St Peter's 13-18

Wednesday 29 April should have been Sports Day at St Peter's. To mark the occasion, Mr Williams organised the 5k House Challenge, encouraging staff and pupils to embark on a 5km run from their homes. Over 20 staff and 103 pupils participated.

The Sports Department also launched a weekly House Challenge to encourage pupils to stay healthy and active at home. The 627 sports challenge was a particular success. Inspired by our foundation year 627AD, the challenge was to create and complete a physical challenge using the digits #627 and our pupils surpassed themselves. There were many entries and some extremely inventive ways of carrying out the task!



Art & Design

Art and Design forms a vibrant part of school life. Our innovative pupils bring their creative ideas to life with the support of our Art Departments and Design & Technology Departments, with each year bringing new and exciting opportunities for the children to showcase their skills.

St Peter's 2-8

Art and design at St Peter's 2-8 is inspiring, messy and most importantly great fun! We take inspiration from our termly themes, real artists and the world around us to explore different cultures, escape to new worlds and most importantly to express ourselves as individuals. We have lots of materials available from paint, clay and natural resources in Forest School to the 'tinkering table' where the children can practise their woodwork skills. Every child is an artist, and we love watching their ideas develop as they paint, draw, cut, stick, glue, thread and construct their unique creations.

Nursery

The changing seasons inspired our little artists in Nursery this year. We used autumn leaves to make leaf prints with paint and we even created hedgehogs by sticking and gluing the leaves together. We also made our own firework pictures using lots of sparkly glitter. During winter we enjoyed creating wonderful wintry collages and making and decorating Frozen 2 cupcakes. Unfortunately lockdown restrictions brought the spring term to an abrupt end, but we loved seeing the artwork that the children created at home.

Reception

Reception used their underwater themed books to inspire their artwork at the start of the year. They made their very own tie-dyed snail shells and practised their threading skills when making beautiful, colourful jellyfish. They also enjoyed using the natural resources in the classroom to make spiral snail shells and decorate whales before capturing their own 'shellfies'. The children have become skilled photographers, using iPad photos to create an autumnal, friendship tree and taking photos of their favourite stained-glass windows in the Minster before learning how to edit their photos.

Other highlights include developing our observational painting skills using pictures from The Gruffalo, designing and building Elsa's castle from Frozen in RA, making Chinese lanterns and Chinese dragon craft to celebrate Chinese New Year, and creating 3D planets using the Quiver app. As part of Home Learning, many children also created fabulous rainbow images, spreading much-needed hope and joy.



Year 1

Our talented Year 1 pupils were off to a flying start in September with their space theme. They created their own starry skies using oil pastels and chalk, made alien friends and spaceships out of clay, and constructed star constellations in the woodwork area.

In the spring term, we travelled back in time to the Stone Age, painting our own woolly mammoths before using a variety of textiles to decorate them. Some of the children were even inspired to make their own life size Stone Age costumes!

We also learnt how to create our own Digital Art using iPads and the Pic Collage app as well as experimenting with the I Can Animate app to create our own short animations.

Finally, we have been admiring the work of real-life artists this year. Peter Thorpe's artwork helped us to create some fantastic space art, Banksy's street art encouraged us to create thought-provoking artwork at the start of lockdown, the Japanese artist Hokusai was the inspiration behind our 'waves of optimism', and the children created their own spiral and snail art using natural materials from Forest School after we looked at Matisse's Snail.

Year 2

Year 2 used art to explore their Viking theme in the autumn term, creating Viking brooches to fasten their cloaks, designing Viking longship figure heads, and making clay models of Thor's hammer into pendants.

In the spring term, Year 2's artwork was inspired by the Wind and the Willows. They used watercolours to recreate settings from the story and experimented with different shades of brown when painting red squirrels. The children also developed their colouring skills by sketching blue tits and discovered new artistic techniques by painting hedgehogs in mediums such as printing, using edges of card for the spines.

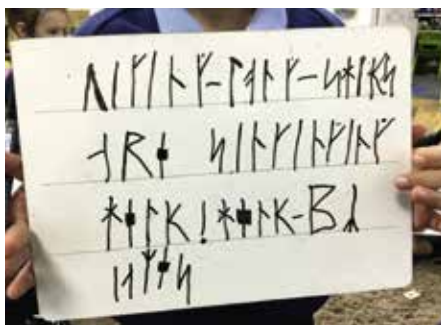
Finally in the summer term we explored our theme 'Living on an Island' by drawing and painting seashells, seabirds and beaches, creating eye-catching posters to reduce beach pollution, and making portholes to an underwater world.

We have also studied the work of several well-known artists this year. We created pastel pictures of York Minster in the style of Monet, pen and ink drawings based on the illustrations of E H Shepard, and abstract art painted in primary colours inspired by Mondrian.

Year 3

Year 3's Egyptian theme provided a wealth of artistic inspiration in the autumn term. The children enjoyed weaving palm leaves to make papyrus, making their own ink in Forest School for hieroglyph writing practice, and designing their own amulets, out of clay, to protect us in the afterlife. We also explored perspective in art, creating beautiful Egyptian Sunset Landscapes using watercolours and collage.

We also looked closely at the work of Henri Rousseau in the spring term. Henri created beautiful jungle scenes from his imagination, and we created our own jungle scenes in the style of Henri's work to complement our Amazon theme. We used collage to create layers, giving our work a 3D effect, and even created our own pic collages on the iPads, inserting ourselves into a jungle scene.





St Peter's 8-13

Art

Our budding artists at St Peter's 8-13 have produced some fantastic artwork in their Art lessons this year. Before lockdown, J3 pupils developed a range of skills by drawing and sketching penguins before making and painting ceramic penguins in the art studio. They learnt how to capture proportion, form and texture in their work with fantastic results. Meanwhile, J5 studied Gothic architecture including grotesques and gargoyles, including creating ceramic grotesques from crank clay. They captured a real sense of humour and character in their pieces.

The pupils continued to produce innovative artwork during lockdown using materials found at home. Inspired by the collage work of Kurt Schwitters, J3 turned old magazines and newspapers into colourful collages of cats, dogs and penguins.

J5 were also challenged to perceive the environment around them in a different way and were tasked with finding and photographing objects that could represent letters. The children then created a photographic alphabet and used the objects to compose positive words and phrases including 'Keep Calm and Carry On', 'Be Kind and Support Others'. Miss Leaver said: **"I am in absolute awe of how creatively, and sensitively, they have approached this task. The pupils have composed some absolutely lovely message of positivity and hope."**

Design

Design and Technology is a popular subject at St Peter's, giving our pupils the opportunity to develop their design skills and learn how to use a variety of tools.

J4 showcased their skills by creating finger-jointed storage boxes using a wide range of workshop tools, whilst J5 were tasked with a special automaton project designed to test their understanding of mechanisms.

The aim of the automaton project was to create a wooden mechanical bird suitable for children. Each pupil carried out their own research, investigating the various mechanical toys currently available on the market. They also researched different types of birds and designed their toys to reflect the colours, movement and sounds of their chosen bird.

The project resulted in a stunning variety of birds. Although each toy started with a similar internal cam mechanism, they have evolved into characterful automatons with a unique personality and life of their own.

Mrs Daish, Head of Art and DT at St Peter's 8-13, said: **"It has been wonderful to watch the toys develop over the last few weeks. Some of the birds have flapping wings, others waddle from side to side whilst they walk and some of the heads even 'clack' as they move. The toys are inspired by real birds and some of them are remarkably lifelike! I am very proud of the J5s and everything they have achieved."**





St Peter's 13-18

Art

Every year we are amazed by the talent of our art and design pupils, and an impressive selection of work has been produced this year. We hosted a small number of exhibitions in the Whitestone Gallery, but we were sadly unable to host our usual end-of-year exhibition 'Imagine' due to lockdown restrictions. The exhibition of Pre-U and GCSE work is available virtually for you to enjoy online.

Pupils also created ceramic Stations of the Cross for a special Holy Week exhibition at York Minster, which was also sadly postponed.

From a Distance

The Art Department launched a photography competition inspired by the theme 'From a Distance', to encourage members of the St Peter's School community to record their experience of life during lockdown. Hundreds of entries were received and the winning entries can be viewed on our website.

Design and Technology

We would like to congratulate individual pupils and staff from the Design and Technology Department for their achievements this year.

Third and Fourth Form teams performed exceptionally well at the York Rotary Technology Tournament. Pupils Will Browne, Will Bettison, Zoe Greenwood, and Maggie Hutchings represented the Third Form, taking second place at Foundation Level, with Fourth Form pupils Thomas Johnson, Lucas Winn and Alex Wood taking second place at the Intermediate level of the competition. They competed against 27 other school teams from North Yorkshire, with both teams placing second in what was a hotly contested unseen challenge to design and make weight powered vehicles to travel up an incline.

Special mentions go to Third Former Maggie, who was shortlisted for the international design competition 'Fountain of Hygiene' launched by Bompas & Parr and the London Design Museum, and Mr Cooper, who has manufactured over 600 visors for health professionals in York and the surrounding area. The visors were produced in the Design & Technology classrooms at school, with support from colleagues including Mrs Staniforth.



Clubs & Societies

There are over 80 different co-curricular clubs and activities at St Peter's School. Children aged 2-8 can choose from up to 30 activities, with the choice and variety of activities increasing as they move through the school.

Despite the challenges posed by lockdown, many clubs and societies continued remotely providing a welcome distraction for pupils and teachers alike during a difficult time. Here is a flavour of what our clubs and societies have been getting up to this year.



Geology Club (St Peter's 8-13)

The Geology Club is a mixture of J1 to J5 pupils at St Peter's 8-13 with a keen interest in rocks! This year, they have been looking at different rock types and how they are formed, the formation of fossils and natural disasters that can occur because of plate tectonics. The children were challenged to construct a building that could withstand an earthquake using spaghetti and marshmallows! They tested the theory by rocking the table for 10 seconds.

Dance Club (St Peter's 8-13)

In March 2020, our St Peter's 8-13 Dance Club moved online.

Our pupils created a short video to showcase the dance routines that they learnt remotely during the summer term, with help from Ms Veasey.

Ms Veasey, Dance Club Co-ordinator, said: **"Dance Club has enabled our pupils to remain fit and active at home whilst developing their dance skills. It has been wonderful to see the girls enjoying themselves and responding to the challenge of remote learning with such joy and positivity."**

Lily said: **"I am so glad we have had Dance Club during lockdown. It's given me a chance to see my friends and have fun. It has really cheered me up being able to dance and play together when I was missing school."**





Debating (St Peter's 13-18)

Once again, the Debating Society participated in several competitions this year, with impressive performances from everyone involved. In January, pupils from Third, Fourth and Fifth Form competed in the ESU Churchill Public Speaking Competition. Congratulations to St Peter's Team 1 as runners-up.

In February, St Peter's hosted the regional round of the Oxford Schools' Debating Competition. 47 teams took part and it was wonderful to meet colleagues and students from around the North of England. Two of our St Peter's Debating teams took part (Ethan McKinney, Patrick Renwick, Phoebe Frank and William Peacock) and did an excellent job against some strong competition in this fast and furious BP style debating competition in which they only have 15 minutes to prepare their side of the motion.

The fifth annual Debating Dinner was held on 11 February, with some very amusing speeches debating the motion that "This House Believes that Laughter is the Best Medicine." We were joined by pupils who have taken part in Competitive Debating as well as representing their Houses in the Inter-House Competitions, and it was great to see some OP's reunited with their old team members.

On 3 March, the St Peter's Debating team travelled to Harrogate to compete in the North East Regional Final of the ESU Mace Debating Competition. It was an excellent evening with a high level of debating skills displayed from all teams. Will Peacock opened the St Peter's argument for the motion that tech companies must hand over users' personal data to law enforcement agencies if requested to do so. Ethan McKinney then developed the team's arguments further before Patrick Renwick summarised the points of clash identified as well as the reasons why the motion should carry. The team debated very well and we are extremely proud of their efforts as a school. We also thank St Aidan's for hosting a great event and wish them luck in the Finals.

During lockdown, the Debating Society continued to meet every Tuesday evening via Zoom. Mrs Lunardi, who coordinates the Debating Society, said: **"It has been fantastic to see the pupils debating such important motions via Zoom. The discussions have been rich, varied and thought-provoking as always, and it is fascinating to hear the different perspectives of our pupils as they develop their debating skills."**



Combined Cadet Force (St Peter's 13-18)

CCF continued with their training this year, including Skill at Arms Training, Marksmanship Training, and 'Ex Senior Defender', an exercise designed to test our senior Cadets on Command, Control and Leadership. Our Cadets also celebrated with their Annual Dinner in February. The aim of the evening is to recreate the experience of a formal military Dinner Night for our cadets. This year's guests were Old Peterites Miss Emily McDonald, a former head of Cadets and now a member of the UOTC, and 2Lt Alex Phillips, who was our guest speaker. Emily now helps the School on Summer Camps as our female focus. Alex left us last summer, however, he returned to share his experiences on passing the Reserve Commissioning Course at Sandhurst at the end of last year.



Duke of Edinburgh (St Peter's 13-18)

Our 2020 expedition season was about to begin just as lockdown measures were announced, and everything got put on hold. Undaunted, pupils at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels focused their attention on the other aspects of their awards which could be completed from home.



Rory Watt restarted the soup run which he originally set up for his silver Duke of Edinburgh's Award in 2018. As lockdown began Rory wasted no time in distributing letters to the older residents of Hushwaite with information about the soup run. Throughout lockdown he delivered soup to the villagers twice a week.

Towards the end of the year the Department for Education guidance enabled us to employ an approved activity provider to take a team of Upper Sixth pupils to the North Yorkshire Moors, to complete their Gold qualifying expedition, with a range of Covid adjustments in place to ensure they were kept as safe as possible. This one expedition of the year provided a glimmer of hope for the year ahead.





Keystone Magazine (St Peter's 13-18)

Sixth Form pupils worked hard to write, edit and produce 'Keystone': the magazine written by pupils, for pupils. The magazine has been given a rebrand and the pupils, led by Ed Fricker, hope that it reflects the unique character of life at the school. Readers can expect everything from articles debating world issues from feminism to veganism, to backstage gossip from 'The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe', to an agony aunt page and even the Housemasters battling it out with their best jokes. As Ed says, **"We hope that everyone who picks this up will find at least one article which appeals to them"**. The edition also contains illustrations and photography by pupils, and has involved lots of late nights trying to get everything done in time for the print deadline.



Radio 627

2019 saw the re-build of the School's Radio Station, aptly named Radio 627. The station was being re-built from scratch but with superb help from the ICT department, pupils were able to record some new podcasts including Just A Minute, Charity Hour and the VAR (Very Angry Referees) Show. We hope that in the coming months we'll be able to add more shows, dramas and hopefully some live sports commentaries. Don't watch this space – go to radio627.co.uk to see how we're doing!





Putting on a

show

Drama continues to thrive at St Peter's and we have enjoyed spectacular performances this year across the school. Although drama lessons moved online for the summer term, pupils and teachers were determined that the show must go on, performing for friends and family at home.

National Shakespeare Schools Festival

Pupils from St Peter's 8-13 and St Peter's 13-18 performed in the 2019 National Shakespeare Schools Festival at Joseph Rowntree Theatre in York. The National Shakespeare Schools Festival is the world's largest youth drama festival led by The Shakespeare Schools Foundation. The festival helps inspire the pupils and gets them excited about theatre.

Pupils at St Peter's 13-18 performed Hamlet in October whilst St Peter's 8-13 performed Macbeth in November. The pupils were fully involved at every level of both productions, with cast and crew working together with great professionalism. Technical teams coordinated the sound and lighting for the shows and pupils were also involved in costume design and helped backstage. There was a lot of hard work involved in both productions, with rehearsals after school and on Saturdays, and the final performances were exceptional. Well done to everyone involved.



Christmas Plays

Hundreds of pupils across the school joined together to perform our Christmas plays in December 2019. At St Peter's 2-8, performances ranged from Stickman in Reception to the nativity in Year 2 (with an alien twist!) and Hood Winked in Year 3. The Year 1 play even included a visit from Elton John and a Mr Hardy look-a-like, played by a pupil wearing glasses and a suit. The children performed with confidence and showed great teamwork, encouraging each other on stage and supporting each other.

Meanwhile, the children at St Peter's 13-18 escaped their ordinary lives into a world of adventure and imagination in this year's Christmas term production: *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*. The show boasted incredible acting, phenomenal costumes and magical Christmas scenery produced as the result of hours of planning and hard work by our pupil backstage team. All three shows sold-out, and the cast and team of pupils working backstage delivered a moving, triumphant production in which the world in the wardrobe became a very real place where fears could be confronted and destroyed. Well done to everyone who made the extraordinary production so captivating.

LAMDA Results

In March, 47 young people successfully sat their LAMDA exams across St Peter's 8-13 and St Peter's 13-18. The exams went smoothly and the pupils performed to the best of their abilities. The results were released in April and our pupils achieved 43 distinctions and 4 merits. Congratulations to them all on this incredible achievement!

LAMDA is the UK's largest statutory speech and drama awarding body. LAMDA examinations are designed to equip learners, whatever their age or aspirations, with a range of skills that will serve them throughout life.



National Youth Theatre Success

Congratulations to Lower Sixth pupil Beth and Third Form pupils Amelia who were accepted by the National Youth Theatre of Great Britain in May 2020, following their auditions in 2019. Beth and Amelia joined an intake course in summer 2020, hosted via Zoom, and will remain members of the National Youth Theatre Company until they turn 26, opening doors to a huge range of opportunities.

Speaking of her achievement, Beth said: “When I found out that I had made it into the National Youth Theatre I was overjoyed! I feel so blessed to be part of the NYT community and I will make the most of all it has to offer.”

Amelia said: “When I found out I was accepted, I didn’t believe it was true and was tempted to call to see if they’d made a mistake! Then I was so excited that I had to force myself to concentrate on my school subjects. I’m so excited to be part of this company.”

Bev Veasey, Drama Teacher at St Peter’s, said: “We are extremely proud of Beth and Amelia. Over 5000 young actors apply each year, for just 500 places. It is a company where many of our most skilful actors began their careers. The experiences that they will have and the connections that they will make will be invaluable.”



The Show Must Go On...

Despite the closure of schools during the summer term, our drama pupils continued to put on a show at home.

Working remotely with the theatre group Company Three, a group of pupils at St Peter’s 13-18 created Time Capsule videos to record their own experiences of lockdown. Topics range from ‘Home Life’ to ‘Food, Food, Food’, offering a light-hearted but poignant insight into the impact of Coronavirus on the lives of our pupils.

At St Peter’s 8-13, pupils continued to develop their drama and theatre skills with creative remote learning projects. J4 made their own shadow puppet theatres, using puppets to cast shadows on the screens, and J3 discovered the art of the silent movie, directing and producing innovative and humorous silent movies at home and in their gardens.

In the final weeks of the summer term, pupils at St Peter’s 13-18 responded creatively and innovatively to the challenges of remote learning by recording *Epilogues in Isolation*, inspired by the Royal Shakespeare Company’s *Sonnets in Solitude*.



The power of Music

“Music gives a heartbeat to life at St Peter’s School.”

(Jeremy Walker)



aged 5-18, and children continued to compose, with schemes adapted to ensure that they were accessible to all; Year 7, for instance, composed using brooms and Year 5 responded to music about the sea with compositions using water.

The youngest pupils, aged 2-8, enjoyed regular Zoom singalongs to their favourite songs, with one per week for Nursery and Reception, another for Years 2 and 3 and a singalong for all year groups every Friday. In addition to music lessons, pupils participated in Young Voices at Home and 30 children aged 5-8 performed in three live Zoom concerts, with many children performing for the first time. Pupils from 8-13 also held a guitar masterclass for pupils aged 2-8, teaching them new skills and playing together virtually.



Music is an important part of life at St Peter’s School and lockdown highlighted the extraordinary power of music and its ability to connect people, inspire emotion and bring joy into our lives.

Pupils and staff remained virtually connected through music during lockdown as part of a wider virtual cultural programme, which included drama performances, literature festivals, creative writing, art exhibitions and much more.

Almost 200 pupils continued to practise their music skills at home, with over 1,900 music lessons delivered online over the summer term. The school hosted 21 virtual concerts, involving over 160 performers

At St Peter’s 8-13, a Virtualosity concert series was launched, with 14 live Zoom concerts hosted during lockdown. All children were encouraged to take part, and children who had not performed in a school concert before participated enthusiastically. The concerts featured 97 different performers (whilst 10 members of staff gave the 10th concert) and 164 live performances in total, including family ensembles which crossed between 8-13 and 13-18. The concerts have continued weekly during term time and the school has now hosted 30 Virtualosity concerts.

Pupils at St Peter’s 13-18 participated in three virtual 6-2-7 concerts during the summer term, which were broadcast on YouTube on Tuesday evenings. The 6-2-7 concerts featured 50 pupils aged 13-18, with



performances recorded during lockdown. The summer term culminated with a virtual 'Cabaret' concert and Commemoration Service, featuring solo and ensemble performances from the pupils. One video of the Chapel Choir featured 35 singers and organ with the audio multi-tracked and video editing done by the full-time music staff. Other digital performances came from the Swing Band, Boys' and Girls' Barbershop Groups and solo performances from Upper Sixth pupils.

At St Peter's School we strongly believe that every child is a musician, and whilst lockdown had an adverse impact on music provision in many schools, the appetite for music at St Peter's has not abated. The commitment to remote music provision from staff and pupils ensured that the children were in the best possible position to contribute towards the musical life of the school when they returned to school in September 2020.



Music

As always, the musical life of the school has been rich and varied this year. Congratulations to all our pupils and staff for everything they have achieved.



St Peter's 2-8

In January, children from St Peter's 2-8 participated in Young Voices in Sheffield, the largest school choir concert in the world. The children sang with over 4,700 other children from lots of different schools. They sang Somebody to Love with Tony Hadley and also joined in with performances from The Shires and Ruti who won The Voice UK in 2018. The children worked so hard to learn the lyrics and dance moves to a wide variety of songs, and they were a credit to the school.

During lockdown, children in Years 2 and 3 also joined in with the Young Voices at Home project, which involved over 20,000 children. At 2.30pm on Tuesday 2 June, children across the world joined in singing the song Power in Me composed by Rebecca Lawrence. Mrs Hayden said: **"This song was already a favourite. The words fit many of our school values; the opening line for example, fits perfectly to this half term's value of Endurance - "When the race is nearly done, and I feel I can't go on, I know I can do something about it!"** We were all missing singing together as a school, so this was the perfect opportunity to help us continue something we love!"





St Peter's 8-13

We believe that every child should be given the opportunity to be the best musician they can be, and it has been wonderful to celebrate the success of our pupils this year.

We have enjoyed several concerts featuring a wide range of pupils, including our annual Christmas Concert which included performances from all the major ensembles, including the rock band, Breakfast Strings, wind band, cello group, bassoon group, string quartet, clarinet group, string orchestra, Just Sing and junior choir.

In January we also gathered for an informal concert for family and friends, providing all pupils who learn an instrument with the chance to perform in a smaller environment in front of a friendly audience.

This year, every class has explored World Music as part of their music lessons. J3 learnt about Gamelan music which originates from the Indonesian islands of Bali and Java. The children played whole class performances of Gamelan music using classroom instruments and welcomed the University of York Gamelan Orchestra, who delivered workshops for each class to create a piece of Gamelan music.

Congratulations also go to Ethan, Danny and Max who have all gained places in the National Children's Orchestras, with Ethan and Danny being accepted into the U12 orchestra, and Max the U10. All three children completed a series of challenging auditions to win their place in the acclaimed ensemble, competing against hundreds of young people aged 7 to 13, from across the country.

As well as the success in the National Children's Orchestra, three other pupils have achieved a place in the Regional Children's Orchestra. Well done to Double Bassist Ben and Max's older brother Fred who plays the clarinet.

Finally, 39 musicians travelled to Hull on Friday 13 March to participate in the regional Music for Youth Festival. With String Orchestra, String Ensemble and Mini Jazz Band taking part, the event provided a wonderful insight into the co-curricular music-making which plays such an important role in the life of St Peter's 8-13 every week. The children were an absolute delight to be with and received much praise for their playing.



St Peter's 13-18

There have been many musical highlights at St Peter's 13-18, including our Autumn Concert, the annual House Sing, Evensong at Durham Cathedral and our annual Christmas Concert. The Easter term began with a live broadcast on BBC Radio 4 and continued with the Whole School Foundation Concert, the Senior Music Festival and Evensong at St Paul's Cathedral. Although we missed our annual concert in York Minster, we enjoyed three fabulous 6-2-7 Concerts during the Summer Term. Thank you to the pupils and staff in the Music Department for producing these concerts for everyone to enjoy online.

Music has a unique way of bringing people together, and our pupils have remained connected through the power of music. Across the three schools at St Peter's, almost 200 children continued to practice their skills, with over 1,900 music lessons delivered virtually in the summer term.

Ten of our older pupils achieved Grade 8 in their ABRSM exams this year, along with two ARSM diplomas at distinction. Special mentions go to Tim Burgess, who will be leaving St Peter's with diplomas at distinction on saxophone and flute as well as Grade 8 in singing, and Will Miles-Kingston, who was awarded the title of BBC Young Chorister of the Year in December 2019.

Our virtual Cabaret was the perfect way to celebrate this year's musical achievements. Our Upper Sixth worked incredibly hard to bring the production together and there were some superb musical numbers for the audience to enjoy at home. The hour-long concert featured soloists as well as both the girls' and boys' barbershops and is available to watch online.





Whole Foundation Concert

The Whole School Foundation Concert on Thursday 13 February was a highly enjoyable evening of music-making. It is always a joy to welcome the children from all three sections of our school for this annual event. Together, the pupils produced some memorable performances, with choirs, chamber music and the mini-jazz band all involved. This evening is intended to give a snapshot of our music provision for children aged 2-18 and the St Peter's contribution featured a wide variety of styles from Mozart to Glenn Miller. Paul Miles-Kingston, Director of Music, said **"It was a great pleasure to host this joint concert and my sincere thanks go to Mrs Craven and Mrs Hayden for their help and for directing performances of such quality with their pupils."**



Life Skills

There are endless opportunities to develop key skills for life at St Peter's, through co-curricular clubs and societies and co-curricular activities organised to support our pupils' learning. Thank you to the organisations and partners who help to deliver training and workshops for our pupils throughout the year.

Road Safety with North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue

North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (NYFRS) introduced our Upper Sixth Form to the often shocking reality of road safety. With many of our Upper Sixth Form learning to drive, NYFRS were invited to introduce our pupils to the risks and consequences of dangerous driving.

NYFRS started their visit by asking our pupils what they believed were the main causes of accidents that take place on the UK's roads. Being distracted by mobile phones, driving under the influence of alcohol and misjudgements when driving, were some of the answers pupils gave, with another cause of vehicle defects, being highlighted by NYFRS.

Following their brief talk, the pupils went outside where they were confronted by a staged road traffic scene. A driver and passenger were trapped inside their car, where the Fire and Rescue Service had just arrived at the scene. Pupils then got to see first-hand how rescue services remove trapped persons from vehicles, in this case with the roof of the car being removed.





Restart a Heart Day

In October, we invited volunteers from Yorkshire Ambulance Service to run sessions teaching St Peter's pupils CPR as part of Restart a Heart Day. Over the last three years alone, more than 550 pupils at St Peter's 8-13 have been trained in CPR.

Every pupil at St Peter's 8-13 has also been taught CPR this year, a valuable life skill which has the potential to save lives.



Young Reporter of the Year

Congratulations to Lauren Buch who reached the final 10 of the BBC Young Reporter of the Year competition in January. Lauren's chosen topic, which focuses on stroke awareness in young people and the potentially fatal effect of steroids and supplements, helped her stand out from the crowd. Lauren was inspired to enter the competition after her uncle, who was only 30, suffered a stroke in July 2019 from supplement abuse. The BBC Young Reporter competition is open to young people aged between 11 and 18 who want to report on a story or issue which is important to their life or the world around them. The competition received over 2,000 entries and 10 regional winners, including Lauren, were short-listed for the title of BBC Young Reporter of the Year. As a regional winner, Lauren's story was shared with regional news outlets across Yorkshire.



St Peter's 8-13

All pupils at St Peter's 8-13 love the opportunity to get busy in the kitchens and, through the Life Skills programme, Mrs Herman has been able to introduce them all to safe working in the kitchen and hygiene rules – all very important skills for the future.

The J1 group were able to tie their cookery into their topic on the Vikings and made authentic bread – this was a great experience, although they all decided that modern day bread is definitely better tasting. In J2 to J5 each class has been in and worked on increasingly challenging recipes, aiming to build on the skills learned the previous years.

In addition to these school sessions, Cookery Clubs continue to run twice a week and are so popular they have a waiting list! We must have some budding chefs coming through.

Sport

Although many fixtures and competitions were cancelled this year, there are still plenty of sporting highlights, from team successes to individual achievements.

St Peter's 2-8

All children at St Peter's 2-8 participate in two specialised physical education lessons each week, as well as a dedicated swimming lesson. The children learn the skills of many competitive games as well as gymnastics and dance, and Inter-House competitions usually take place at the end of each half term for both Year Two and Three. This year we enjoyed Inter-House Hockey in September, Inter-House Tag Rugby in December, Inter-House Netball in February and Inter-House Football in March.

Following the completion of our new Playground and Sports Courts, we now have a wonderful space for children to develop their skills and play with their friends. Extending the whole area has also increased our tennis and netball facilities for the whole school.

Before lockdown, we also enjoyed welcoming other schools to St Peter's for special sports workshops. In January, we hosted 50 pupils from Yarm School for a football and netball workshop. The sunny weather provided a great opportunity for the girls to show off their netball skills on our new playground and courts whilst the boys focused on improving their football skills through a variety of different drills and games on the 1st XV.

In February we hosted a Tag Rugby Workshop for Year 3 girls and boys with Hill House. The weather was in our favour once again, making it a lovely afternoon of sport. The children thoroughly enjoyed the carousel of Tag Rugby drills, especially diving onto the crash mat to score a try.

In February, Year 3 took part in this year's Inter-House Netball Competition. The children thoroughly enjoyed cheering on their house mates and participating in the Netball matches. It was fantastic to see the children's abilities in the sport and how much they have progressed over the last few weeks. It was clear to see they had an understanding of the game and enjoyed working with one another.

On Friday 13 March, the children also took part in a sponsored Colour Run in aid of Sports Relief. The children raised a whopping £500, which will help change the lives of many around the world. The day was a huge success, which was clearly evident from the big smiles on the children's faces. It was an extremely colourful afternoon for the children at St Peter's 2-8. Many thanks to everyone involved in making this event possible.





St Peter's 8-13

This proved to be a year that the PE department would never forget at St Peter's 8-13. It started off so promisingly, with everyone excited about the possibilities of challenging at national and regional level in so many different sports this year and finished being isolated in our gardens and lounges at home! The boys' and girls' hockey teams in J5 both qualified for the In2 hockey and IAPS National finals and the boys nearly missed out, having to isolate from other schools when returning from Italy after the February half term rugby tour. We were impressed by the new J1s who demonstrated a lot of potential in their sports and were even quite good at changing! The J3 hockey teams all did very well in the IAPS qualifiers too and we are all excited about their chances as they grow through the school. The J5 boy's rugby team had a super first term and were undefeated in full A team and B team competition. This included challenging ourselves against bigger schools further afield like Bedford and Warwick. We were all excited about the challenges of Rosslyn Park and the sevens season, but Covid curtailed the Tournament.

Our swimming teams also proved very strong this year, the girls' teams in particular qualified comfortably for the IAPS Nationals posting top times that would have challenged for medals, but alas was not to be as it was another event that was cancelled.

Cricket Tour to Cape Town

The J5 boys had a very enjoyable and tough learning Cricket tour to Cape Town in October. They played very challenging games and met with some challenging weather too. Canoeing and swimming down the streets was the order of the day at Newlands, but they didn't let it dampen their spirits and enjoyed tours of Table Mountain, Robben Island, Langa Township, Paarl and the Cape Bay. Their cricket and camaraderie developed brilliantly, and we were so excited for a successful cricket season back home.

Trips and Tours

The annual boys' rugby tour to Venice was one of the last trips to leave the country before the pandemic started. The boys played rugby matches against Benetton Treviso and Rugby Piave as well as the cultural visits to the glass blowing furnaces in Murano, the colourful houses of Burano and tours of the Rialto markets, Piazza San Marco and the Grand Canal. Unfortunately, the girls' netball tour to Barcelona and the ski trip to New Hampshire were both cancelled due to restrictions placed on us by Covid-19. The hugely popular and much anticipated J2 sports tour to the southwest did manage to go ahead. The boys and girls played matches against Cheltenham College and Clifton College, but overall chocolate was the winner! Thank you Cadbury's World.





The 1st lockdown – Summer Term 2020

The first lockdown was a shock to everybody in March 2020. The daunting prospect of teaching PE lessons online was something we hadn't considered before. There were many examples of online workouts and Joe Wicks started his PE for the Nation videos which were a great inspiration.

We decided that we should try and continue with our curriculum as much as possible and taught the tennis, athletics and cricket that would have happened if we were still in school. The lessons were set out with an entry level, development level and extended level of activity so that all children in a family could attempt the skills together. All children were timetabled games and PE during the same slot in the school day so that they had someone to feed balls to them, practise peer coaching and also work collaboratively on the skills set. The biggest challenge was how to complete the tasks if you didn't have any of the equipment, there were many examples of ingenuity using socks for balls, frying pans for rackets and even Hoover pipes for cricket bats!

Athletics followed through the main events we would have done, sprints, middle distance runs, long jumps and scissors jumps, ball throws, plus some experimental events of javelin throwing and shot-putting netballs as well as the popular welly boot discus challenge. There were also lots of tennis activity challenges starting at the very basic level up to rallying competitively with a partner.

The cricket activities again started from very beginner techniques and was a great opportunity to hone the basics and introduce more cricket to new pupils and the girls, who were now starting to play a lot more cricket at school. There were again many ingenious ideas of using different heights of cones to practise on, tights to hang balls from and game play in small spaces.

Although it was a challenging, rewarding and anxious time we were all looking forward to returning to school in September and playing sport again properly with our friends and teammates. So, we spent the last three weeks of lockdown practising the skills that would be required in the netball, hockey and rugby seasons when back in real life education. It was amazing to witness the countless videos and photographs that the children returned to the school competing in the various challenges and practising their skills. Twitter was awash with many examples of collaboration, perseverance, curiosity and creativity. It was clear for everyone to see that the St Peter's 8-13 pupils and staff fully embraced our school growth mindset ideals.



St Peter's 13-18

Our pupils have engaged enthusiastically with the Games programme at all levels this year, both in school and at home, and we have celebrated some remarkable group performances and individual successes.

Full sports reports and results tables for St Peter's 13-18 can be found in The Peterite Review.

Hockey

It has been a successful year for Hockey at St Peter's. The season began with high expectations and our hockey teams did not disappoint.

Our U15 boys' hockey team ended the season unbeaten, a remarkable achievement following a number of closely fought games against tough competition. We were also delighted to see the 1st XI reach the last 32 in the National Cup.

Meanwhile, the U14 girls' hockey team were ranked 5th in the country after representing the North of England in the Investec Girls' Schools Tier 1 National Hockey Championships. The girls made history by reaching the final stages of the national championships in January, defeating Sedbergh and GSAL in a thrilling end to the regional stages.

Mrs Helen Barnard, Head of Girls' Sport at St Peter's School, said: **"Reaching the finals of the National Hockey Championships and finishing 5th in the country is an absolutely outstanding achievement. Our girls have trained incredibly hard and we are very proud of everything they have achieved with their coach Mrs Brough, who has supported them throughout their journey."**



Rugby

We entered the rugby season with great anticipation after our Under 16s secured the Colts title of the Rosslyn Park National Schools Sevens tournament in 2019. Unfortunately our U16s missed out on the opportunity to play at Rosslyn Park this year, but the boys should be commended for their performances throughout the season. Notable successes include the U14s, who ended the season unbeaten, and the U15s who reached the last 16 in the National Cup.

Lower Sixth pupil Olly Tomalin was also selected for the Schools Rugby Dream Team 2019/2020 in April following an online public vote launched by Fifteen Rugby.

With some strong opposition from other schools in the region, Olly was selected as blind side flanker for the North. The votes were then opened for the national team and Olly was selected for the final fifteen, with over 23,000 votes cast.

Olly's success in rugby extends beyond the school leagues. He has been playing for Yorkshire Rugby Academy (formerly Yorkshire Carnegie) this season and has impressed with some high-end performances against opposition such as Northampton Saints, Leicester Tigers and Newcastle Falcons. Olly's stand-out performances have resulted in him being selected for an England U17 training camp, which he attended with just 50 other players.

Netball

Netball at St Peter's is undoubtedly thriving. It simultaneously embraces 'excellence' and 'sport for all'. The 2019 season presented a rise in the standard of competition on show across the board with an increase in the amount of participation amongst all age groups. The introduction of the senior intramural league alongside the 10 competing teams played a huge factor in the strength in depth on show throughout the season.

In the National School's competitions, the U14, U16 and U19 sides all won their respective 'area' tournaments and progressed through to the County rounds of the competition. The U14 and U16 sides reached the Regional Finals where both teams played with passion and purpose to secure a solid 4th position. The U19 team reached the North Finals, a remarkable achievement for our senior girls.

In October we hosted our annual invitational Super 7's Tournament involving a selection of U16 and U19 teams in preparation for the National competitions. The afternoon was a display of exciting fast paced netball with the St Peter's teams both delivering standout performances, whilst playing out of season.

We also saw several players gain selection to representative teams at Leeds Rhinos in the performance pathway, as well as a number of our students also beginning their steps towards similar achievements via their selection into the North Yorkshire County and Development programmes.

Football

In the first week of term, St Peter's hosted the 'STP Sixes', a 6 aside tournament hosted at PlayFootball in York. In a terrific afternoon of football, the St Peter's 1st VI put in some excellent performances, beating Fulneck, Ampleforth, Woodhouse Grove, Birkdale and Hull Collegiate to win the trophy and become STP Sixes 2020 champions - what a start to the season!

Mr Lawrence and Mr Bowden also assisted in running the Lower Sixth House Football League during lunchtimes. With some scintillating play and terrific support from the many Lower Sixth involved, The Grove pipped Clifton into third place, whilst in the grand final, The Manor overcame School House to become House Champions 2020.

A special mention also goes to Lower Sixth pupil Bankole Claudius-Cole who has been selected for the Independent Schools Football Association (ISFA) national football squad. Following the first round of trials in Bolton in September 2019, Bankole was invited to the final trials in Shrewsbury in November 2019. Over 100 boys were involved in the trials and Bankole was one of just 18 boys selected for the national squad.





Tennis

2020 was a successful year for tennis, despite the challenging circumstances. One of our girls' tennis teams reached the North Finals and Toby Baker won the Boys' Tennis Singles Competition.

An even better Boys' Tennis news story would be the 1st Team reaching the LTA Senior Students, North of England & Scotland Tennis Finals (last 4 teams) at the Indoor Tennis Centre in Sunderland at the end of the Spring term. Unfortunately it was not played, due to coronavirus, but this was still an incredible achievement.

Game, Set and Match for the Alcuin Cup

One of the first sports the government allowed to be played after lockdown was tennis and following that announcement Mr Shread was eager to run his last ever Alcuin Cup. With matches played on private tennis courts and all government guidelines adhered to, it turned out to be a fantastic competition.

At the semi-final stage Tom Harpin played James Hanson securing victory 6-4, 6-3 and Toby Baker played Charlie Blackburn winning 6-4, 6-3. The final was played in extremely hot conditions between Tom and Toby with the win going to Toby 7-6, 6-3. Congratulations to Toby who becomes one of only three players to win the Alcuin Cup in the Fourth Form. Mr Walker said: 'Many thanks to Mr Shread for organising the event, which will be his last ever Alcuin Cup and thanks for all his hard work with boys' tennis over the years. The cup will be presented in due course and I am delighted to announce that, in honour of Mr Shread's 35 years of running boys' tennis at St Peter's, that I have decided to re-name it the Alcuin-Shread Cup.'

Rowing

It has been another successful year for our rowers, with a number of second place finishes and wins at Ancholme Head in October, Newark Head in December and York Small Boats Head in January (rescheduled from November due to flooding). The Senior Boys and the Fourth Form Girls both achieved victories at the South Yorkshire Head in February and the Fifth Form girls secured the fastest women's time of the day at the Gorse Invitation at Leeds in March.

We were also delighted to see the new Boathouse completed in October 2019, which has generated new feelings of excitement, enthusiasm and boosted the confidence of our rowers. All the rowers unanimously agreed that the access to the Boats, moving equipment and launch to the river has all become far easier and safer thanks to the design of the Boathouse and the racking inside. All of this means they get more time doing the bit they enjoy best, which is the rowing on the river!

Thank you to our supporters from across the St Peter's Community who supported this project and sponsored a brick on the new Boathouse.



Squash

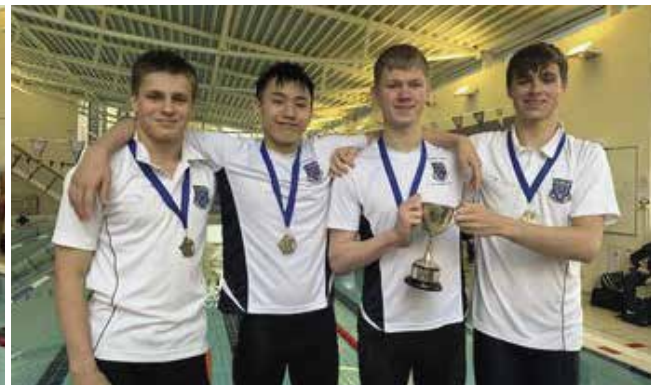
Boys' and Girls' Squash continue to grow with every year at St Peter's School. This season has been one of the most successful with over 70 pupils playing Squash weekly. We had 4 teams having fixtures, Boys 1st and 2nd teams, a Girls 1st team and a mixed 1st team.

Our main achievements were in the National Schools Competition, where we achieved third place, and the York and District Men's League. We finished runners up in the York and District Men's League under the Captaincy of Will Middleton.

Swimming

Our swimmers had another strong season. The U15 girls remained unbeaten for the season and the boys' team unbeaten in regular fixtures for the fifth year running. There were some strong individual performances in all year groups but ultimately it was once again coming together as a team that was the cause of success and enjoyment.

We also saw successes in the Bath and Otter Cup at the London Aquatic Centre, with a girls' team reaching the final and the boys placing on the podium for the second year running. Our U18 boys also reached the national finals of the English Schools competition, finishing 22nd in the country.



Water Polo

After a successful previous year in the English Schools competition the boys went into this year's competition in good spirits. In the qualifying event they finished in 3rd place behind eventual overall champions Bolton. This took the boys into the 2nd tier final competition at Northampton school for boys. After a strong effort against high quality opposition the boys finished in 5th place. A particular mention goes to captain Ben Hobbs for his outstanding display throughout.

Jumping for Joy

Sophie, a Fourth Former at St Peter's, came second in the English Double Mini-Trampolining Championships in September. Sophie competed in the 13-14 year old age category, coming away with silver in a fiercely competitive field. Sophie, who started gymnastics at the age of 11, is also a keen and valued Netballer at St Peter's.



Ski Trip

All pupils at St Peter's 13-18 are invited to join our annual ski trip. This year, the ski trip went to Austria skiing both in the smaller resort of Bramberg as well as the larger and more well-known Kitzbuhel. The highlight of this trip was an opportunity to be guided down the Streif – the most famous ski run of them all on the legendary Hahnenkamm mountain. Our groups were taken into the starting gate, the various parts of the course were explained to us by the instructors and of course we skied it. Out of race season this is a black ski route and to describe the steep moguls as challenging would be an understatement! It gave us a real appreciation of just how steep the course is in reality and how the TV pictures, and even our own mobile phone videos, just don't seem to capture this. It was a captivating part of a successful trip which those who did it will remember for a long time to come.

Leavers' Destinations

Adeley	Sophie	Newcastle University	Marketing and Management
Akhurst	Marion	University of Exeter	Law
Akyol	Erin	University of Bristol	Economics and Management with Study Abroad
Aleksandrova	Sofiya	University of Bath	Chemical Engineering (with placement)
Allard	Maxwell	University of Bristol	Engineering Mathematics
Barker	Beatrice	Newcastle University	Fine Art
Bates	Joseph	Manchester Metropolitan University	Sports Marketing Management
Black	George	Sheffield Hallam University	Real Estate
Blackburn	Amelia	University of Nottingham	Chemical Engineering including an Industrial Year
Blackburn	Charles	University of Leeds	International Business and Marketing
Bone	Sophie	Newcastle University	Chemical Engineering
Bonner	Katherine	Durham University	Mathematics (4 years)
Bramley	James	University of Newcastle	Agri-Business Management
Brimmell	Jasmine	Gap Year	
Brown	Polly	Newcastle University	Dietetics
Buch	Lauren	University of Westminster	Criminology
Bunn	Rhianna	University of Leeds	English Literature
Burgess	Timothy	University of St Andrews	German and Italian (year abroad)
Burgess	William	University of Bath	Accounting and Finance (with professional placement)
Calvert	Charlotte	Cornell University, USA	
Carlyle	Laurence	Durham University	General Engineering
Carter	Reuben	University of Bristol	Aerospace Engineering
Chamberlain	Georgia	Gap Year	
Chan	Yeelok	Durham University	Finance with Placement Year
Chen	Sirui	University of Sheffield	Digital Media and Society
Chen Hsu	Anderson	University of Bristol	German and Spanish (4 years)
Clarke	William	University of Cambridge	Human, Social, and Political Sciences
Coates	Alexander	University of York	Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Connolly	James	University of Bristol	Economics and Finance
Conroy	Olivia	University of Nottingham	English
Cross	Valentina	Newcastle University	Medicine and Surgery
Cumberland	Evie	Gap Year	
Cunningham	Cameron	Gap Year	
Dalton	Adam	University of St Andrews	Medicine
Davis	Jessica	Gap year	
Dorling	Frederick	Newcastle University	Countryside Management
Enoch	Morgan	Newcastle University	Law
Farrington	Cai	University of Sheffield	Business Management
Fatoki	Ayanfeolu	University of Liverpool	Electrical Engineering and Electronics
Faulder	Ella	Liverpool John Moores University	Biology
Fell	Charles	Northumbria University, Newcastle	Business with Management
Findlay	Ewan	Northumbria University, Newcastle	Mechanical Engineering
Ford	Megan	Newcastle University	English Literature
Freeman	Claudia	Gap Year	
Gath	Leah-Grace	Newcastle University	Business Management
Giannini	Isaac	University of Manchester	Mechanical Engineering
Gill	Lydia	The University of Edinburgh	Veterinary Medicine
Gill	Nicholas	UCL (University College London)	Politics and International Relations
Gray	Amelia	Guilford School of Acting	Drama
Greenwood	Tobias	Loughborough University	Commercial Management and Quantity Surveying (with placement year)
Guyer	William	Leeds Arts University	Art Foundation Course
Hall	Benjamin	University of Nottingham	Engineering and Physical Sciences with Foundation Year
Hammond	Jake	Loughborough University	Aeronautical Engineering
Hanson	James	University of Oxford	French and Linguistics
Harpin	Thomas	University of Leeds	Philosophy, Politics and Economics
Harrison	Anna	Gap Year	
Harrison	India	Gap Year	
Hartley	Rachel	The University of Edinburgh	History of Art
Hedley	Oenone	Camberwell College of Arts - University of the Arts, London	Art Foundation Course

Hobbs	Ben	Loughborough University	Requested course change to International Business (with placement year)
Holloway	Alasdair	Newcastle University	History
Horner	Ava	Loughborough University	Economics (with placement year)
Jenkins	Guy	University of Nottingham	Product Design and Manufacture including an Industrial year
Johnson	Joe	Oxford Brookes University	Architecture
Johnson	Stephen	UCL (University College London)	Law
Jones	Harry	University of Bristol	Aerospace Engineering
Kennedy	Isaac	Gap Year	
King	Stella	Gap Year	
Koorapaty	Piyush	Imperial College London	Medicine
Lam	Amelie	University of Cambridge	Natural Sciences
Ledden	Corey	University of Reading	Quantity Surveying
Legg	Georgia	Newcastle University	Law
Leigh Howarth	Ethan	Durham University	Biological Sciences
Li	Tao	University of Birmingham	Mechanical Engineering
Lindley	Thomas	Northumbria University, Newcastle	Real Estate
Lodge	Matthew	University of Manchester	Economics
Maguire	Curran	Gap Year	
Matthews	Thomas	University of Bristol	Economics and Management
McAlpine	Cameron	Northumbria University, Newcastle	Business Management
McDonald-Wilson	Flora	Newcastle University	English Literature
McKelvie	Lottie	Durham University	Modern Languages and Cultures (with Year Abroad)
McKinney	Ethan	University of Warwick	Biochemistry
Middleton	William	UCL (University College London)	Philosophy
Miles-Kingston	Eleanor	Royal Holloway, University of London	Music
Morrison	Edward	Nottingham Trent University	Property Finance and Investment
New	Lok	University of Cambridge	Natural Sciences
O'Callaghan	Sophie	Newcastle University	Marketing and Management
Owen	Edward	University of Manchester	Biomedical Sciences
Padgett	Rachel	University of Exeter	Engineering and Management with Year in Industry
Paul	Amanda	Imperial College London	Physics
Peacock	William	University of Warwick	Politics and International Studies
Pettigrew	Oliver	Newcastle University	Combined Honours
Prince	Callum	University of Reading	Real Estate
Quinn	Benedict	Loughborough University	Media and Communication (with placement year)
Race	Elicia	Gap Year	
Race	Luke	Loughborough University	Marketing and Management (with placement year)
Ramsden	Edward	The University of Edinburgh	Biomedical Sciences
Renwick	Patrick	University of Manchester	Mechanical Engineering with an Integrated Foundation Year
Roberts	Matthew	Leeds Beckett University	Sport Business Management
Robins	Thomas	Newcastle University	Civil Engineering with Year in Industry
Russell	George	UCL (University College London)	Mathematics
Sharp	Amelia	Leeds Arts University	Art Foundation Course
Shaw	Abigail	Oxford Brookes University	Building Surveying
Shawcross	Matthew	Newcastle University	Computer Science
Skelton	Ben	University of Nottingham	Economics
Smith	Molly	University of Nottingham	Medicine BMBS (Nottingham/Derby pathway)
Sullivan	Sarah	UCL (University College London)	Economics
Taylor	William	University of Manchester	Mechanical Engineering
Turvill	Hebe	University of Birmingham	English
Watkins	Ellen	University of Bristol	Biology
Watkins	Ethan	University of Bristol	Physics
Watkins	Niamh	University of Birmingham	Law and French
Weatherstone	Hannah	Newcastle University	Dentistry
Westmoreland	Edward	University of Newcastle	Sport and Exercise Science
Williams	Lily	Durham University	Mathematics (3 years)
Wilson	Archie	University of Manchester	Economics
Wilson	Benjamin	Loughborough University	Bioengineering (with placement year)
Wood	Christopher	Leeds Beckett University	Sport Business Management
Wood	Joshua	University of Exeter	Law
Wylie	Madeleine	Durham University	Natural Sciences
Zhuang	Zijian	University of Nottingham	Pharmacy (with Integrated Pre-registration Scheme)
Zlataru	Anisia	University of Southampton	Law (International Legal Studies)



Careers



Matt Mikola (2004)



Charlotte Anderson (2009)



Thomas Bowie (2010)

Careers

The Careers and Higher Education Department offers help and guidance to pupils who are considering their next steps after St Peter's. This might include higher education, employment, apprenticeship schemes or gap years.

This year the Careers Department moved to a new location, which has significantly increased the number of pupils visiting and making appointments.

We were also delighted to win the Highly Commended Award in the Outstanding Contribution to Apprenticeships category at the Rate My Apprenticeship Awards.

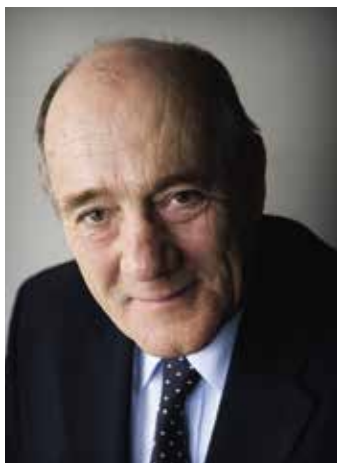
Futures Fair

Our 2020 Futures Fair was a huge success, with more than 50 exhibitors from a range of backgrounds and 500 pupils and parents attending from St Peter's and schools across York. We are so grateful for all the Old Peterites, universities, companies and professionals who join us each year and who make it such a worth-while event for our pupils.

As a school, we believe it is important to help pupils make informed choices about the future, and choose the path which is right for them. Starting the process of investigating careers and education pathways early is the key to making choices which set our pupils up for success. Our Futures Fair is part of a wider careers programme which helps all pupils to learn about the world beyond school and make those all-important decisions with confidence. We hope that by the time our pupils reach the end of the Sixth Form, they have not only learnt the necessary skills for the workplace but they have also had many opportunities which allow for 'lightbulb moments' - experiences that open their eyes to a world of possibilities. Our Futures Fair is a brilliant opportunity for this to happen, and always inspires, excites and engages our pupils about their future.



Amazing Adults



St Peter's School community is an extended family that includes all of our past pupils, parents and staff, and others who have an interest in our School. We seek to maintain a lifelong association with almost 5,000 former pupils who live and work all over the world.

Each year, our Development & Alumni team produce the Cross Keys Magazine, which celebrates our Old Peterite community. We have included some of their stories in this edition of *The Peterite*, and the full version of the Cross Keys Magazine is available on our website.

Report from the President of the Old Peterite Club

I am delighted to be writing with an update on the great progress we have made within the Old Peterite Club over the last year. I had three aims during my time as President; to increase the number of Old Peterites attending functions, to encourage our younger Old Peterites to remain in contact with the Club and re-introduce our annual London event.

We continue to review our events and consider what appeals to the Old Peterite Community, and have enjoyed the addition of new events, such as the Newcastle Pub Quiz, which was attended by a number of our younger Old Peterites in Newcastle in October.

We have a more diverse Committee, and were delighted to welcome a number of new members at the AGM in 2019. We now have representatives from each decade on the Committee and have already been able to make positive changes to our activities as a result.

I want to give my thanks to Andy Tuck, who has done a wonderful job of looking after the finances of the Old Peterite Club for the last 22 years. We are in the fortunate position that we have been able to move the Old Peterite Club finances into the care of the School. This has removed the need for a Treasurer for the OP Club and we will continue discussions as to how these funds will be used in future to benefit the OP Club and the School.

I feel in my term as President we have been able to make key changes that will hold the Old Peterite Club in good stead for the future and I am delighted to have had the opportunity to follow in my brother's footsteps as Old Peterite President. I hope to see many of you at some of our OP events in the coming months and thank you for your continued support of the Old Peterite Club.

John Coles Old Peterite Club President 2018-2020





Rowing and The New Boathouse

All our rowers already have a huge feeling of pride for their sport, but the completion of the Boathouse in October 2019 has generated new feelings of excitement, enthusiasm and boosted the confidence of our rowers. They all pointed out how lucky we are to have such fantastic positioning so close to the Ouse, and that having this new Boathouse is a real boost for rowing at St Peter's. Our pupils who currently row hope that even more people will be inspired to take on the sport, and that these great new facilities will also attract pupils who already love the sport to join the School. All the rowers unanimously agreed that the access to the Boats, moving equipment and launch to the river has all become far easier and safer thanks to the design of the Boathouse and the racking inside. All of this means they get more time doing the bit they enjoy best, which is the rowing on the river!

Thank you to our supporters from across the St Peter's Community who supported this project and sponsored a brick on the new Boathouse.

“The completion of our new Boathouse has allowed for the profile of rowing to increase within the School's sport programme. The new facility caused a buzz in all year groups and got everyone talking. The new Boathouse has brought everyone closer within the year groups which we are proud to see as we believe it sets our sport apart from the rest.” (Joe Johnson, Boat Club Captain 2019-2020)

“We are delighted with our new Boathouse which has not only provided a more practical space for manoeuvring boats but also a more welcoming and safer atmosphere for all rowers.” (Claudia Freeman, Boat Club Captain 2019-2020)



The Boat Club Dinner 2020

We were delighted to welcome back Old Peterite and former GB rower Helen Austin (Temple 1994-1999) to speak at the Boat Club Dinner, which took place on Saturday 1 February 2020. The Memorial Hall was transformed with oars descending from the ceiling and beautifully lit above the tables, setting the scene for Helen to speak after dinner.

Helen started rowing at School when Mr Ellis-Davies remarked to Helen in the lunch queue that she was tall and should row as she would be good at it! This prompted Helen to sign up, starting rowing in the summer term of her fourth year. It is a sport that has since influenced almost every aspect of Helen's life: where she went to university; the close friends she made; opportunities in sport, at work and socially. Helen has been able to race and train across Europe, in the US, Canada, China & New Zealand; and it all started at St Peter's.

Helen gave some great words of advice to the pupils encouraging them to make the most of the excellent facilities they have, and the river on the doorstep. Helen finished her speech with a lovely quote: **"So, as Mr Ellis-Davies always said as we pushed off to race - go out there and have fun, and you have the most fun by going fast."**

Why I Volunteer – Matt Mikola

"It was at a St Peter's Futures Fair about 20 years ago when I first heard about the career that I enjoy immensely today. As it was a word that I'd not come across before, my interest was piqued and I nervously asked the question "what does an actuary do?"

I'm so grateful to the actuary that took his time to attend the fair and talk to me that day, as it changed my life and gave me inspiration for what could be done with my skills. Being able to talk to people who had that experience was incredibly valuable.

Now an Old Peterite, I endeavour to return each year for the Fair to share information about my career with the students. Like my former experience, I hope to broaden their horizons and introduce them to options they may not have considered.

I really enjoy returning to St Peter's and connecting with those at the event. Rekindling lost friendships with some of the OPs whom I recognise and networking with new faces. Other special moments (although growing fewer each year) are reconnecting with the staff who taught me, recalling past lessons and discussing what has happened since I left the School.

I encourage all OPs to consider if they are able to support the event and share in the chance to inspire the next generation." (Matthew Mikola, School House 1999-2004)

Our thanks go to all the Old Peterites who have so generously offered to volunteer their time to help with our programme of talks, lectures and careers related activities throughout the year.





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