

Dear Parents,

What a strange end to the week! **Thank you** for your patience and understanding today. As I write this at 3pm, we still have no water in school so closing was the right decision, even though we know it can cause a huge inconvenience and only choose it as a last resort.

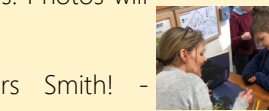


Yesterday, we had so much fun celebrating books and reading for **World Book Day**. Everyone looked incredible and enjoyed a day focusing on stories and characters. Photos will be on the website shortly.



Also yesterday, Supertato—aka Mrs Smith! - launched **Snack Attack**—eat them to defeat them, as part of our **healthy schools work**. Stickers are given out to those pupils who are noticed eating or trying their vegetables over the next few weeks. More resources can be found here: [Home - Eat Them To Defeat Them](#)

On Wednesday we welcomed Mini Grey to school who wowed us with her **creativity and energy**. Every class heard stories and took part in a workshop. We have lots of her signed books in school if you would like to borrow one. Thank you to MR Wise for organising World Book Day events and to the Alvescot School Charity for supporting it.



On Wednesday Tucana enjoyed an **Outdoor Explorer** session focusing on **resilience and teamwork**—one of our SDP focuses for this year.

On Tuesday afternoon Pegasus welcomed visitor Mr Bown, to learn more about their Frozen Kingdoms topic.

Also, 13 pupils from Phoenix competed in the Burford Partnership Football Tournament in Carterton. The boys team got to the final and came 2nd place. With not a single goal scored against them including 3 wins and 2 draws, the girls team won the tournament. **Congratulations** to all involved.



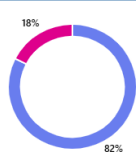
On Tuesday morning Re. MacInnes joined us in **Collective Worship** to explore the Bible story of the women at the well.

Finally, Monday was just a regular day of **learning** for all!



Would you recommend this school to another parent?

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree



Thank you very much for the **survey** information you gave us recently. You can find the full results on our website here: [St Peter's CE Primary School - Useful Links](#)

Have a lovely weekend ,

Diana Apple

DATES COMING UP

(parents are welcome at events in *italic bold*)

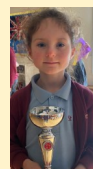
- Mon 9th STEM week starts!
- Tue 10th Pegasus Swimming Lesson 9
Future generations event—selected pupils
- Wed 11th Phoenix Outdoor explorers
- Thu 12th Y4 Street dance workshop
Cygnus Outdoor Explorers
- Fri 13th Mothers and More workshop
- Sun 15th Mothering Sunday service @ St Peters 10.30am



Well done Maisie for achieving her library reading challenge certificate



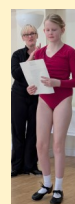
Well done to **Efa, Flo and Ruby** for winning 9 medals at a recent Karate competition! Ruby 1 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze, Efa 2 gold and 1 bronze, Flo 3 silvers,



Chloe won 2 gold medals at her karate competition!

Congratulations **Emma** on passing your Grade 1 tap dancing exam!

Brilliant work from **Sophia** on achieving her yellow belt!



WHAT HAS MY CHILD BEEN LEARNING? THIS WEEK?

- Cygnus** busy thinking of ways to help the giant from *Jack and the Beanstalk*, writing letters, designing maps and creating imaginative vehicles to help him travel back to his castle. In RE, the children explored the story of Palm Sunday and enjoyed acting it out together
- Tucana** busy keeping a weather diary as part of their work on Seasonal change and have also thinking about different aspects of being Healthy in our PSHE lessons.
- Phoenix** looked at the city of Pompeii; learnt about volume and capacity and started to plan our own thief stories.
- Pegasus** Rounding decimals, exploring evidence for the Resurrection in the Bible, learning about the Antarctic with our visitor Mr Bown.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

1 VALUE ALL READING

When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand, why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Jot down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.

2 WIDEN THE SELECTION

Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.

3 GIFT A BOOK

One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.

4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS

Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school/bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using free resources such as Authorfy and Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live.

5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of this topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.

6 TALK BOOKS

There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.

8 GO DIGITAL

With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, translate, and track their reading goals with resources like Polyglino and apps like Goodreads for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.

9 RECONNECT

There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading focus of 'Go All In' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.

10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Share why you enjoy it. Is it to relax, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.

Meet Our Expert

Carl Pattison is a literacy advisor and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.



See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College®

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 04.03.2026



FOSPS

MOTHER'S & MORE WORKSHOP

FRIDAY 13TH MARCH

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

friendsofstpetersalvescot@gmail.com



FRIENDS OF ST PETERS SCHOOL ALVESCOT

MOTHER'S & MORE WORKSHOP

FRIDAY 13TH MARCH AT SCHOOL

£4.50 PER GIFT

BOOK VIA SCHOOL APP BY 6TH MARCH

friendsofstpetersalvescot@gmail.com





Low cost and free activities for families to enjoy together!

Enjoy a fantastic range of activities, including

- Swimming
- Badminton
- Activity packs
- Stay and Play sessions
- Soft Play
- Children's holiday activities & so much more!

Find out more here:



YOU MOVE

YouMove is here to offer free and low cost activities for children 0-17 and their families on benefit related free school meals or Universal Credit, refugee children, young carers, and children supported by early help services.




It's quick and easy to **sign up** for YouMove:

1

Register for YouMove

Visit www.getoxfordshireactive.org/you-move or call your local YouMove Activator.

2

Receive your YouMove cards

3

Enjoy getting active together!

Contact your local Activator today:

Oxford City, **Ben** – 07485 311346

Cherwell District, **Harry** – 01295 221980

West Oxfordshire, **Nicole** – 01993 861570

Vale of White Horse, **Marc** – 07801 203571

South Oxfordshire, **Kayleigh** – 07717 225679

YOU MOVE

YouMove is coordinated by Active Oxfordshire and delivered by district councils, in partnership with Home-Start Oxfordshire. YouMove is funded by Oxfordshire County Council Public Health, BOB Integrated Care Board, and district councils.



THEATRE WEEK

Tuesday 7th - Friday 10th April 2026

Daily 9am - 3.30pm

"The Jungle King"

Inspired by "The Jungle Book" and "The Lion King"
Ages 7-16 years



Bath Road Methodist Church,
Old Town, Swindon, SN1 4BA

Show on the last day

£135/£125 for LV pupils



Scan the QR code to book

www.littlevoices.org.uk/swindon