

ST PETER'S SPIRIT

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Advent is not a time of preparation for a festival, but for a person. Christmas is not just about the birth of Jesus two millennia ago, it is about us making room for Christ in our hearts and lives today, in the here and now. By doing so we can allow God to break into our lives, just as he broke into history. The result, if we allow it, is for us to be made new, different, changed.

As educators we are used to seeing change and growth in others. We are blessed by the privilege of seeing young people form their personalities and characters, establish their hopes and ambitions and develop their values and their philosophies of life. St Peter's works alongside families and church communities in supporting our young people in this process.

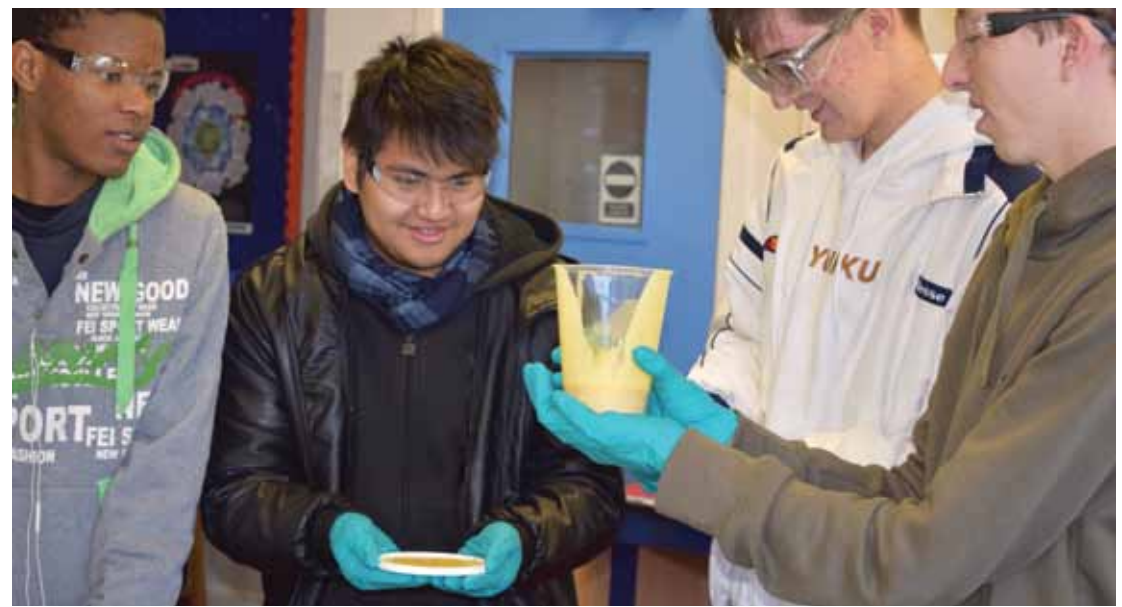
Of course, the process should not stop at the end of childhood or adolescence. Adults must recognise that further development or change is not beyond them. I read recently of Lucy Kellaway, a highly respected and well-paid journalist working for the Financial Times. At the age of 57 she decided to make a significant career change – and became a teacher. She has thoroughly enjoyed the new challenge, despite being told that it would be difficult. "I knew teaching would be hard," she wrote. "My mother was a teacher and my daughter is too."

"I couldn't see why teachers wanted to claim a monopoly on hard jobs. My fellow trainee teachers had done even harder things. One used to run an NHS hospital trust, one

continued overleaf

TUNNELLING

Early December Chris Moxham, a past student, and Andrew Walker visited St Peter's to promote National Tunnelling Day. The aim was to promote engineering to the next generation of problem solvers.



Chris is involved with Crossrail in London – Europe's largest construction project, and wanted to inform and challenge the students on how tunnels affect our daily life. This includes making the most of the space that we have on, and below, earth with as little environmental impact as possible.

Year 10 were given a presentation and around 50 Sixth Formers were given the opportunity to see some engineering processes and ask questions. The Sixth Formers were provided with pens, diaries and bags. In addition they donated a generous gift of twelve Science dictionaries to St Peter's, to be used by both our Science and STEM clubs.

The British Tunnelling Society (BTS) had an objective to reach out to 1000 young people, informing them about this sector of work on National Tunnelling Day (#Target1000) and St Peter's has gone a long way in helping them to meet this target.

Mr Sherwood, Physics Teacher



BR JAMES KIMPTON (BROTHER LIONEL) 23RD MAY 1925-5TH OCTOBER 2017

It is with great sadness that I write to tell you that Brother James (Brother Lionel) died peacefully at his home in Sirumalar Children's Village at Reaching the Unreached (RTU) after a short illness. He was buried at Anbu Ilam Children's Village, the first of the Villages he founded, in the small cemetery there.

Brother James has lived an extraordinary life of true dedication, selfless obedience and Christian discipleship. For over 60 years, he has made a difference to the lives and wellbeing of countless destitute children and families in the rural villages in southern India and Sri Lanka in which he has given a lifetime of service to the very poorest people.

His life has been and will be an inspiration to many. Rarely can a single person have touched so many lives in such a positive way.

A memorial fund has been set up to continue Brother's good work – specifically to continue his work with orphaned children and to ensure that RTU has the funds to provide for them and continue to give them a good education. To make a donation to the fund see www.justgiving.com/rtu. There is also an online book of Remembrance for Brother please see www.tolbc.com/BrotherKimpton.

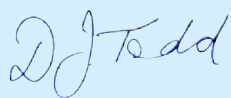
Mo Houlden, Reaching the Unreached UK Co-ordinator
For further information, please call 0044 (0)7930 534748 or email mo.houlden@rtu.org.uk

was a hostage negotiator and another worked for NASA. Eleven weeks in and I'm changing my mind. Teaching is hard in so many ways.

There are at least a dozen roles you need to master – including performer, marshal, counsellor, clerical worker, mathematician, role model and nag – and you need to know exactly when and how to be which." Lucy believes, however, that she has made the right decision, despite the early mornings and late evenings she claims, "...I am in a permanent state of agitation that is oddly reminiscent of being in love."

In a recent meeting of some of our middle leaders at St Peter's, we discussed what makes what we do, exceptional. Two recurring ideas in our discussions were that we are passionate about what we teach (in terms of curriculum content and subjects) and have a deep care and concern for the children and young people we teach. That perfect blend makes for a wonderful education and one where our young people can love to learn and learn to love. Whatever age we are, we always have something to learn, so this Christmas may we welcome the King of Love into our lives again and look forward to the changes and challenges of the year ahead, trusting in his providence.

I pray we may all be blessed with peace and joy this Christmas and view the New Year with confidence. God bless



David Todd, Headteacher

PS This issue is smaller than our previous editions – this is only a selection of our news. Please see our website for more information on the articles covered here and see what else we've been up to at st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk/category/news/

NEWS ROUND-UP

OFSTED

Our outcomes for pupils and students have been tremendous at every phase of the school, Primary, Secondary and Sixth Form. The annual analysis of performance suggests that our pupils make progress that is well above the national average.

Our recent Ofsted visit and resulting report regarded the personal development, behaviour and welfare element of the school's work to be outstanding, along with our highly successful Early Years and Foundation Stage. Inspectors were particularly enamoured of the detailed and effective process of inducting the new Reception children into the school. My thanks go to all those parents who provided feedback to the inspectors, to our staff, governors and students who provided such a positive (and accurate!) reflection of school life.

Although their comments did not make it into the report, we received very positive verbal feedback from the inspectors

at their meeting with the school leaders and governors, comments like:
 "The Pastoral team know their pupils well: their emotional vulnerability and their academic progress".
 "Independent Careers Advice and Guidance is a very strong feature of the school and it starts early."
 "The children around the school were delightful, well-rounded and enjoy their learning."
 "The climate for learning is very strong and pupils value their education and they are proud of their school."

Comments about our leaders (at every level, governors through to middle leaders) were equally positive,

The Governors "are impressive". They "know the school well" and "actively monitor" its work
 "All leaders have worked to move the school forward"
 Leaders are all "receptive to change and improvement"
 "Social Moral Spiritual & Cultural" aspects and "equal opportunities are promoted well." There is a "strong safeguarding culture"
 "Monitoring at all levels is constructive and wide-ranging." There is a "sense of aspiration and track record of improvement." Leaders have "successfully taken the school through a lot of change."

To read the report in full see www.st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk/about/inspection-reports/

BAR MOCK TRIAL

In November, a group of St Peter's students represented the school in the Regional Heat of the Bar Mock Trial Competition held in Oxford, at the Crown Court.



In a Bar Mock Trial, school teams of young people aged 15-18 take on various courtroom roles and try to win their cases in front of a real judge.

The members of the Bar Mock team, that represented St Peter's, learnt the roles of prosecution barristers, defence barristers, victims, defendants and witnesses. We worked on two cases: R v Grey and R v Marshall. Grey is about an allegation of Grievous Bodily Harm, while Marshall is about fraud and the theft of a debit card.

As a squad we have persistently been attending meetings every Thursday after school and Saturday morning

for months. We are very lucky to have been coached by Mr Herford and mentored by professional barrister Rob Griffiths.

It was a nerve-racking day for everyone. The Bar Mock team were exceptional in every round. The competition was intense but the St Peter's spirit kept us strong. We were thrilled to hear the announcement that after all three rounds we had made it into the top two schools out of eight! This meant we were through to the Final Round.

We were told we lost the finals by a small margin. This news absolutely devastated us, we left feeling infuriated and

torn. But almost a week later, after most of us had accepted the result, Mr Herford had some big news for us. We won the regional competition! The whole room erupted with joy. The judge had in fact mixed up the schools on the score sheet. We were relieved and grateful that justice had prevailed.

As a result of the win at the Regionals the St Peter's will compete at the Bar Mock Trial National Final in Cardiff on 24 March 2018. Thereafter, the team will apply to the Empire Mock Trial World Championships in New York.

Student Reporter:
Beatrice Lu, Year 11



GCSE CERTIFICATE EVENING

Our exam results this year are amongst our best ever with 77% of students achieving the equivalent of a C or above in mathematics and English putting us in the top 10% of schools nationally for progress. All of the headline figures for St Peter's are well above both national and local averages and are a credit to the unwavering hard work and commitment of our students and staff.

Our A Level results mirror those at GCSE with the amount of students achieving A*-B and A*-C rising by 12% and 11% respectively.

We celebrated with parents and students at our Certificate Evening on 23 November with speeches, presentation of certificates and awards and musical performances by Artie Janes and Georgie Hendry.

In addition to their GCSE certificates, students were awarded trophies by subject leaders and teachers.

RUN MEL RUN

St Peter's Food Technology Teacher, Mel Spendley, has been fortunate enough to be given a golden bond place to run in the London marathon in April 2018. Mel will be running for Macmillan Caring Locally in memory of our colleague and good friend to many – Mrs Claire Wallace, who passed away in August.

Mrs Wallace and her family were supported by this amazing charity with palliative care. Mel went to visit their facility based in Christchurch recently and was blown away by the care and commitment of the team to support those facing cancer. "I am thrilled to be raising money for this great Charity based in Christchurch, Dorset supporting those with Cancer. This charity is not associated with other cancer charities and relies on the giving and generosity of the local community. I'm getting a bit older now and this will be a challenge but with your support and Gods grace 'we're do it!'"

If you would like to support Mel and this local, totally independent, charity please go to virginmoneygiving.com and search for 'Melanie Spendley'.

ST PETER'S PAST PUPILS

It only feels like yesterday that I was reporting on the success of the Open Afternoon at the School on 29 April and our 77th Annual Dinner, bringing to a conclusion the 80th Anniversary celebrations of the founding of the School in 1936. Alas, the Dinner will be the last one organised by the Association, but I am sure this concept will continue in the future in the form of groups of former students getting together from time to time to enjoy a reunion over a meal and drinks. One such occasion was drawn to my attention recently when the "Leavers of 1980" and the Dylemma Band held a reunion at the School in July. More than 40 attended with around 30 family and friends of the band keen to see them perform again after more than 30 years. The band was set up in 1979 by two students at the School, **Mike Thompson** and **Jon McKinney**. I believe this group of past students intend to meet again next year. Long may this continue!



Leavers of 1980

Sadly, I have to report that a number of members have died recently, **Wilfred Ward**, **Niall McKinney**, **Peter Carrahar**, **Ralph Anthony**, **Tony Allum CBE**, **Mary Brooks** and **Father Leo Arnold**. Wilfred lived locally and I only heard recently that he died last February. Ralph died in Australia where he had been living with his son for a few years and he was buried in Bournemouth with his late wife, Barbara. Few will know that his father made and laid the parquet floor at Our lady Queen of Peace, Southbourne, as well as all the pews, kneelers and other furniture. Tony died after a short illness in August. He was very proud of his honour which he earned after a distinguished career in civil engineering. Mary is survived by her husband, **Frank** (Stus), who was in the first class of boys when the School opened in 1936 and is one of our four Life Vice presidents. She was very active in the Convent Association and produced their Newsletter for many years. **Fr Paul Hackett SJ** emailed to say that **Fr Leo Arnold SJ** (1941-6) had died 2 July in Rome. Paul's older brother, **Fr Peter Hackett SJ** at Corpus Christi, was also in the first class of boys at the School. Finally, we were also deeply saddened to hear of the recent death of **Brother Lionel** in India. To think he taught art at the School in the early fifties and then went on to devote some 60 years of his life helping the poorest of the poor. He was and still is an inspiration to all of us. May they all rest in peace.

Earlier this year, I heard from yet another who was in the first class of boys in 1936, **Jim Wilson**, who is living locally. His father was owner/manager of the then 5 star Carlton Hotel until Jim took over. I went to school with his younger brother, **Colin**, and was occasionally invited to play snooker or tennis there with a meal in the restaurant afterwards. This was quite an experience for me. Colin also lives locally and is still playing tennis. **Ian Jones** has emailed me to say that **Fr John McCabe SJ** had visited him recently. He was the replacement in the eighties for Fr Worrall at Corpus Christi and was also the School Chaplain. He is now in Glasgow as an assistant priest. Apparently, the church is the only one in Western Europe to hold a 9pm Sunday Mass, which is always 90% full, a surprise in itself.

Geoffrey Leonard (90s) has emailed from Bali to announce the birth of his first child, Arthur William. (*That makes me a grandad*). He has set up a timber business building structures all over the world. His school contemporary, **Mark Jackman**, lives nearby and they have both become triathlon enthusiasts.

For the first time ever and perhaps the last, we have a Chieftain in our midst. Yes, **Tim Driscoll**, had the great honour in June of being chosen to be Chieftain, for the next two years, of the worldwide O'Driscoll Clan at their annual Gathering at Baltimore in West Cork. It will mean one or two extra trips to Ireland to help organise the next two Gatherings. This will be no hardship for Tim as he loves going to Ireland and the family of his wife, Sheila, come from West Cork. Tim is in regular contact with **Paul Rowsell**, who came to the Dinner, **John Whorwood** (former Head Boy who was at last year's Dinner), **Kevin Windebank** and **Pete Hannifan**, who still lives locally in Bournemouth. For the last two Junes, they have arranged their own reunion along with a few others from the same year, the Class of 1970, at a hostelry accessible to them all. This year it was near Oxford.

The School would love to hear about any such gatherings and news from past students, as indeed would I while I am still acting as the news gatherer for the Association, which has been publishing news of past students since before I was born! As yet, no formal moves have been made to dissolve the Association and this matter will be discussed again early 2018. Meanwhile, we plan to continue to have several Masses a year in the School Chapel with a social gathering afterwards. By the time this News is read, we will have had our Christmas Mass. The next one is likely to be in April and we will let you know the date when it is fixed. It just remains for me to wish all our readers peace and joy at Christmas on behalf of the Association Committee.

Terry Leonard (leonard150@hotmail.com)

20 YEARS OF RAINBOWS

Wednesday 15 November St Peter's School celebrated 20 years of running the 'Rainbows' programme which supports young people who have suffered loss through bereavement, separation or divorce. Sr Michele Totman who was chaplain here began the programme in 1997 and we are the only school in the country to have had a yearly Rainbows programme for so long.

We welcomed Sr Michele and many past and present facilitators – adults who have helped with the programme over the years; also many facilitators from our partner primary schools.

Andrea Rogers, National Co-Director of Rainbows South, gave a beautiful reflection and presented David Todd, our headteacher with a letter from the Chair of Trustees, Rainbows UK, Frank McDermott. Fr Brian Copus said a few words and gave us all a blessing.

Testimonies were heard from two students and they were delivered and received with emotion. Rainbows really does help our students learn how to cope with their loss. We hope it will continue, with God's blessing, for another 20 years.

Maggie Belcher, School chaplain and Rainbows coordinator



A NOTE FROM THE HEAD OF SIXTH FORM

The new academic year has well and truly begun; Fresh challenges, new A Levels and exciting opportunities are in full flow and our new Year 12 students have settled in brilliantly. We welcomed over 160 new Sixth Form students through the doors in September, 40 of whom join us from external schools. It is fair to say that they have begun their Post-16 study exceptionally well, showing passion for their subjects and commitment to their learning. They are, just like our Year 13, a great group of young people who have huge potential. I have been amazed by the friendliness and immediate cohesion between the students and this bolsters their chances of success in every aspect. The first two days for Year 12 were all about getting to know how A Level subjects 'work' and getting to know each other as a year group. The Wednesday afternoon trip to the beach for pizza and beach games, went down unsurprisingly well!



We have already seen some huge successes in amongst the students in terms of taking on challenges and relishing opportunities: The Sixth Form **Football** team are now unbeaten this season, currently through to the district Semi-Final, where they are looking to retain the trophy; The **Basketball** team have been training hard each week and drew 33-33 in a scintillating 'friendly' versus Twnham. Both teams played in a brilliant spirit, cheered on by over 60 of our supporters; The **Bar Mock** team (including some KS4 students) made it through the regional finals with a stunning victory in court, and will now move on to the National Final in March. Good luck to them all; Les Misérables, the **school production**, is nearly upon us. There are a number of talented Sixth Formers taking part and we can't wait to see them in action at the end of January (get your tickets online www.st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk/tickets/ before they sell out); Three Year 13 students have been successful in their **UCAS applications** to Oxford, and have been invited to interview. We wish them every success and regardless of outcome, are very proud of their achievements to date.

The work intensifies even more for both Year groups in the run up to mocks and final exams. My advice to all students is very clear – be wise with your use of time (work hard and smart), ask for help from your amazing teachers, support each other at all times and smile whenever you can.

Mr Wilder, Head of Sixth Form [Our new Head of Sixth Form has settled in brilliantly too!]

CONGRATULATIONS

We have received news from the following former St Peter's students – we would like to send congratulations and best wishes to each and every one of them. Please do send us your news.

Emily Talbot achieved a First Class BSc (Hons) Mathematics at University of Reading. Emily is currently working as an Actuarial Trainee.

Roksana Galuba obtained a Second Class Honours degree Law at University of Winchester staying on to study a Masters in Applied Criminology.

Grace Yeadon graduated with a First Class BSc (Hons) degree in Biology from Royal Holloway University of London. Grace hopes to study a Postgraduate Masters in Epidemiology at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Dominique Moocarme is currently at Canterbury University studying for a Masters Degree in Physics.

Matthew Moocarme completed a PhD in Physics from the City

University in New York. Matthew is currently living in Brooklyn and working for Viacom as a Senior Analyst based in Times Square.

Jasmine Lawrence obtained a 2:1 in Drama and Physical Theatre at St Mary's University Twickenham. Jasmine is currently working as a Receptionist at a Solicitors and looking into doing short courses at RADA.

Annaliza Battiston graduated with a 2:1 History BA (Hons) at University of Kent and is staying on to study a Masters in Modern History.

Catherine Allard is currently working as an Archaeologist following her studies in Ancient History and Archeology at Cardiff University.

Rebecca Lane is studying BSC Maths & Physics at University

of Bath. As part of her degree Rebecca did a placement year at Atlas Elektronik UK and has now returned to Bath to complete her final year.

Daniel Spencer is in his final year of a 4 year Master of Physics Degree at University of Exeter.

Ross Carrollis in his final year of a Sport Development and Coaching Sciences Degree at Bournemouth University. Ross undertook a placement year organising and running sports events for students and is spending his final year in Orlando at UCF.

Ashley Clarredge obtained a 2:1 in Performing Arts (TV, Film and Stage) from Buckinghamshire New University. Ashley is currently working in retail and hoping to move to Brighton next year to pursue an acting career.

Sabrina Cartlidge gained a 2:1 in English Linguistics at Cardiff University. She is currently working for a Health and Social Care Agency, supporting vulnerable adults.

Chloe Evans obtained a First Class Honours degree in Psychology from Bournemouth University. Chloe has stayed on to study MSC Clinical Developmental Neuropsychology.

Chantelle Noory studied Education and Social Sciences with English at St Mary's University Twickenham, achieving a 2:2. She hopes to teach English to children in India before working with SEN children.

Soniya Santhosh studied BN Adult Nursing at University of Southampton and is currently working as a student nurse.