





Petersgate Post



Welcome to our October newsletter

As part of our changes and redesign of our newsletter, we have moved to a monthly newsletter, which will come out towards the end of each month (or end of a half term/term), depending on what falls first. This will include some new items or recurring items.

In this newsletter we will be including:

- Share a Story Event
- Harvest Celebration
- Walktober, Road Safety Week and WOW Challenge
- 50th birthday celebrations for Petersgate
- Attendance and Safeguarding
- Hello Yellow
- Children in Need and Simon Says
- PoPS
- Writing Award
- Reminders

23rd October 2026

I cannot believe we are already at the end of the half term. It really has flown by!

Thank you to all the parents, carers and families for their ongoing support this half term, it is very much appreciated. I am so lucky that I get to see so many of you on the gate each day coming into school with a smile and cheery hello! It makes all the difference and being on the gate is the highlight of my day.

I would also like to say a massive thank you to all the families for their continued hard work around attendance and punctuality. Our overall attendance for the year so far, is much higher than the same time last year. Our attendance this half term has been very positive, with the vast majority of children on time each day, which we really appreciate. It makes a huge difference to the children's learning to arrive in school everyday and on time.

I have been so lucky to have seen so many amazing achievements from your children this half term already. We have seen huge progress for all of our children, which we are really proud of and we know they are too. We have learning being shared around school and on Seesaw, so please continue to share any learning completed at home because we love sharing this with the children too. They love seeing what their friends are learning about

outside of school and any learning completed at home, with school and home working in partnership with each other, it makes all the difference to the children.

Thank you to all the families who attended the 'Share a Story' event too. It was incredibly well attended. We will continue to have learn alongside your child events through the year, so please keep an eye on the calendar.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you again for all of your support and I wish you and your family a restful half term break and we will see you all again on Tuesday 3rd November (Monday 2nd November is an INSET day).

Share a Story

Thank you to all the parents and families who attended the 'Share a Story' event on 2nd October 2026.

This event was for Yr 1 and Yr 2 children and was an opportunity to read alongside your child. There was a really buzz of learning across the Yr 1 and Yr 2 wings. It was joyous to see so many of you taking part in all the different opportunities for reading planned as part of the event, or simply taking the time to read together. We were so lucky with the weather because we had reading happening inside, outside and in the corridors. With someone who has a real love for reading, it filled my heart with joy to see so many of you heads down in a book and reading together!

Thank you to all the families who attended. We had 87% of families in Yr 2 attend and 93% of families in Yr 1 attend, which is brilliant for the first event of the year. If you were unable to make it, please don't worry as staff were on hand to read with your child. There will also be other events throughout the year where you can attend.

Harvest Celebration



On Thursday 8th October, we hosted Reverend Richard for our Harvest Celebration. As a school, we welcomed in the harvest, discussed the importance of the harvest and sang some harvest celebration songs together. This was a lovely chance for us all to be together for this importance occasion.

Thank you all for your kind donations of food for the Horndean and Clanfield Food Bank and this will support so many local families who may be finding this difficult during this cost of living crisis.

Welcome Back!



Welcome Back, Mrs Driscoll!

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Driscoll back to Petersgate, joining us as an LSA. It is lovely to have her back as part of our school community, and we know you will all join us in giving her a very warm welcome!

Walktober



Funded by
UK Government



Hampshire
County Council

As we head into autumn, it's important to stay active and spend time outdoors whenever possible. To encourage this, Hampshire County Council's Travel Planning Team is inviting schools to take part in Walktober 2026 as part of International Walk to School Month.

Walktober encourages pupils, families and staff to choose active and sustainable travel throughout October.

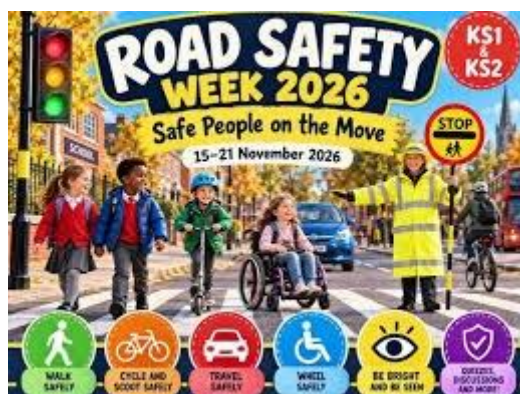
We hope as many of our pupils, families and staff as possible will take part by walking, wheeling, cycling, scooting, using Park and Stride or travelling by public transport for journeys to and from school, work and for other journeys too.

Top Tips, More Trips

As part of Walktober 2026, we are inviting pupils, families and staff to share their top tips for active and sustainable travel. Tell us about your journeys and share practical ideas to inspire others to walk, wheel, cycle, scoot, use Park and Stride or travel by public transport more often.

This ties in really well with our WOW Challenge!

Road Safety Week (15th -21st November)



Modelling road safety behaviour¹

Road safety habits start early. Every day, children watch and copy the behaviour of the adults around them. By making safe choices and setting a positive example, you can help your child to use and understand the rules around keeping safe when walking to and from school. The road safety team for Hampshire have a live webinar for parents to learn about simple but effective behaviours that can help children become safe road users. This can support you to support your child in building and embedding good habits around road safety which can last a lifetime. The webinar takes place on 16th November from 12:00pm to 12:25pm and is part of Road Safety Week.

If you would like to book a space on the webinar, please use the link:

https://forms.cloud.microsoft/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=tdiBPwfuF0yGnB20OQGnm3jTYwUk_phAi8rXxqWkBf9UQVZPT0FBWUVONzhIOVM2SFcyNjgzM1pQRS4u&route=shorturl

¹<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/xEzqLOV8RGtXGhKN?ref=email&loc=play>

WOW Challenge



A vibrant, green-themed poster for the 'WOW the WALK TO SCHOOL challenge'. The background is a bright green with white clouds and a yellow sun. At the top left, a vertical banner reads 'LIVING STREETS' with 'LET'S WALK TO SCHOOL' next to it. A pink banner below says '2025/26'. The main title 'WOW the WALK TO SCHOOL challenge' is in large, bold, black letters on a yellow background. Below this, a white banner says 'WALK WITH JOY'. A pink banner with the URL 'livingstreets.org.uk/wowlaunch' is next to it. An orange banner reads 'IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH, PROTECT THE PLANET, WALK TO SCHOOL WITH WOW'. The bottom section features illustrations of diverse children: a girl in a red jacket and goggles on skis, a boy in a wheelchair, a boy walking, and a girl with a backpack standing on a mountain peak. There are also icons of a hand holding a paint palette, a hand holding a soccer ball, and a hand holding a musical note. A small FSC logo is in the bottom right corner.

LIVING STREETS

LET'S WALK TO SCHOOL

2025/26

WOW the WALK TO SCHOOL challenge

WALK WITH JOY

livingstreets.org.uk/wowlaunch

IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH,
PROTECT THE PLANET,
WALK TO SCHOOL WITH WOW

Get involved on social media: **#WALKTOSCHOOL**

X @LIVINGSTREETS **f LIVINGSTREETSUK** **@ LIVINGSTREETS**

Living Streets (The Pedestrians' Association) is a Registered Charity No. 1108448 (England and Wales) and SC038606 (Scotland).
Company Limited by Guarantee (England & Wales), Company Registration No. 5366439.

FSC
www.fsc.org
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The WOW Challenge will continue all year for all year groups. This campaign promotes active travel - whether that is walking, scooting, cycling or using the park and stride facilities around Clanfield to travel to school. We urge and ask all families to complete active travel at least 3 times a week and we can log this on the class Travel Tracker. Each class will have a WOW Ambassador who will be supported to use the travel tracker to track the travel.

At the end of the month, the children get to take home the WOW badge for that month. The class with the highest active travel looks after the plushie Strider for the month. This is a free initiative and supported by the charity Living Streets. This is to support children to use active travel to support their physical and mental health and to reduce the air pollution around school.

Please can we remind parents and families that there is no cycling or scooting on school site which includes the playgrounds, car park and paths around school. Please can children dismount at the end of the path and walk their bike or scooter up the path and around school. Please see our school Travel Policy for further details. School Travel Policy² and also use this link for further details for the WOW Challenge WOW Challenge³

50th birthday celebration



²<https://www.petersgateinfantschool.co.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=18>

³<https://www.petersgateinfantschool.co.uk/page/?title=Travel+to+School&pid=41>

This year, we will be celebrating Petersgate Infant School becoming 50! On the 7th September 1976, the school opened its doors for the children and families of Clanfield. We will be working with the whole school community to find a way of celebrating this wonderful event, in some way, over the course of the year.

I was wondering if you can help us by sending in any photos, news clippings, anecdotes or stories about your time at Petersgate. This could be from someone who worked here or attended the school.

We will be working with PoPS, staff and governors to give the children time to enjoy these celebrations. We will keep you posted over the course of the year of how this celebration develops and key events happening at school.

Attendance & Punctuality for Thursday 1st October - Friday 23rd October



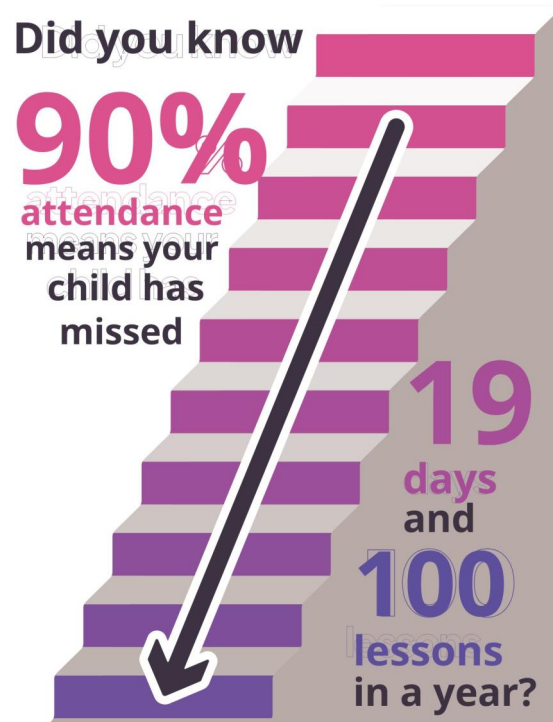
Whole School Attendance: 94.5 %

(National Average = 95.5 %)

Best Class Attendance: Fox

Best Timekeepers: Squirrel class - on time every day!

Attendance



2 - Attendance and punctuality

Please can I remind all parents that the drop off time each day is 8.40-8.50am. After this time, your child will need to come in via the school office and ask for a reason why they are late. We have to log punctuality carefully. We will support families, where we can, with supporting getting their child to school on time.

At the end of the day the gates will open at 3.05pm, where you can move around the site. Doors will be open from 3.10pm-3.20pm and then all gates closed. After this time, children will be taken to the school office for collection. At 3.30pm, if you are not here, then the child will be put into Treetops (Wrap Around Care).

There are many entrances/exits onto school site and to the classrooms. Please can you use the different entrances/exits to ensure we keep congestion at a minimum.

At the end of the day, we will place CJS siblings near the front (although we have many per class) so they can leave as quickly as possible, as this will support you collecting from the junior school.

In terms of attendance, we do expect all children to be in school everyday, this is a legal requirement. If you submit an absence request form, this will be looked at carefully and a decision will be with you if the absence has been authorised. Please see the Attendance policy for further details Attendance Policy⁴

⁴<https://www.petersgateinfantschool.co.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=18>



Hello Yellow



♥ Thank You! ♥

A huge thank you to all our families who kindly made a donation to **YoungMinds** as part of our Wear Yellow Day. Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated and helped raise

awareness of the importance of children and young people's mental health. Together we raised £103.45!

Children in Need/Simon Says



On Friday 13th November it is Children in Need. Children can come into school with Pudsey accessories (this can include Pudsey t-shirts/sweaters) but the rest school uniform. There will be a bucket on the gate for donations.

This year, we have made the decision to split the donations between Children in Need and Simon Says. In 2026, Simon Says is celebrating 25 years of helping children and young people across Hampshire navigate the death of someone important in their lives. We have had families directly affected by bereavement and we want to show our support for Simon Says and the work they have done for so many families over the years. This year, we will split the donations on 13th November between Children In Need and Simon Says.

Thank you for your support for these important charities who help and support so many families.

Shopping Day Donations

*POPS need donations for the
Childrens Christmas Shopping Day*

Friday 6th
November

Gifts should be for adults of any gender, they need to be new and unused and please, no alcohol or anything with nuts in.

Please give to your child's teacher on drop off or pick up.

The Kids Shopping Day will take place on Friday 4th December

On donation day (Friday 6th November),
the children can wear non-school uniform.

POPS really appreciate your support.
Without your kindness we wouldn't be able to
run this event which the children love so much.



The PoPS AGM took place on 12th October 2026. Thank you to all who attended. We were successful in voting in a committee, who will continue with their fundraising events across the year in supporting our school. Through our newsletter, dates, website and 'What's Coming Up Next Week' memo we will keep you informed of PoPS fundraising events which are coming up. I will also keep you updated about how the funds are being used throughout the year through the newsletter.

Thank you to you all for supporting our fundraising efforts.

myHappymind



3 - myHappymind

We are really lucky to continue to have myHappymind fully funded to January 2030. The children have loved being taught this programme, which is taught weekly. This programme supports the children's emotional and mental health. Click on the link to find out further information on myHappymind⁵

There is an app you can access which has a unique school code. The QR code is displayed around school and the unique access code (which is for our school only) will enable you to access a range of materials to support your child at home. Speak to Miss Daisy and Mrs Mitchell for further details.

In the coming half term, children will have the opportunity to apply to be a Happiness Hero, where they will get a pin badge (which they can keep) and help Mrs Mitchell promote the key parts of the programme, which includes Happy Breathing when feeling sad, cross, excited or 'fizzy' to help regulate or promoting the character strengths which are part of the programme. These include love and kindness, teamwork and friendship, bravery and honesty, exploring and learning, life and love of the world. These tie in carefully with our SCARF values and Zones of Regulation.

⁵<https://www.petersgateinfantschool.co.uk/page/?title=myHappymind&pid=57>

Writer of the Month Award



We have decided to try something new this year. We want to inspire our young authors and illustrators to show us their amazing progress in writing.

Once a month, one of our young authors, who has shown amazing progress in their writing (not necessarily the one who writes the most!) will be chosen for Writer of the Month Award. Their writing will be displayed in the main office so this can be celebrated with all members of our school community and a small award will be presented in celebration assembly at the end of each month. All of our children work really hard in their writing and we are so proud of their achievements and we want to share them with you.

We will, of course, continue to award SCARF cards for all SCARF values, including resilience and achievement linked to their learning and these will be shared on Seesaw. Once a week, the children who has demonstrated a key SCARF value will receive the golden certificate and will get to take Harold home for the weekend. There are, of course, many other celebrations we share during a celebration assembly on a Friday.

A few reminders



- Please can it be water only in water bottles.
- Please can PE kits come into school and all items named. These need to be placed in a bag for your child and these are stored on their peg. They come home each half term. Please also ensure school uniform is named to help reunite any lost jumpers/cardigans.
- No earrings during PE please - this is a health and safety risk. Staff are not allowed to tape the earrings. Parents need to remove earrings on the days of PE or tape them before coming to school. Please see the Uniform Policy for further details Uniform Policy⁶
- See Seesaw for your library session each week. Library books need to be returned each week. The title and author of the book will be shared on Seesaw. Please can I ask that water bottles are not put in bookbags as we had a lot of water damaged books last year or they bend the books. If a book is lost or damaged, parents will be asked to replace the book.
- We are a nut free school - so please look carefully in lunch boxes for the items you are sending into school.
- If you send in any recyclable materials for junk modelling, please can these be boxes/containers not be food related. We have a number of children with allergies and any food residue in the boxes can cause an allergic reaction.

⁶<https://www.petersgateinfantschool.co.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=18>

- Please do not use the outdoor play equipment before or after school, as it is not supervised during these times and children's safety is our priority. Children have also been reminded of this during assembly.
- Please check that the information we have for you on Arbor is correct and up to date. You can update any of the above information on Arbor. If you do need to amend the current records we hold for you, simply amend the information. This will automatically be sent to the school office so we can approve your request. Once approved these will take immediate effect. For any address changes we will need to see proof of the address you have moved to.
- If it is your child's birthday, they can come into school in their non-school uniform. This gives us a chance to share in their celebrations. Please do not send in sweets/cake for the class to share out.
- If your child has achieved a certificate, trophy or medal outside of school as part of a club, then send it in on a Friday and we will share their celebration with the whole school as part of our celebration assembly.



Website

Our website is live!

After the incident last term we are happy to announce that our school website is back up and running with a refreshed look! Please have a look as there is a lot of useful information on there. <https://www.petersgateinfantschool.co.uk>

Contact Us



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www.petersgateinfantschool.co.uk⁸

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⁸<https://www.petersgateinfantschool.co.uk>