



Petersgate Post: 20th December 2024

Mrs Mitchell's 'Message of the Week'

Well I cannot believe we have reached the end of yet another busy term here at Petersgate. I want to take this opportunity to thank all the staff for their hard work and commitment to the school over the past term. I have been so lucky to see so many different achievements, events and milestones for the children and the learning the staff have planned for all of the children has seen them make great progress from their starting points.

I would also like to extend my thanks to the PoPS team who have continued to support the school through their fundraising efforts over the past term. I know they work really hard to ensure that the children are having fun with the many events they put on, whilst raising funds for the school. I know they always plan wonderful things on the lead up to Christmas so all children have a really special time.

Finally, I would like to thank all the parents and extended families for all of your support over the past term and I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year.



Attendance and Punctuality for 2nd—20th December

Whole School Attendance = **94.83%**

(National Average = 94.6%)

Best Attendance: **Fox class = 96.06%**

Best Timekeepers: **Deer class (on time everyday!!)**

Donation Request

Do you have any **small plastic toy animals** that you are willing to donate to **Year 1 for their Science topic?**

Please bring any donations to the school office. Thank you.



Job Vacancies

Learning Support Assistant :

We are looking for a friendly, flexible and professional person to work in our school supporting children with Special Educational Needs (SEN).

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for more details.

Lunch Leader : Do you enjoy working with children, are you caring, enthusiastic & well organised? We need you to join our team of 'super' lunch leaders.

Please [CLICK HERE](#) for more details.

Health & Wellbeing Tips

Getting outside over the Christmas holidays can help blow the cobwebs off and burn off some of that Christmas dinner. Here are some simple ways to get out and about this Christmas:

Spot some wildlife on a nature walk—Does your little one love animals? Why not spot some local wildlife on your winter walk and tick off a list as you go? Winter is a great time to look for animal prints in the mud and snow – why not follow the tracks to see if you can spot the animal behind them? You may see a squirrel scurrying up a tree or a rabbit dive into the undergrowth.

Create a texture walk—Discover new sensations and turn your wander into a texture walk, making your adventures more tactile and exciting. Texture walks are great to help children build sensory awareness as it encourages them to use their senses to connect with the natural world. Take some paper and crayons with you to create rubbings of different natural textures you can find along your way.

Go Geocaching—Geocaching involves using a GPS-enabled device to navigate a specific set of GPS coordinates to find the 'geocache' (treasure) hidden at that location. You can find out more on [geocaching.com](https://www.geocaching.com) or download a free geocaching app on your phone. Try Queen Elizabeth County Park as a starting point.

Plan a rainbow hunt—Create your own rainbow out of different colours you can find in nature. There are many colours to spot outdoors, from red and orange autumn leaves to green grasses and the yellow centre of a flower.



Thank You

We would like to say a big '**THANK YOU**' to **Hornean & Clanfield Foodbank** for providing some of our families with a food hamper. And a thank you to **our staff** for giving the children in these families a present each to open on Christmas Day. I know these will be much appreciated by our families.

Medication/Inhalers

If your child needs to have an inhaler or medication kept in school, this must be brought to the school office first and forms completed. We will then sign this in and update your child's records on Arbor.

We can only accept medication that has been prescribed by a GP. The medication needs to be in the original box provided by the Pharmacy and showing a Pharmacy label with your child's name on and ensure the medication/inhaler has not expired. Thank you.

ROAD SAFETY



Safeguarding Update

As we have a reminder about parking safely near school, I thought I would focus the safeguarding update this time around road safety and crossing the road safely, especially with the darker days and evenings.

Watch the clips to find out more about crossing the road safely

[CLICK HERE](#) and [CLICK HERE](#)

or copy and paste the links into your web browser

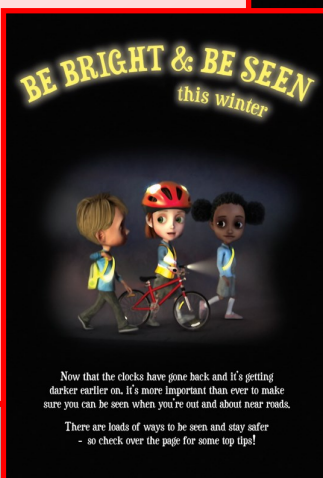
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DagR9Oyf1Zw>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z62nxc>

5 top tips on how to BE BRIGHT & BE SEEN

- 1 Brightly coloured or fluorescent clothing shows up well in daylight and at dusk when you're heading to and from school.
- 2 If you're out and about when it's dark, wear reflective gear to make sure you can be seen in car headlights. Reflective vests, sashes or wristbands work well. Remember, fluorescent clothing doesn't work after dark!
- 3 Don't forget to accessorise! Even small items such as clip-on reflectors, armbands and stickers on your outfit or school bag are a great way to improve your visibility.
- 4 If you like to cycle, remember that it's the law to have clean and working lights at night (white at the front, red at the back), as well as a rear reflector. It's good to fit spoke reflectors too.
- 5 Of course, 'Being Bright' isn't the only way to stay safer. If you're out at night, choose routes and crossing places that are well lit and remember to always use the Green Cross Code.

For more road safety tips, games and videos, visit the Tales of the Road website at www.direct.gov.uk/talesoftheroad



BE BRIGHT & BE SEEN

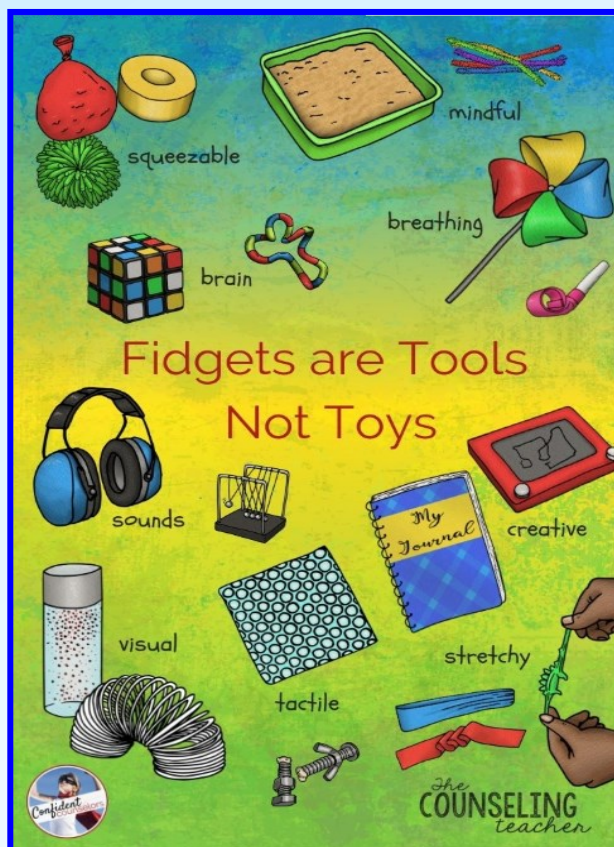
THINK

Fidgets are Tools NOT Toys

Over the last few weeks, we have seen an increase in pupils bringing 'fidgets' into school. There has been a rise on social media of people using and promoting these for children. However, there is a very clear difference between a 'fidget toy' and a 'fidget tool'.

A 'fidget tool' is used to support a child with their concentration and can be used as an appropriate way to expel excess energy. What may be a 'fidget tool' for one child may be a toy for another.

As an Inclusion Team we discuss weekly key behaviours we are seeing and the right kind of support needed for your child. Therefore, we will carefully consider if a 'fidget tool' is needed for a child. Only fidgets allowed in school are those that have been carefully considered and trialled by the Inclusion Team at Petersgate. Any others are not permitted to be used in school. Please can we ask if personal fidget tools be kept at home.



Do you have a child starting school in September 2025?

Meet the Headteacher and join us to see our wonderful school in action!

To book on the next tour of the school on

Thursday 9th January 2025 at 09:30

please email or call the school office. If you cannot make this date, please let us know when you are available and we will do our best to accommodate you.

email: adminoffice@petersgate-inf.hants.sch.uk or telephone: **023 9259 3950**

You can now apply for a place to start in September 2025

via Hampshire County Council Admissions:

[CLICK HERE](#) or copy and paste this link in to your web browser
www.hants.gov.uk/admissions

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS—WEDNESDAY 15TH JANUARY 2025

There are also limited places available in other year groups too!

If your child will be moving up to Year 3 in September 2025,
you can now apply for a place via Hampshire County Council Admissions.



The PoPS Team would like to say a big **'THANK YOU'** to everyone for helping raise much needed funds for our school. They will let you know the total they have raised for all the Christmas events.

WE NEED YOU! Everyone is welcome to join PoPS! We are all volunteers with our own busy lives. Some parents like to get involved and join the committee, whilst some prefer to donate their time at our events. We are a friendly, welcoming, open team, with a common goal to fundraise to enhance the children's school experience.

Please contact Beth Hampton (Chairperson) by email popstogether@outlook.com if you would like to find out more information about volunteering and/or helping out at future events.



Parking

Please can we remind parents not to park on the yellow zig zag lines outside of the school. This is causing problems with parents bringing their children into school as they do not have a clear view of the road and we have had a few complaints of cars being blocked in.

As per the police.uk website, local councils can issue motorists with penalty charge notices (PCN) for waiting, stopping, or parking on yellow zigzags if restrictions are in place. These are issued by civil enforcement officers. Fines can vary depending on location.

When picking up or dropping off children at schools, you should do the following:

- Allow yourself plenty of time as the area is likely to be busy.
- Do not park on yellow zigzag lines and avoid parking opposite them.
- If you decide to park further away, please be considerate of local residents and avoid blocking driveways or access ways.

Thank you for your cooperation.