



Autumn Term
2022

Careers NEWSLETTER

Welcome to our St Peter's Careers Newsletter!

Welcome to the autumn roundup of careers activities that have taken place this term. It has been an extremely busy and exciting time with several whole year group activities, the careers tutor time programme as well as personal and group guidance for many students.

I would like to start by thanking all our wonderful parents who support our careers programme, giving up their time to work with our students. Many of our events could not take place without your involvement and expertise, whether it be interviewing Year 11 students or speed networking with Year 9 students. The impact on students' self-confidence and motivation is tremendous and we are hugely grateful to you!

In this issue of the newsletter, we will tell you about our forthcoming re-accreditation of the Quality in Careers Standard, which we have held since 2010. This is the gold standard in terms of careers education, information, advice and guidance (CEIAG) and we are excited to be re-committing to this over the coming months.

Finally, if you have feedback on any of the events your child has taken part in, or would like to become involved with the careers programme, please do get in touch, it would be great to have you involved!

Many thanks as always for your support and have a peaceful Christmas.

Mrs S Calvert
Careers Lead and Careers Adviser

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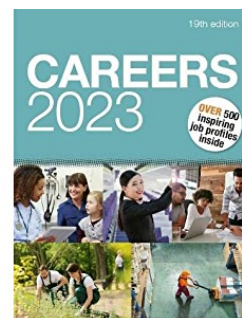
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CAREERS PROGRAMME - YEAR 7 NEWS

Year 7 started becoming familiar with the term 'careers' on their first day at school when they had their Library induction and were introduced to me and shown our offline careers resources. Since then many students have been spotted reading careers directories at break or lunchtime and talking with friends about jobs. A great start to their St Peter's careers journey!

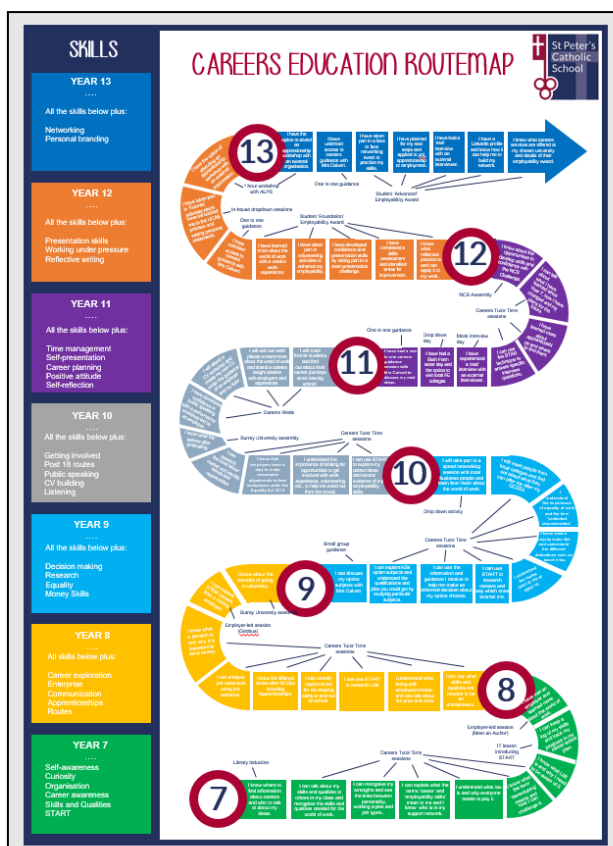


In December Year 7 students were introduced to the START careers software that they will use at school to explore careers, routes and employability skills. This careers package allows students to log and track their own progress, using a 'Locker' to record attendance at careers events, achievements such as sporting or music awards or membership of clubs and associations. This will be of benefit when they come to create their CV in a few years time. You will find more information about START and how you can use it at home on page 4.

Your Career, Your Future

Our regular tutor time careers programme, 'Your Career, Your Future' takes place twice every half term for years 7 to 11 and consists of a mix of Zoom assemblies with employers or education providers, sessions in IT rooms and careers games to encourage students to start thinking about the world of work. So far this term Year 7s have started to consider their personal skills and qualities, looking at how first jobs help you to gain vital skills and have been introduced to the concept of labour market information, what it means and how it can help people in their careers.

You can find out more about our careers programme on the school website, under the Curriculum tab, including the Route Map opposite which provides a more visual guide.



CAREERS PROGRAMME - YEAR 8 NEWS

Your Career, Your Future

During their tutor time sessions, students have been looking at self-employment and entrepreneurship and discussing the pros and cons of these routes. They have started learning about apprenticeships and had a live Zoom assembly with an apprenticeship provider, including meeting an apprentice and hearing directly from them about their work and what their typical day looks like.

LUNCHTIME ENTERPRISE CLUB



Building on the success of last year's lunchtime Enterprise Club, our latest recruits from Years 7 and 8 have been designing and selling personalised and branded candles, while learning the principles of start-up enterprise. They have tackled all aspects of enterprise, from ideas creation, branding, marketing, and personal selling techniques, right through to understanding how to price to ensure they make a profit from their sales.

Recently, some of them took their new business skills a step further by launching their own business stand at the local Children's Business Fair and, joined by some of our more experienced entrepreneurs, it's fair to say their efforts were nothing short of outstanding! Highlights included Year 11 Karissa with her business, Classynfancy, who made an impressive £493 profit from the sales of her plushies, Year 7 Sammy, who netted £286 from his chocolate treats and Year 8 William whose catchy 'Inspired To Be You' range of products helped him walk away with £86.

CAREERS PROGRAMME - YEAR 9 NEWS

The autumn term is always a busy one for Year 9 as they start to think about their GCSE option choices. We start this process early in the year to give students plenty of time to consider what they would like to study and make an informed decision. All students received personal guidance in small groups where we discussed how to make a good decision and to think about those subjects that they are strong in and which they enjoy.

Students also spent time in their career tutor time sessions exploring their personality types with The Buzz Quiz, and discovering jobs that might suit them.

Finally, in November students took part in a careers speed-networking morning involving 30 employers from a wide range of career sectors. Many guests brought in props to help explain what they do. It was a great opportunity for students to meet employers, ask questions and find out about jobs they didn't know existed – all vital for developing career knowledge and skills!



Year 9 students exploring careers at their speed networking event

The focus for this term has been the practice interviews that took place in November. External interviewers including parents and people from local businesses interviewed all our Year 11 students so they could experience what a real interview feels like. Students prepared for this over a few weeks in addition to creating CVs which they will be able to use when they come to apply for part time jobs and/or apprenticeships.

Our interviewers were thrilled with the students' performances and gave some amazing feedback. If you would like to be an interviewer for our Year 11 students, please contact me, we would love to have you join us!



Waiting for their interviews



Interviews in progress



START CAREERS SOFTWARE

PARENT GUIDE

START is a careers software package that students can use to explore jobs and career sectors, find out about apprenticeships and university courses and learn how to make good decisions at key points in their education, such as making GCSE option choices.

Importantly, it allows students to track their progress, both in terms of their career ideas but also their skills development, including digital skills.

As a parent or carer you play a vital role in supporting the career and education choices of your child. You have a huge amount of insight and experience to offer and START can help you to understand how to do this effectively. It can also help you to update your own knowledge of the latest education and career pathways available to your child today, for example T Levels.

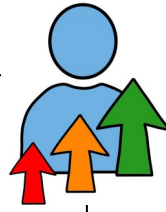
Please click the link for more information about how to use START at home.

<https://careers.startprofile.com/page/parents>

STUDENT EMPLOYABILITY AWARD — YEAR 12

Year 12 students have had a busy term careers wise, spending two hours a week on Careers and Skills sessions. These have included a skills assessment to help students develop an awareness of their strengths, learning about the importance of reflective practice as a tool for improvement, starting to research their work experience placement for next summer and developing key employability skills.

The highlight of the term was a team presentation which required several weeks of preparation. Students learned how to research their chosen topic, prepare their arguments and deliver their presentation using slides and notes. Despite a few nerves, students found the experience worthwhile with many saying that they had enjoyed themselves!



Gordons Partnership

SOLICITORS

STUDENT EMPLOYABILITY AWARD — YEAR 13

Year 13 students started working toward the Advanced Employability award this term, with a range of careers sessions covering UCAS, personal statements, and personal branding. They explored LinkedIn and have created profiles which will form the basis of their online networking.

On 30th November, 30 employers gave up their time to come and support our students as they took part in their first face to face speed networking session. Each student spent five minutes with an employer, chatting and asking questions about their work. Our volunteers then provided each student with verbal feedback to how they could develop this skill further, before moving on to speak to another volunteer. All in all, students met four employers and increased in confidence with each one. One volunteer contacted me to say:

"I thought, without exception all of them presented themselves very well. They all had good body language and made an effort with eye contact. Some I think found it easier than others but all made an effort and I was very impressed with all the conversations I had... it was inspiring to hear about so many different career and academic aspirations."

A huge well done to all the students who took part!



Celebrating Achievement



Huge congratulations go to our former student Kye Belmont who has won this year's Youth Build Young Builder of the Year award, attending the awards ceremony at the Houses of Parliament in October.

Kye left St Peter's in 2019 and took an apprenticeship with Lee Marley Brickwork, studying at Brooklands College and achieving a Level 2 Bricklaying qualification. He is now working towards his Level 3 and Supervisory qualifications.

We are incredibly proud of Kye and send our very best wishes!

Youth Build UK engage with organisations and employers in the construction industry to encourage them to offer work opportunities to disadvantaged young people and their annual Young Builder of the Year Awards celebrate their exceptional achievements and the organisations that support them.



QUALITY IN CAREERS STANDARD



The education, training and employment opportunities that students need to navigate today is more complex and challenging than that faced by previous generations. There has never been a time when careers guidance has been so important to young people and there is a great deal of evidence to suggest that effective careers education and advice raises ambitions and inspires career development and progression.

The Quality in Careers Standard is the gold standard award in Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance (CEIAG) and is recognised nationally as the highest accolade achievable. It is awarded to schools who have demonstrated a commitment to provide impartial, independent CEIAG to young people, to improve students' awareness of opportunities, to raise their aspirations and to work with them to ensure they are equipped to be able to navigate their education and career journeys and achieve their full potential.

St Peter's has held the Quality in Careers Standard since 2010, successfully achieving re-accreditation every three years. We are very pleased to let you know that we will again be seeking to renew our award in 2023.

We will provide more information over the coming months but if you would like any further information about the Award, or would like to be involved in the re-accreditation, please contact me at scalvert@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk

BBC 'SHARE YOUR CAREER STORY' TOUR

St Peter's was invited by the BBC to be part of their 100th anniversary celebrations with a visit from their Careers Education team in December. Called 'BBC Share Your Story' the event aimed to inspire students about careers in storytelling and the creative industries. A panel of BBC staff including an F1 commentator, an assistant producer and a film journalist were present and the event was hosted by former Blue Peter presenter Lindsey Russell.

Students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 12 took part in the event and with some students in Year 11 and 13 also attending. Students heard stories of career journeys, including subjects chosen at GCSE, work experience whilst in school, the importance of transferrable skills and what their typical week looked like. With the help of a rugby ball complete with microphone, students were able to ask lots of questions and the event proved a great end to the term.



LOCAL COLLEGE OPEN DAYS

GUILDFORD COLLEGE

WEDNESDAY 1ST FEBRUARY

4.30PM TO 7.30PM

To register please click [here](#)

FARNBOROUGH COLLEGE

WEDNESDAY 8TH FEBRUARY

4.00PM TO 7.30PM

To register, please click [here](#).

MERRIST WOOD COLLEGE

WEDNESDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2023

4.30PM TO 7.30PM

To register please click [here](#).

BROOKLANDS COLLEGE

WEDNESDAY 1ST MARCH

4.30PM TO 7.00PM

To register, please click [here](#)



LOCAL PROVIDERS FOR T LEVELS

GUILDFORD COLLEGE

- Health: Adult Nursing
- Education and Childcare
- Engineering

FARNBOROUGH COLLEGE

For a complete list of T Levels offered at Farnborough, please click [here](#).

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

JONNY MURRAY



When did you leave St Peter's?

I graduated from St Peter's Sixth Form in 2013.

What are your favourite memories of school?

School Sports

I had a huge passion for sport that was encouraged by some incredible role models. Mr Hogan and Mr Watson in particular were both great Rugby coaches who made sure we knew what it meant to do our best whether on the field or the class room. I wouldn't have enjoyed school as much as I did without the encouragement and support for the activities outside of the class room.

Romeo & Juliet

In Year 10 I took a step far out of my comfort zone when the student due to play Romeo in the school's performance of Romeo and Juliet dropped out and I took on the leading role. Having never performed in a play before it was a long summer spent learning lines and is still up there with one of the hardest but most rewarding things I have ever done. I owe my ability to stand on stage and present to large audiences today to that experience and in particular the teachers Miss Walker and Mrs Hulland who believed I could do it. I would recommend an experience like this to everyone, no matter how uncomfortable it makes you feel.

Business Classes

Choosing Business Studies GCSE with Mrs Thomas. I still remember presenting my business plan for opening a new coffee shop to the head teacher and knowing this was a career path I wanted to pursue in the future. I am really grateful to have had exposure to this subject at a time where I wasn't enjoying school as much.

What do you do now?

I work for a company called Procter & Gamble who produce, market and sell a number of iconic consumer brands such as Fairy, Pampers, Ariel and Head & Shoulders. I specifically manage the sales and marketing for our Gillette razors brand across some of the key high-street retailers in the UK.

What made you decide to do the degree you chose?

Keen to continue developing my strong interest in business, I went on to study Marketing Management at Lancaster University Business School. It was really important for me to study a degree that I was passionate about and that had practical applications to the line of work I wanted to do. The fact that the course also offered a placement year in between my second and third year was a major plus.

How relevant was your degree to what you are doing now?

While helpful to my job, my degree was not essential to getting the role. P&G hire from all degrees and backgrounds, placing more focus on a candidates' behaviours and values such as ownership, leadership and integrity. Providing examples of how you have shown these behaviours through sport, volunteering, group assignments and personal challenges are just as important, if not more important than the grade you have received at university. Everything you need to know is taught on the job through a structured graduate scheme although having a business background can definitely give you a head start!

How did you get to where you are today?

After finishing Sixth Form, I took a four year degree at Lancaster University with a placement year spent working as a brand manager at Kellogg's Cereal Company in my third year. This allowed me to build real world experience while getting paid a full salary before my final year of University (I would recommend a placement year to anyone). At Kellogg's I developed a strong interest for consumer goods and the important role brands play in our everyday lives. This led me in my final year to successfully apply for the P&G graduate scheme. I have been working at P&G for the last five years across our Olay, Braun and Gillette brands in a number of sales and commercial marketing roles.

What are your plans for the future?

I am taking a three month sabbatical in January to explore Mexico and get over an itchy travel bug that has developed during COVID. After that, I will return to a new role at P&G where I plan to continue developing my skills and expertise within the company. I feel very fortunate to work for a company that allows me to do this.

Finally, what would be your advice to students?

By my own admission, I am not very academic. While I enjoyed being at school and in particular the extra curricular experiences provided to me, if I had not been fortunate to have access to a broad range of GCSEs (PE, Drama, Business Studies, Graphic Design) and A Levels (PE, Law, Media Studies and Business Studies), I do not believe I would have made it to university and into the role I have today.

I am an extreme example as the GCSE and A Level choices I made closed a lot of doors early for me compared with some of my peers who continued to study Sciences, Maths and English, but the immense passion I had for the subjects I was being taught meant I put 110% into every coursework and exam, ultimately leaving St Peter's with great A Levels and a place at my first choice University.

If you have particular strengths in Maths, Sciences or Languages there is no doubt these will keep the most doors open for you but if they aren't your strength it's OK to diverge from the traditional path too! At the time I felt some pressure from some students and teachers for the course choices I made and it was hard not to think it was a mistake that would impact my future career prospects. Looking back, it's the best thing I could have done and is the reason I am where I am today.



Playing the part of Romeo in 'Romeo and Juliet', 2010