

St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



AUTUMN TERM 2018/19 1ST HALF TERM



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back!

We hope you had a great summer holiday (although it seems like a distant memory!) and managed to enjoy some fun and exciting holiday activities with your family. The children were so excited about telling us all the things they got up to.

Here we are again 'Back at School' and in these first few weeks the children seem to have settled into their new classes fantastically.

A big welcome to our new parents and children - we really hope you enjoy being part of our lovely school.

As always, please let us know if there are any suggestions you would like to make or have any concerns.

Thank you as always for your continued support!



Class Assembly Dates

13th Sept - Class 6H
20th Sept - Class 5N
26th Sept - Class 4C
04th Oct - Class 3G
11th Oct - Class 2K
18th Oct - Class 1S

Half Term

08th Nov - Class 6M
15th Nov - Class 5M
22nd Nov - Class 3H
29th Nov - Class 4J
Christmas Holiday
17th Jan - Class 2W
24th Jan - Class 1F

Please come and join us for your child's class assembly! Assemblies start at 9.00am

Parents' Evening

Wednesday 17th October is Parents' Evening.

This is an opportunity to find out how your child has settled into their new class, discuss the progress they are making and look at the work they have done so far. Letters will be going out soon in order for you to be able to make an appointment.

WELCOME

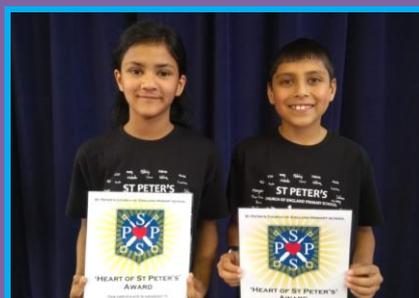


100% ATTENDANCE WINNERS



Congratulations to all of our 100% attendance winners. We were delighted to have 162 children who managed to achieve 100% for the Summer Term and received a box of Maltesers! We also had 63 children who achieved a fantastic 100% attendance for the whole year!!! An improvement on last year's figures! These children received a £10 gift voucher and the chance to win their own bike! The lucky winner was Jack in Year 6! Well Done!

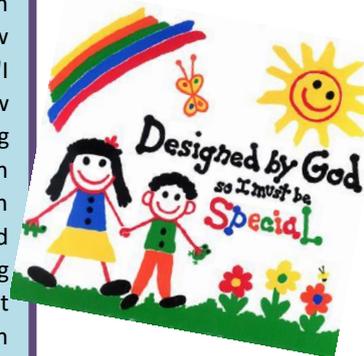
Congratulations to our 'Heart of St Peter's Award' Winners



At St Peter's, we believe that every pupil should strive to be 'The Good Soil' Mark 4: 1-20. Therefore, we chose two of our Year 6 Leavers, who we believed to be shining examples of what we hold dear at St Peter's, to win the 'Heart of St Peter's Award. They mirrored Jesus' teachings of the Christian Values throughout their time at school. Well done Alisha and Samar!

Nursery News

A big welcome to all our families who have joined us at St Peter's. We promise that it is going to be an exciting year full of fun and learning. This term our topic will be All About Me. We will be getting to know your children and going with their interests, likes and personalities. In RE we are learning around the topic 'I am Special'. We are asking the big questions: How do we know that we are special in the eyes of God? How do we know that God is our Heavenly Father? Why are names important? We are reading and learning around: Monkey and Me by Emily Gravett. We have been singing lots of nursery rhymes and have been exploring sounds in lots of different ways and are improving our listening skills. In maths we have been practising counting forwards and backwards to 10. It would be really helpful if you would help your child practice these things at home: counting a number of objects, counting forwards and backwards, recognising numbers, reading every night and reading bedtime stories together. Please send the wow cards in with what fun things you have been doing at home. If you have any questions about any of the work we are doing in school or would like to know any ways to help your child, do not hesitate to ask one us. Thank you.



Reception News



We have had a fantastic start to our new year in Reception; we have really enjoyed exploring our areas both inside and outdoors. We began this term by discussing our families and how they are special to us - A special thank you to those parents who supported their children in creating some fantastic 'All About Me' posters. They all look beautiful on our classroom display. In Literacy, we are learning about traditional fairy tales - Goldilocks has been into our classroom!! We have been being super detectives to find out who made the mess. This half term in maths, we will be focusing on counting, this will then lead onto numerical recognition and formation. Please continue to encourage your child to count at home as this really helps them. Please do share what your child has been up to at home as it really builds a whole picture of your child. We love to see what you and your child has been up to at the weekend. Thank you for your support!

Year 1 News

Welcome to Year 1! We hope everybody has had a lovely summer break. The children have started with a positive attitude and have quickly settled into their new routine. They seem excited and eager to learn lots of new and interesting things and hopefully this enthusiasm will continue! During this half term the children will be focusing on weather and the different seasons of the year; so far the children have greatly enjoyed observing, discussing and predicting different types of weather. In Art we will be looking at the life and work of Gustav Klimt and the many famous paintings, patterns and drawings that he created. In Science, the children will be learning about different materials and their properties. Our topic in RE is God's creation story and towards the end of this half term we will be learning about harvest. All our RE lessons will include a reflection time which will encourage children to think about our religious learning. It will be a lovely opportunity to discuss and engage with the children about their actions and feelings. In Maths the children will develop their skills in counting, sequences, addition and subtraction and begin to learn about time and money. In English we will be looking at different types of text, including stories, poems, songs and patterns. Thank you, we are looking forward to a great year.



Year 2 News



Welcome back after summer! The children have a brilliant first half term planned and already seem enthusiastic and eager to learn lots of new things. In maths we will be developing our skills in place value, number bonds and number sequencing. In English we will be focusing on story writing, concentrating on familiar settings and using exciting vocabulary. We will also continue to focus and improve our reading, phonics skills and handwriting. Our History topic this term is 'Up, Up and Away', where we will be learning about the first flight and how aeroplanes have changed our lives. In Science our topic this term is 'Humans and Animals'. Within this topic we will be looking at the life cycles of both humans and animals and how to look after ourselves and how we should look after our pets. The children will now have all received a new reading book; therefore, we ask that they bring their reading books into school every day. They will read in school with an adult 1:1, once a week, and will also have their books changed weekly. The children will receive homework every Friday and this should be returned the following Thursday. All children have PE three times a week; therefore, we suggest that your child leaves their PE kit in school for the half term to ensure they have their full kit for their PE sessions. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask a member of the Year 2 Staff. Thank you.

Year 3 News

Welcome back to Year 3! Most importantly, we hope that you have all had a fantastic holiday and are all well rested. We have an incredibly busy year ahead but one that hopefully will be lots of fun too! Maths and Literacy will continue just like last year with lots of new and exciting things to learn. In addition to this, we will spend extra time on handwriting and guided reading. Please can you encourage your children to read at home as much as possible. This is vital to their success at school and will benefit them greatly. Even if it is only a small amount every day. This term in RE will see a focus of prophets surrounding our "Called by God" topic. This is very exciting and contains lots of stories from the Bible, with a reflective theme of repentance, forgiveness and quests. Each RE lesson will contain a time for reflection where the children will be encouraged to consider their thoughts and actions in daily life and how to further improve these in order to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Your children will receive spellings to learn every week alongside a weekly piece of homework relating to that week's work. We very much appreciate your support in ensuring homework is completed, it allows us to see how the children are coping with different topics and where we might need to work next.



Year 4 News



Hello to all children, parents and carers and welcome to Year 4! We are all refreshed and raring to start new challenging Year 4 themes and topics. Back to school, back to work! In English work on fables has started; the children should be able to tell you some morals of these animal based tales. In Maths we continue to stretch and challenge the children encouraging them to be able to explain **HOW** they have found an answer not just to write it. We loved our exciting trip to Chester and had lots of fun. This supported our learning about the Romans and the impact they had on our lives today. The children experienced life as a Roman in the Dewa museum and even did some marching with a real Roman soldier! In Religious Education, we have new schemes offering new and exciting ways to learn about the Faith of our school and that of others. Look out for the Big Frieze when you come to school to attend meetings or watch assemblies. We are also learning how to be "The Good Soil"; your children should be able to tell you all about this. We are looking forward to working with you and your children any questions or enquiries please phone the office for an appointment.

Year 5 News

Welcome back to the new school year! We hope you had a wonderful summer holiday and you are ready for the exciting year we have planned for you, here at St Peter's. In English, we will begin with reading classic fiction: The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling. The children will explore many of his stories, including his very famous 'Just So Stories'. The final project is for the children to create a Just So Story of their own. Later in the term, we will move on to our non-fiction unit of UFO recounts. The children will look at report writing, finally creating their own recount. We will finish the term looking at biographies and autobiographies. In Maths, we will be developing our understanding of the four number operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). Some other topics we will look at are: shape, place value and money. RE will be focusing on Jesus the Teacher. We will be developing the children's understanding of parables that Jesus taught, and then we will be writing our own parables. In Science, the children will describe the differences in the life cycles of a mammal, an amphibian, an insect and a bird, and describe the life process of reproduction in some plants and animals. The children will also have the chance to work scientifically whilst we explore these objectives. Our Art unit looks at developing sketching techniques, specifically Cezanne's Still Life artwork. In D&T, we will be exploring working mechanisms. We will then move on to planning and making our own moving toy. Our History topic will explore the world of the Maya, and especially why most of the Maya seemed to die out around 900 ad. Computing will see us becoming cryptographers! The French topic involves months of the year, clothing and being able to share how we are feeling. Please do come and see one of the team if you have questions.



Year 6 News

Welcome back to everyone! This will be an extremely exciting term for all the children in Year 6! Over the course of this half term the children will be learning lots of new and invigorating things across the curriculum. In English, we will be focusing on different genres of writing where the children have the opportunity to edit and redraft their work; ensuring each piece of writing shows their true potential. In Maths, we are consolidating our learning, extending the children's knowledge to ensure they are able to apply this in all contexts. In RE we will be focusing on 'Ideas About God'. We will be learning about all the different names people have for God and the teachings in the Bible. In Science, our topic is 'Evolution and Inheritance' where we will be learning about fossils; then we are moving onto adaptation. In Geography our focus is 'Where does all our stuff come from?' thinking about food miles, clothes and materials. If you have any questions about your child's learning, please come and speak to one of the team. We will be happy to help!





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REMINDERS FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Absences

We wish to remind parents that if your child is absent from school you need to inform the school office on **each** day of absence by 8.50am

Lates

Children need to be in their line on the playground for **8.50am**. If you arrive after this time you need to report to the school office and your child will receive a late mark.

Book Bags

If you need a new book bag these can be obtained from the school office at a cost of £7.50.

Lost/Damaged Books

Please note that there will be a charge for any lost or damaged school reading scheme/library books.

Dinner Money Increase

Rochdale have increased the cost of pupil dinners this year to £10.75 per week (£2.15 per day).

Macmillan Coffee Morning

On Friday 28th September we had a fantastic day raising money for Macmillan - a charity very close to our hearts! As well as helping with the medical needs of people affected by cancer, Macmillan also looks at the social, emotional and practical impact cancer can have, and campaigns for better cancer care. Macmillan Cancer Support's goal is to reach and improve the lives of everyone living with cancer in the UK.



The children spent some time with their classmates enjoying juice, cakes and biscuits. We made a fantastic £463 to donate to the charity. Take a look at some of the photos from the super day on our school website!



Harvest Festival

Next week the children will be going to St. Peter's Church to celebrate Harvest Festival. We will be kindly asking for donations to our Harvest collection - last year the response was fantastic and very generous! The donations will be given to Rochdale Food Bank who rely on local support.

This will really help those less fortunate than ourselves in our local community. It clearly shows the importance we place on praising God, and sharing all the good things he provides for us. This is a fantastic way for the community to share in living out the school's Christian Value of 'Generosity' for this half term.



Year 6 High School Applications

Do remember, that Year 6 applications for high schools need to be completed by **October 31st** and these need to be completed online. If you need support with this, head to Number One Riverside in Rochdale town centre where additional support will be given to those with no access to internet facilities.

Is your child due to start secondary school in September 2019?

Apply online via our easy application form
rochdale.gov.uk/schooladmissions
Deadline for applications is 31 October 2018



ATTENDANCE

How's your class doing?
This year our attendance target is 96%

Nursery	91.8%	Rec RK	93.6%
Rec RM	88.5%	Year 1S	93.6%
Year 1F	96.1%	Year 2K	93.9%
Year 2W	93.6%	Year 3H	92.3%
Year 3G	95.1%	Year 4J	96.9%
Year 4C	95.9%	Year 5N	95.4%
Year 5M	96.3%	Year 6M	96.7%
Year 6H	91.2%	Whole School	94.1%

Well Done! ✓

Headteacher Message

Well, here we are again in another school year and I am delighted to say that the children have settled extremely well into their new classes. A big welcome to our new teachers that has joined us this term - Miss Wilkinson in Year 2, Miss Fitzgerald in Yr1 and Miss Kelly in Reception.

I hope you enjoy reading the latest edition of our school newsletter and enjoy looking at the super photos! Remember the school website is regularly updated with news and gallery pictures, and each class has their own page for the teachers to keep you informed about current topics and events coming up, so take a look! As always please feel free to pop in to see me if you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education.

Mr A Whelan