

St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



**SUMMER TERM 2014/15
1ST HALF TERM**



SUMMER

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you had a really lovely Easter break and enjoyed spending time with your children during the week's holiday.

It is now the summer term and the nice weather seems to have arrived. It feels like the year is going by very quickly! We have lots of news about things that happened last half term and events that are coming up!

We hope you enjoy reading our newsletter this half-term and as always, please let us know if there are any suggestions you would like to make or if you have any concerns.

Thank you as always for your continued support!



Meet the chicks!



Two weeks before the Easter holidays we incubated 24 eggs, some in the main hall and some in the Foundation Stage! It was really exciting watching them hatch and looking after the fluffy yellow chicks. Then it was time for them to go back to the farm!



EGG MANIA!!! Hits St Peter's!!!



On Thursday 2nd April loads of 'eggpertly' decorated eggs arrived in school! Our KS2 children had clearly had a 'smashing', 'eggciting' time decorating their eggs and were clearly 'eggperts' at it. The finished eggs were 'eggtraordinary', 'eggccellent', 'eggtravagant' and 'eggquisite'!!! Here are a few photos, we hope you have a 'cracking' time looking at them!!!

Easter Bonnet Parade

Also, on Thursday 2nd April a glorious range of Easter bonnets were on parade in the school hall.

Well done to all the FS and KS1 children and a big thank you to parents for helping the children make their wonderful bonnets!

It was fantastic to see so many imaginative designs!



Nursery News

This term the nursery children will be learning all about minibeasts. We will be looking at information about minibeasts using non-fiction books and going on a minibeast hunt in our outdoor area. We also have a special visit planned from the Wild Roadshow animal handling workshop which will allow us to look more closely at minibeasts and even hold some. In Phonics we will be learning phase 2 tricky words and putting these into sentences. We will also be blending words to read them and segmenting them to spell them. Taking part in Funky Fingers and Dough Gym everyday has made a big impact on the children's fine motor skills and they are making good progress. This in turn has also improved the children's writing and letter formation. This is something we will be working on more during the summer term. In RE the children will be learning about different places of worship, different ways of praying and who or what we can pray for. In Maths the children will be learning to count to 20 and beyond, add and take away objects and counting the total and exploring patterns and shapes. The children have enjoyed learning new number songs and taking part in practical math's activities which we will continue this term. Please also look out for our new art display, we will be studying the artist Kandinsky, looking at his work and making our own painting in the style of Kandinsky using acrylic paint. Thank you again for your support. We are all looking forward to learning more in what is going to be a very busy and enjoyable term!



Reception News



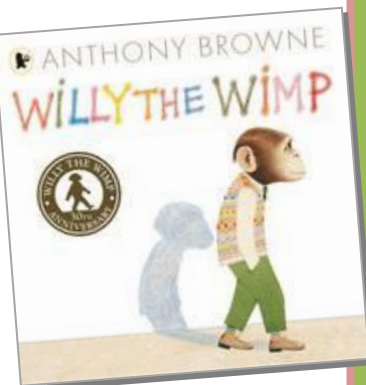
Welcome back to the Summer Term. The children have really enjoyed using our outdoor area this week as the sun has continued to shine. Over the coming weeks our theme will be 'People who help us'. We have a Vets role play area set up inside now and the children are already performing some complicated operations and helping out some badly injured animals. Photos should be coming soon on the website. In Maths this week we have been learning to count in 10s to 100, there will also be a focus on children working beyond 20 and recording simple calculations, and we will be working on doubling and halving. In Literacy, there will be a continued focus on writing. Children should be forming letters correctly, using capital letters and full stops at the end of sentences as well as leaving finger spaces between words, please encourage your child to write at home to help this too. Don't forget learning the weekly spellings will really help your child to grow in confidence with their writing. We really appreciate the work you do at home with your child in helping them to read. It gives the children a really positive start to their experience of reading. If a child has imaginative stories read to them, it helps them to build vocabulary and develop ideas to use in their own writing. If you have any questions, or would like some more ideas on how to help your child at home, please ask a member of the Foundation Stage Team.

Year 1 News

This half-term we will be investigating different forces and how we make things move. As part of this we will be designing and making our own moving vehicles and would be very grateful if you could bring junk modelling materials into school. In our geography work we are going to be researching different oceans and seas around the world. As the Year 1 phonics screening test is fast approaching, we will be focusing on our sounding and blending skills. Please also continue practicing this at home using the packs that were given out as homework before the holidays. There are also lots of games and activities to be found online, such as on www.phonicsplay.co.uk. We will be doing some work on fractions and shape in maths and literacy will be focused on writing our own versions of tradition tales, letter writing and haikus in poetry. We are lucky to have a specialist coach this term for PE on a Tuesday in 1L and Thursday in 1M. Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school. Reading books need to be in school every day, spelling and learning log books should be returned every Thursday and online homework is assigned on Fridays to be completed by the following Wednesday.



Year 2 News



We have planned lots of exciting activities for the children this half-term. In English we will be starting with stories written by Anthony Browne. Through this theme the children will explore the different kinds of emotions and how to deal with them. We will read a variety of books including Willy the Wimp, Into the Forest, to name but a few. This in turn will allow the children to produce some exciting writing. Maths this half-term will concentrate on Place Value, Fractions along with Multiplication and Division facts. Remember to learn those times tables! In Science we will observe inside seeds and bulbs and describe how they grow into mature plants. We will find out and describe how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy. We will also look around the school environment to try and locate as many different types of seeds as we can. We are looking forward to a busy, but fun half term!

Year 3 News



Welcome back to everyone after Easter. Well done to all those who decorated an egg before the holidays - there were some excellent designs! This term we will be looking at persuasive writing in English, and looking at all the crafty ways shops encourage us to buy things. In Maths we will improve our addition, subtraction, multiplication and division skills and practise measuring. We are also looking forward to investigating forces and the use of magnets in science. We will be studying Islam in RE lessons and looking at how by supporting charities we help others. On Mondays we will be improving ball skills and playing team games outside, and in Wednesday's PE lessons we will be practising different dance moves, please make sure your child always has their PE kit in school.

Year 4 News



This half term Year 4 will continue swimming on a Monday morning, we are so pleased with the progress they have been making. Please make sure they remember their kit. In English this term we will be concentrating on persuasive writing and chronological reports and in Maths we will be covering place value, mental maths, addition and subtraction with a focus on shape and space. Living things and their habitats will be our focus in Science where we are hoping to get out and about into our local environment. In Design and Technology we will be making our very own money container and in Computing we will be learning all about how to design and build a Wiki. Our History focus is the local area and we will be visiting Touchstones in Rochdale. In RE we will be focusing on the religion of Islam. We know that we are going to have another fun filled half term full of learning and exploring!

Year 5 News

Welcome back to a very sunny start to our Summer term in Y5. This is the beginning of the final term in Year 5 so there is lots to do! We will be researching the local area in geography and history. Did you know that St. Peter's school was not originally built on this site? We have planned a visit to the Rochdale Pioneers museum, where the original building of the major business The Co-Operative still stands. We will also be visiting St. Peter's church as part of our study of the church at the heart of the local community. Our vicar Stephen Watkinson is searching out some historical information about the church too so that will be interesting. We will have indoor PE on Tuesday and a coach will be teaching our outdoor PE on Friday. We are looking forward to a busy half-term ahead!



Year 6 News



This half term we have many exciting events planned for the children. As we are sure you are aware we are now only weeks away from the SATs tests. Your child has been working hard all year towards these important assessments which take place between Monday 11th May and Friday 16th May. It is vital that your child's attendance is excellent both in the run up to SATs and during the actual test week. During the week please ensure your child gets enough rest (early to bed each night); they have suitable food to provide them with energy to get through the week (such as bananas); and children are punctual on the morning of the tests. Despite the focus for this half term being based around the tests the children will still be looking at other areas of study. In History they will begin to look at the Industrial Revolution and specifically how the cotton industry affected Rochdale and the local area. In Technology they will be studying propulsion and in Science the theme will be evolution. In what will be both a busy and exciting term, we are sure all the children in Year 6 will try their absolute best.



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REMINDERS FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Breakfast Club

We have a few places available at our breakfast club which starts at 8am every morning. Children should arrive for breakfast club before 8.30am. The cost is £2.50 per week.

Dropping off and Picking up

When dropping your child off in the morning, if the door is not open, please wait with your child until the door opens at 8.50. We ask that your child is not collected by anyone under the age of 16.

Parent Courses

We have two accredited courses coming up for 'First Aid' and 'Food Safety and Hygiene', if you are interested in either of these please contact the office. We have a 'Coffee Drop-in' every Tuesday at 2pm, this is open to all parents, why not come along for a cuppa and chat?

World Book Day!

We all had great fun dressing up as book characters on Thursday 5th March. The day got off to a great start with a lovely assembly led by 1L all about books and reading. We also had a very difficult task of choosing a winner from each class and an overall winner. We were delighted to find that, thanks to the children's kind donations, we raised £280 for Book Aid International. This money will help to pay for books in less economically developed countries. Have a look at some of our photos, there are more to see on our school website, including pictures of the winners!



ATTENDANCE

How's your class doing?

This year our attendance target is 96%

Nursery	90.9%		
Rec RM	94.5%	Rec NM	93.3%
Year 1L	94.2%	Year 1M	95.9%
Year 2B	96.2%	Year 2M	95.6%
Year 3G	96.8%	Year 3LG	96.7%
Year 4M	96.7%	Year 4H	97.3%
Year 5C	95.7%	Year 5H	96.9%
Year 6B	97.5%	Year 6M	96.6%
Whole School			95.8%

Well Done!

OUR NEW 'WOODLAND WALK'

We are delighted with our new 'Woodland Walk' There are over 100 new trees that have been under sown with blue bell, daffodil, snowdrop bulbs and wildflower seeds. The new signs tell us about the different types trees, flowers, mini-beasts, birds, butterflies and mammals we may see in our school grounds and we can have a quiet sit down on the new benches.



Headteacher Message

Welcome back to school for the first half of the summer term which is a very short 5 weeks, I can't believe how quickly the year is going! We've got a busy term ahead, especially our Year 2 and Year 6 children who will be taking their Key Stage SATs tests. Tests for the Year 6 children will take place in the week beginning Monday 11th May.

I am delighted to see the children enjoying the new benches on the playground and our new Woodland Walk. 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