

St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



SPRING TERM 2015/16
2ND HALF TERM



Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you had a restful half-term break and enjoyed spending time with your children during the week's holiday.

It is now the second half of the spring term and it feels like the year is going by very quickly. We are really enjoying the slightly lighter evenings and hoping for some warmer spring weather soon. We have lots of news to tell you things that happened last half term and events that are coming up!

We have now entered the season of Lent - a time of reflection in the Christian calendar. In school we are thinking about how we can change for the better and asking for God's support to be better people.

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!



Parents' Evening



Wednesday, 16th March
is parents' evening.

This is an opportunity for you to come into school to see your child's work and discuss their progress with the class teacher.

We operate an appointment system to help reduce waiting time.

Please ensure you return the slip that has been sent out to you so we can allocate you a time to meet your child's class teacher.

We look forward to seeing you then!



OPENING OUR NEW LIBRARY!

On Monday 29th February we were delighted to welcome Adam Perrott, a comedy author to open our new library. He did a great assembly followed by workshops for all the classes! Our library is now in full use and children have already scanned out their first books! Children can also access 'eBooks' to read from home, by logging onto our school library system via the link on our school website or by downloading the iMLS app on a phone or tablet.



Nursery News

This half term, no doubt, will be a very busy one in Nursery. Our topic will be 'Come Fly With Me' which will be all about different machines that fly as well as animals which can fly. We will be reading some lovely fiction books and starting to visit the library with the children so that they can take advantage of the wonderful new area that has been created. In Maths various topics will be covered including counting and number, time, shape and pattern work. Each week your child will also be involved in baking, which will be sent home and there will be a chance on a Friday to buy some of the lovely food they have made!



Reception News



This term will be very busy with lots of exciting activities planned. In Literacy the children will be learning all about journeys and ways in which we can travel. The children will be exploring maps and talking about transport that flies, drives on roads and travels on water. In Maths the children will be learning all about weight and measuring different objects using balance scales, grams and kilograms. We will also be learning all about money and reading different amounts. Look out for our new exciting role play area next week. In RE the children will be learning about Miracles and stories all about Jesus. They will also be reading and sharing the Easter story. In topic the children will be exploring colours and mixing paints to make different colours. They will also be using different kinds of paint including acrylic and water colours and exploring their textures. Our new 'Secret Reader' scheme will also be launched this term with a special visitor coming into Reception on Thursday to share their favourite story. If you are interested in coming into Reception to read to your child and their class please see a member of staff to arrange a date and time.

Year 1 News

Welcome back to the spring half term! We have got lots of interesting and exciting things planned over the next few weeks in Year 1. In English we will begin by choosing our favourite traditional tale and explaining why we like to read and listen to traditional tales. We will also be looking at instructions and information texts. In maths we have been measuring different objects by using cubes and rulers. We will also be moving onto capacity, data and revisiting addition. In Science we continue to focus on plants this term and have been growing our own bean plants and cress! We have observed the different changes and stages in a plants life. In History we will be looking at various local heroes from the area of Manchester. This will include past and present heroes and we will be looking at what they have done to be considered a 'hero'. In DT and Computing we will be looking at healthy foods and TV chefs. We will explore the different types of food we can make, and eat, and we will also be looking at where some of our food comes from during our trip to Smithill's Farm. In RE we are looking at the Easter story and discussing why this celebration is important to Christians. PE will be on a Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. It is essential that your child has the correct PE kit in order to take part. The children should also have their reading books and bags in school every day.



Year 2 News



Welcome back and we hope you have all had a relaxing break. We have lots of exciting activities planned this half term. In English we will be starting with humorous poetry using our 5 senses! The children will explore the different ways in which we can make our poems humorous using our imagination and applying our knowledge of the 5 senses. Maths this term we will concentrate on the 4 operations. We will be ensuring that the children learn all the different mathematical vocabulary linked to the 4 operations - please test your child at home to see how many they can remember! In Science we will look 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. Our RE topic this half term is 'Easter' and the symbols associated with it. Please remember that reading is to be done every night and reading books should be brought into school every day along with PE kits. We are continuing to work extremely hard to work towards our upcoming SATs tests! We are looking forward to a busy spring term!

Year 3 News

Welcome back to school as we continue the Spring Term! This half-term, we will be continuing reading and writing about a range of texts. We will be studying *Fantastic Mr Fox* by Roald Dahl and writing adverts and newspapers using extracts from the Harry Potter books. In Maths, we will be learning and practising lots of new methods using the four number operations (adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing). We will also be looking at properties of different shapes and learning how to solve problems involving time. In Science we will continue to learn about plants with a focus on seed dispersal, whilst in Geography we will be learning if the climate is cool! We will focus on the Easter story in Religious Education. We are looking forward to our trip to the Whitworth Art Gallery where we will be learning about 3D design. This will then help us in our own construction of fairy tale scenery. We are looking forward to a fun filled term and look forward to seeing you at parents evening and at our school book fair.



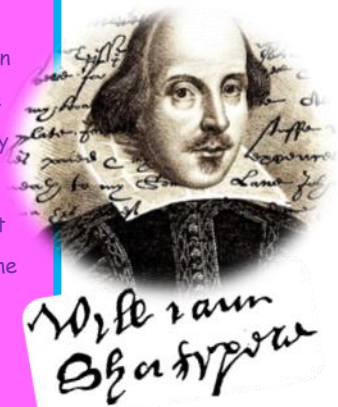
Year 4 News

Welcome to the second half of the spring term. The children are now over half way through Year 4! Heading towards Year 5! We would like to start by thanking all our families for sending the children with all the correct things they needed for swimming. The swimming teachers at the baths commented on how fantastic our children were in the water. Everyone got in enthusiastically and without any fuss. Exciting times at St Peter's, alongside Mr Whelan, the builders have been busy developing our new library. Year 4 will be visiting the library every Thursday afternoon. Please ask the children to tell you all about it and encourage them to read the books they bring home. We are starting a new initiative in school whereby children will be receiving certificates for knowledge of tables. The children will receive Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates as they are tested weekly! Once again we ask you to support your children with this and watch out for those certificates arriving home. As always we are very grateful for your support as we look forward to a short but very busy term.



Year 5 News

We have another exciting half term ahead of us in Year 5 with lots of interesting topics to learn and discover together! In English we have already started to look at balanced arguments, with the children taking an active role in class debates. We are also looking forward to reading the works of playwright and poet, William Shakespeare. Since coming back to school we have introduced a "Word of the Week" which we encourage all children to use in their daily writing, increasing the vocabulary of all. We have seen improvements with times tables, however we still strongly encourage all children to revise their times tables every evening ready for weekly multiplication tests. Children must know all their times tables up to 12×12 , including the inverse (e.g. $64 \div 8 = 8$). New curriculum changes mean that the current Year 5 will be the first to sit a National Times Tables test when they come to sit their SATs in Year 6. We are really excited about our weekly library sessions in our brand new school library this half term. With over 6,000 books, the children will be able to choose and read a wide range of books, both in school and at home. We know that the children are looking forward to their time in the library and that they will take care of this brand new resource.



Year 6 News

Welcome back to a very short but extremely busy half term. We have nine weeks in school before SATs week so we are working hard to prepare the children for this. It is essential that children are in school every day ready to work hard and learn. In English we begin by looking at stories with flashbacks which includes looking at the 'Harry Potter' books. During Maths lessons we will be focusing on areas of weakness based on mock SATs tests which we have carried out. Our Science topic for the new half term is 'Living things and their Habitats' and in Geography we are looking at the question, 'Are we damaging our world?' In RE we are learning all about Judaism and we will be bringing our learning to life by visiting the Manchester Reform Synagogue in March. In Art and Design, we will be learning to do 3D drawings and in DT we are going to be innovative by designing a device based on the ideas from Wallace and Gromit.





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Our new online parent
payment portal is now live.
You should have received a
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setting up an account. This
system should make it a lot
easier to make payments for
such things as dinners, trips
etc. There is a link on the
'Home Page' of our website.



Making parent payments
easier

WORLD
BOOK
DAY

3 MARCH 2016

World Book Day!

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We all had great fun dressing up as book characters on Thursday 3rd March. The day got off to a great start with a lovely assembly led by 4C 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 £250 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!

~ BUILDINGS UPDATE ~

We are nearing the completion of this phase of our building work which is due to be finished over the Easter holidays! The development of our new computer suite is underway and it's looking good. We only have the Year 4 classrooms and the stair wells to complete. It will be nice to wave goodbye to the temporary classrooms and the cabins and have our playground and field back. I think it may take a while for the field to fully recover!!!



We are holding a 'Book Fair'
in the school hall
at 3.15pm
on 7th to 11th March

Why not come along and buy a
book for your child!

ATTENDANCE

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

Nursery	91.6%		
Rec RC	94.2%	Rec RM	94.9%
Year 1K	95.2%	Year 1M	96.1%
Year 2B	95.6%	Year 2G	96.7%
Year 3H	96.1%	Year 3M	96.3%
Year 4C	96.2%	Year 4J	96.6%
Year 5W	95.7%	Year 5T	96.6%
Year 6M	96.9%	Year 6H	97.2%
Whole School			95.8%

Well Done!

Headteacher Message

Last half term was yet another incredibly rewarding half term at St Peter's and I am always delighted, when going around the school, by the children's work, behaviour and attitude to learning. The building work is due to be completed over the Easter holidays and the school is starting to really look like a super learning environment! We really are lucky here at St Peter's to teach such well-mannered, caring and responsible pupils. We've have some fun events already with, the New Library opening, a visit from an author and 'World Book Day', I really enjoyed seeing all the costumes! Events like 'World Book Day' are also a good opportunity for us to help others around the world that are less fortunate than ourselves. In this season of Lent we are encouraging the children to reflect on how their behaviour, the choices and the decisions they make can affect those around them and remembering the important words of Jesus 'Love one another as I have loved you!'

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