

St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



**AUTUMN TERM 2017/18
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.

Here we are again 'Back to School' and in these first few weeks the children seem to be settling 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

14th Sept - Class 6H

21nd Sept - Class 5N

28th Sept - Class 4C

05th Oct - Class 3G

12th Oct - Class 2M

19th Oct - Class 1S

Half Term

09th Nov - Class 6M

16th Nov - Class 5M

23rd Nov - Class 4J

30th Nov - Class 3M

7th Dec - Class 2K

14th Dec - Class 1H

Christmas Holiday

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

Parents' Evening

Wednesday 18th 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 174 children who managed to achieve 100% for the Summer Term and received a box of Maltesers! We also had 60 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 Yahya Shah in Year 4! Well Done!



Our School Building is Getting Better and Better!



Over the holidays, building work commenced on improving the school to include a fully functioning stage; creating a larger car park for staff and visitors; and even a turning circle to ease congestion on Muriel Street. Work has also been carried out to replace the roof across the whole school and should be completed by Christmas. We are looking forward to using the stage for assemblies and productions!

Nursery News

Welcome to the start of a new school year in Nursery and the very first year of your child's school education! During this half term we will be focusing on getting to know your children and finding out all about them in our Topic 'All About Me'. This Topic links writing about themselves, portraits during expressive arts sessions as well as lots of chance for speaking and listening activities, talking about home and family. Maths lessons will be focusing on counting from 0-20, ordering numbers and counting objects one to one, as well as number songs. Literacy will be linked to our topic, with children writing captions, names and labels as well as mark making in the different areas of the classroom. Children will have the chance to access all areas of provision, both inside and outside, so don't forget to look at our Nursery galleries on the school website to see what your child has been doing! This half term will no doubt be a very busy one, but our main aim is to ensure your child settles into Nursery and enjoys their time here. If you have any questions, as always please speak to one of the Nursery Team.



Reception News



A big welcome to families old and new to St Peter's after our summer break. We know this is going to be a fantastic year ahead, full of fun and learning. We will begin this term by getting to know your little ones and your families through the topic 'My Family'. We want to really harness the partnerships between us as a school and you as parents to make sure that your children reach their full potential. The biggest way you can support your child's journey with us is to let us know what your child is getting up to at home- what learning is making you go WOW! Fill in the WOW cards and send them in to us so we can celebrate them in your child's learning journey. In Literacy, we will begin by focusing on teaching a daily phonics lesson this will focus on a sound a day which the children can apply to their early reading and early writing. Our Maths learning will focus heavily on early counting skills which will allow your child to be secure and confident counters. Play as many games as you can at home- you can also play lots of Maths games and songs to help them learn. We can also spot Maths everywhere in our environment. In RE this term's focus is on Thankfulness. We will be exploring lots of learning around friendships and Harvest.

Year 1 News

Welcome to Year 1! 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. The children have greatly enjoyed observing, discussing and predicting different types of weather. 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. 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. If you have any questions please feel free to ask a member of the Year 1 team.



Year 2 News



Welcome back after summer! We hope you have had an enjoyable and relaxing time during the summer holidays. 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 receive homework every Friday and this should be returned the following Wednesday. 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 at the beginning or end of the day.

Year 3 News

Welcome back! We have an incredibly busy year ahead but one that hopefully will be lots of fun too! A big part of this year will be the transition from Infants to Juniors. Maths and English will continue just like last year with 1 lesson of each per day and will form the core of our teaching. In addition to this we will spend extra time on handwriting and guided reading. This half term we will begin with geography, looking at where we are in the world and how we would go about finding ourselves using a mix of digital and traditional methods. Art and DT will focus on structure, creating frames for our work. This fits with our Van Gogh work, the intention is to have a framed piece of art for your children to bring home to you. RE will see a focus of harvest and begin to look at the Old Testament stories from the bible. There is a big step up in the work and expectations of the children but together we will support them as they settle into a different way of working. We appreciate any support from parents and please don't hesitate to contact the school if you have any concerns regarding your child.



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.

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. 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 Science we are studying a chemistry unit looking at the States of Matter. We are looking forward to working with you and your children any questions or enquiries please phone the office for an appointment. PE will take place on a Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Year 5 News

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 by reading classic fiction by Rudyard Kipling. The children will explore many of his stories, including his very famous books 'The Jungle Book' and 'Just So Stories'. The children will learn to punctuate direct speech correctly and use this in a narrative piece of writing. They will also develop their sentence structure, specifically looking at subordinate and relative clauses. The final project is for the children to create a 'Just So Story' of their own. 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. 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. RE focuses on the Bible. We will be developing the children's understanding of the importance and impact of the contents of the Bible to Christians. Please do come and find one of the Year 5 Team if you have any questions.



Year 6 News

Welcome back after summer. 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. 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. Maths - we are consolidating our learning, extending the children's knowledge to ensure they are able to apply this in all contexts. RE - we will be focusing on 'Life as a journey'. We will be looking at special events as well as people in their lives. We will research Christian places of pilgrimage and why people visit these places. Science – Our topic is 'Evolution and Inheritance' First we will be learning about fossils then moving onto adaptation. In Geography our focus is 'Where does all our stuff come from?' thinking about food miles, clothes and materials. Remember, this is a very important year for the Year 6 children, so if you have any concerns you are more than welcome to come in and discuss these with one of the teachers in Year 6. Thank you for all your support.





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REMINDERS FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Absences

Can we 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 £6.

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 £10.50 per week (£2.10 per day)

Macmillan Coffee Morning

On Friday 29th September we had a fantastic day raising money for Macmillan! 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 £448 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 community. It clearly shows the importance we place on praising God, and sharing all the good things he provides for us.



ONLINE PARENT PAYMENT SYSTEM



Don't forget our online parent payment portal. It can make it a lot easier to make payments for such things as dinners, trips etc. There is an easy link on the 'Home Page' of our website. You should have received a letter with information about setting up an account, if you have any difficulty please just talk to the school office!



ATTENDANCE

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

Nursery	95.0%	Rec RB	93.5%
Rec RF	95.2%	Year 1S	97.4%
Year 1H	96.6%	Year 2K	97.9%
Year 2M	96.3%	Year 3M	98.0%
Year 3G	97.0%	Year 4J	91.7%
Year 4C	96.3%	Year 5N	93.4%
Year 5M	95.2%	Year 6M	97.5%
Year 6H	98.8%	Whole School	96.0%

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 teacher that has joined us this term - Miss Healey in Yr1.

I am delighted that the building work over the summer has been carried out and is continuing to improve our school. The school hall is nearly completed, with a fabulous new stage and the car park and turning circle has made a big difference to the beginning and end of the school day.

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