

St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



AUTUMN TERM 2023/24
2ND HALF TERM



WINTER



We are very excited for our Christmas Fair on 7th December! We are so grateful for the generous

Donations, to help with the fair that you are sending in on the non uniform days!

The own clothes days are:

FRIDAY 10th NOVEMBER

Please send in 'Sweets in a jar'

FRIDAY 24th NOVEMBER

Please send in sweets or chocolate for the 'Sweet Tombola'

FRIDAY 1st DECEMBER

Please send in a new toy for the 'New Toy Tombola'

Dear Parents/Carers,

The second part of the Autumn term is now racing by and winter is fast approaching bringing with it colder weather and darker evenings. What a busy half term we have already had so far!

The season of Advent is forthcoming, a time of hope and waiting, where we have an opportunity to reflect on the year and get ourselves ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas.

Our Christmas Fair will be happening on Thursday 7th December! We are also excited to be doing Christmas Shows and we wish you all a hopeful and reflective season of preparation.

Thank you, as always, for your continued Support. We are so proud of the children here at St Peter's with how they have such a drive to learn!



On the week of 11th November, the whole school participated in different events linked to Armistice. On Friday 10th November Year 6 went to the Imperial War Museum North in Manchester to look at the history behind war and conflict, and how it has affected the world we live in today. On Thursday 9th Year 6 children started the day with a very moving collective worship for the whole school all about Remembrance. The children also attended a very moving service on the 10th where Mr Law, who served in the Royal Navy for 23 years came in do a reading, and this was followed by 2 minutes' silence. All the children showed real empathy.

The School Council have also been around the classes to sell poppies to the children to raise money for the Royal British Legion charity.



REMINDERS

NO PARKING

Due to the narrowness of the road and congestion, we ask that you **do not park** on Muriel Street or in the turning circle outside the school gate when dropping off or collecting your child. Parents are allowed to use Gordon Riggs car park or the layby opposite.



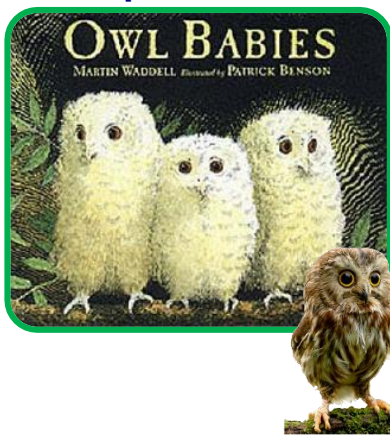


Nursery News

I would like to start by welcoming all our families back after the half term break. We have now got to know all your children and what their next steps are to move their learning forward. This term our topic is Animals. We will be learning about different animals and where they live, and what animals make good pets and which ones don't. Our first book this term will be 'Dear Zoo' by Rod Campbell. This book will introduce us to what animals make good pets and which ones don't. We will be describing these animals using words like 'fierce' and 'grumpy'. Throughout the term we will be listening to stories, singing nursery rhymes, learning to recognise numbers, counting a number of objects, counting forwards and backwards, recognising and copying our names. These are all things that children could also do at home with parents and older sibling. In RE we are starting the topics 'Special Times' and 'Christmas'. We will be looking at how we celebrate special times with our families and why Christmas is important to Christians. We will be looking at photos of your children at their own celebrations and they will share their experiences with their friends. We have sent your children home with a 'Home Learning Book' please complete the tasks each week with your children. This will help to improve your children's learning. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to any of the Nursery staff. Thank you for your continued support.



Reception News



Welcome back to another busy and fun filled half term, we hope you hope you had a lovely break, making lots of memories together as a family and are ready for another exciting half term in Reception! We will begin this half term by exploring all things animals! Our first story is 'Owl Babies', throughout this story we will begin to learn key vocabulary such as 'hunting' and 'nocturnal' and develop skills such as story sequencing, recalling key events and acting out the story using puppets and props. We will then move on to a non-fiction book 'Night Animals', learning lots of fun facts, making animals using playdough and creating our own fact files. We will also be exploring autumn, recognising the changes in our own outdoor area as well collecting autumnal objects to make wreaths and engage in transient art activities. In Maths we will continue to develop our number recognition and counting skills, learn key vocabulary related to capacity and size and also begin to describe the properties of shapes. We will also revisit addition and subtraction, with some fun practical games in our outdoor area to help us! This half term our RE topic is Special Times, this will include discussing our own special memories, the feelings associated with the memory, Jesus' special times and thinking about why it is important to celebrate special times. The children are making great progress in phonics, they are beginning to recognise a range of letters and can recall the sound they make, some children are now beginning to blend the sounds to read some words! Please continue to encourage your child to read their book at home, we love listening to them read to us in school!

Year 1 News

We have got an exciting half term planned in Year 1! In RE we will be learning about and expanding on the Christmas Story. We will explore the scripture that tells us all about the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ and dive deeper into what this means for us in our lives. In history we are going to be learning all about life in the past and discover how lots of objects and possessions were different for our grandparents. In DT we will be looking at moving picture books and creating a variety of moving pictures. In science we will be continuing our learning on materials and carrying out lots of exciting experiments. We will also be going on a fantastic trip to Legoland to support our science topic. In maths we are going to be working on addition and subtraction and our number bonds to 10. In English we will be practising basic sentence structure and starting to use a range of adjectives. We will also be looking at rhyming poems and reading Harvey Slumfenburger's Christmas Present. During this half term we will continue to focus on developing the pupil's phonics knowledge. Please ensure you read with your child at home and complete all phonics activities and homework sent out during the term. This term leads up to Christmas and all the exciting events that involves at St. Peter's. Please keep looking the School website for information and dates for your diary. We look forward to another great half term with Year 1.



Year 2 News



Welcome back to the second half of the first term. We have a lot of exciting things planned this term! In maths, we will begin by focusing on doubling and halving. Later in the term, we will begin to think about telling the time. Do you know what time it is now? We will also be doing a weekly 'MAD MINUTES' sessions, where the children are timed whilst completing their times tables. Ready, steady, get practising! In English, we are focusing on the book 'The Cherry Tree Farm' by Enid Blyton. The children will be making predictions, exploring the front cover and making inferences based on what they have read. Towards the end of this half term, we will look at a non-fiction text all about Guy Fawkes. In History, our topic is 'Why do we remember the fifth of November?' Throughout this topic, we will be exploring the events that led to Guy Fawkes plot to set the Houses of Parliament on fire. Have you heard any fireworks lately? Was his plan successful? Our Science topic continues to be 'Materials Matter'. We are now focussing on materials that are used to make different balls and the reason why these materials have been used. Which ball was the bounciest, the football or the bouncy ball? In RE, we will be focusing on the topic 'Christmas - Why was the birth of Jesus so important?' Our learning will be focused around many 'Big Questions' and we will be discussing how to spread the good news of Jesus' birth. Thank you for your support, and if you have any questions, please do come and speak to one of the Year 2 team.



Year 3 News

Welcome back to our second Autumn half term! In RE we will be moving on to our topic 'Christmas - God is with Us' this surrounds the topic of the birth of Jesus and the Christmas story. We will be focusing on God's presence and how it can impact people's lives as well as what instances we feel God's presence and what emotions/challenges it helps us with. We will be focusing on Place Value in Maths, applying mental strategies to work out calculations for addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Please could you make sure the children are practising their times tables at home. In English, we will be exploring Adventures Stories by reading Stone Age Boy and Stig of the Dump. Moving on from adventure stories, we will be looking at poetry and some nonfiction texts concentrating on the format and features of both. Our new Science topic this term is Light - we will be looking at different kinds of light sources and how they are incorporated into our everyday lives. We will be expanding our knowledge in Science by visiting the Catalyst Museum in Widnes where the children will take part in a Light and Rocks workshop. This is an exciting trip we are very much looking forward to! We have also begun our History topic, what was life like during the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages? The children will come to know how these 3 periods in History have played an important role in today's world. The children will learn how people discovered the metal Bronze and how it was utilised during this era in time. Then moving into the Iron Age and the changes that came about during this time period. Please can you encourage your children to read at home as much as possible. Even if it is only a small amount every day. Our main focus for this academic year is the children's handwriting so could you please make sure the children are continuously practising this when completing their homework.



Year 4 News



After a busy first half term, we are glad to be back and we are working harder than ever! We welcome back Miss Hulse after her maternity leave. She is so pleased to be back but obviously missing her new baby girl. What amazing children we have in Year 4 back to school, back to learning with commitment and enthusiasm. This half term we will be looking at the successes of the Ancient Egyptians in History. In science, we have the electrifying topic of Electricity. The children will be getting stuck into practical work, building their own circuits and lighting up mini-light bulbs, as well as understanding the importance of being safe and thinking about conserving resources. We are pleased to announce that this year, once again, we will be taking part in Rochdale's Linking Network Programme. This will involve visits with and to our linking school in Heywood. This year, our first meeting with the children and staff from Hopwood will be at the M6 Theatre, where we will watch a show together. More details coming soon! In English, we will be looking at some Japanese poems that involve lots of syllable counting! We will be moving onto a book about Tutankhamun and another one about a very clever black cat. Place value will continue to be a big focus for the start of this half term. This knowledge underpins everything else we learn about in maths. Important! Further to this, we are starting to develop our skills in multiplication and look at challenging problems within all of our topics in maths. Later on this half term, we will explore the four operations in depth. In RE we will continue our Prayer unit in RE exploring the prayer habits in different religions. Jesus the Light of the World is our next theme and this links in with Christmas light too. Swimming and Games will continue again this half term. Thank you for your continued support.

Year 5 News

Welcome back everyone! What another amazing half term we have planned in Year 5! In English, we will begin the term by looking at the narrative text, *Goth Girl*. We will then look at travel writing, focusing our attention on relative clauses and end our term with the poetry unit, *The Walrus and the Carpenter* by Lewis Carroll. In Maths, we will be looking at multiplication and division facts. We will learn about factors and prime numbers. We will also learn how to use short division and using our knowledge of times tables to help us. We will then move onto negative numbers in their real life contexts! In Science, we will be continuing our understanding of life cycles and will move onto looking at the various life cycles of different types of animals e.g. mammals, birds, reptiles, insects. We will be continuously making comparisons and exploring their differences. For RE Year 5 will be exploring proverbs. We will be discussing the value of wisdom and reading about the wisdom of Solomon. Later on in the term we will be moving onto Christmas: *The Gospels of Matthew and Luke*. We will be looking at these Gospels and their perspective of the nativity story as well as deepening our understanding of the true meaning of Christmas. Our History topic will explore the world of the Maya, and especially why most of the Maya seemed to die out around 900 ad. We will look at their culture, religion, food etc. and compare these to how the remaining Maya still live today. In D&T, we will be exploring musical instruments, discovering how they create sound and how that sound can be altered. We will then move on to planning and making our own. In Computing, we are looking at the unit of 'We are cryptographers' looking at different methods of code and understanding their uses. We will be working to crack the codes and design our own!



Year 6 News



Welcome back after the half term break! 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. We will start by looking at blogs and reports, thinking about formal and informal writing. We will then be moving onto 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens. We will be reading the story in class and basing our writing around it. We will be using the thoughts and feelings of the characters to produce our writing. We will then move on to looking at narrative poems referring to 'The Highwayman.' In Maths, we will begin with fractions, thinking about equivalence and ordering. Then we will move onto looking at shapes; identifying the properties of shapes and calculating the area and perimeter. Children will be taking part in Freckles and answer questions that are marked automatically and then are tested at the end. We will continue with the competition between the classes on TT Rock stars, and we will see which class wins just before the end of the term. In Science, we will be looking at light. Children will get the opportunity to observe how light travels and how shadows are formed. In History, we are looking at Ancient Greeks and thinking about 'Why we should thank the Ancient Greeks. We will be learning about how the Ancient Greeks have impacted the world we live in today. In DT, we will be designing and building our own shelters, making them durable, windproof and waterproof. The Christian Value we will explore is 'Trust'. This half term, we will be focusing on 'Advent' and sharing our thoughts as a class. The children will be answering Big Questions and posing their own. We are looking forward to another exciting term with Year 6! Thank you!



New Canteen Update

As you are all aware, the building work has started on our new canteen. This is very exciting as it means the children will have a separate space for eating and the school hall can be fully utilised in support of our broad and balanced curriculum. Please see some of the photos below to see the progress and the intended finished space. Thank you for your patience and support during this process.

St Peter's Church of England Primary School

Muriel Street
Rochdale
OL16 5JQ

Phone:
(01706) 648 195

Fax:
(01706) 710 302

E-mail:
office@stpetersce.
rochdale.sch.uk



CINDERELLA



Pantomime
Friday 15th December

Christmas dinner

Wednesday 20th December

A Christmas Party

Christmas Party Day
Thursday 21st December
Own clothes day

Christmas Shows

Nursery
'The Nativity'
11th December 10am (AM Nursery)
11th December 2pm (PM Nursery)



We are excited to announce our Christmas Productions for this year. We hope you can come in and see your child perform and get yourselves into the Christmas spirit! We look forward to seeing you!

Key Stage 1
'The Angel Who Nearly Missed It All'
14th December 2pm



Reception
'Born in a Barn'
13th December 2pm



Key Stage 2
'Bethlehem'
19th December 2pm



Anti-Bullying Week

Bullying affects millions of lives and can leave us feeling hopeless. But it doesn't have to be this way. If we challenge it, we can change it. And it starts by **reaching out**.

This year Anti Bullying Week had the theme 'Make A Noise About Bullying' and to remind everyone whether it's in school, at home, in the community or online, let's **'make a noise'** and show each other the support we need.

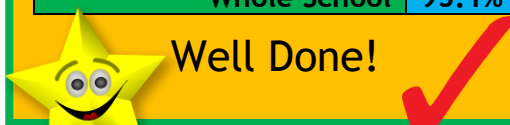


ATTENDANCE

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

Nursery	90.9%		
Rec RP	93.3%	Rec RK	93.8
Year 1K	94.6%	Year 1A	95.1%
Year 2W	94.0%	Year 2B	95.0%
Year 3G	95.7%	Year 3J	97.4%
Year 4C	96.9%	Year 4H	95.9%
Year 5F	95.4%	Year 5H	95.9%
Year 6N	95.8%	Year 6M	96.1%
Whole School			95.1%

Well Done!



Headteacher Message

I hope you enjoy reading the latest edition of our school newsletter. Remember the school website is regularly updated with news and gallery pictures, so please take a look. We are fast approaching Advent and Christmas will soon be here. I'm really looking forward to the Christmas Fair and children's Christmas Shows. It will be lovely seeing you all there!

Now that the cold mornings and dark evenings are here, please remind the children about road safety and stranger danger. As usual, we will be doing our bit in school to pass on the 'stay safe' message. As always please feel free to speak to me if you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education.

Mr A Whelan