

St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



SPRING TERM 2017/18
1ST HALF TERM



Dear Parents/Carers,

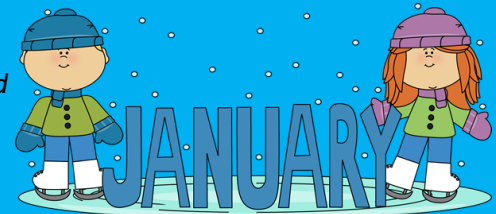
At the start of this New Year we warmly welcome you back to St Peter's and wish you a very happy, healthy and successful 2018!

We hope that you and your family had a fantastic Christmas holiday and you really enjoyed spending time together, sharing the joy and magic of the festive season.

In this half term's newsletter we will be telling you about events that have taken place and about some of the things we have planned for the weeks ahead.

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

11th Jan - Year RF
18th Jan - Year 6H
1st Feb - Year 4C
8th Feb - Year 3G

Half Term

22nd Feb - Year 5N
1st Mar - Year 2M
8th Mar - Year 1S
15th Mar - Year RB
22nd Mar - Year 6M

Easter Holiday

26th Apr - Year 5M
3rd May - Year 4J
10th May - Year 3M
24th May - Year 2K

Half Term

14th June - Year 1H
21st June - Year RF
28th June - Year RB

Please come and join us for your child's class assembly!
Assemblies start at 9.05am



CHRISTMAS EVENTS

We had a busy Advent period with lots of fun, festive events. The EYFS, Infant and Junior nativity concerts were all a great success and very well attended. We had a lovely carol concert where staff read the story of Christmas and this was interspersed with a selection of traditional carols and Christmas songs. All the classes also enjoyed their Christmas parties, visits to Church and even a pantomime of Aladdin! We even had a very special visit from Father Christmas who delivered presents to each class. Thank you to all the staff, children and families for making these events such a success.



Christmas with the Aliens



Humph the Camel



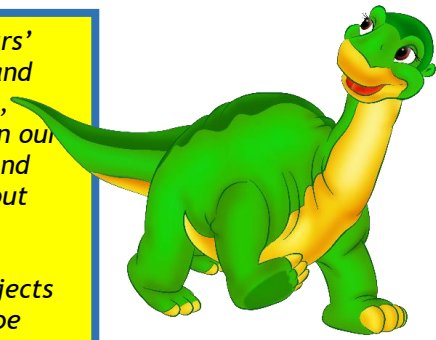
Aladdin



Bethlehem: The Musical!

Nursery News

Our themes this half term will be 'Dinosaurs' and 'People Who Help Us'. For 'Dinosaurs' we will be learning about when dinosaurs lived, the names of some of the dinosaurs and finding facts about them. For the second theme, we will be learning about the police, firemen/women, the ambulance service; as well as people such as doctors who help in our community. During Literacy, we will be looking at non-fiction texts about dinosaurs and learning how we can find facts from books. We will also be reading lots of stories about dinosaurs and making our own dinosaur books. Maths this half term will be based on Number, so we will be doing lots of counting up to 20 and above, as well as counting backwards from 10 to 0. The children will also be estimating quantities, counting objects one to one, describing 2D shapes and writing and recognising numbers. In RE we will be learning about stories Jesus told and stories Jesus heard; looking at different stories from the Bible. Homework will be sent out each Friday and will need to be in school again on a Thursday. Children will also be going to the library on a Thursday to change library books, so it is essential bags are in school.



Reception News



A happy New Year to you all! We would like to thank you for sending in WOW cards to show off your child's home learning. We will begin this half term by learning about winter, light and dark and arctic climates. Other things that will crop up in our learning include: Chinese New Year, Shrove Tuesday and Easter. In Literacy, we will continue 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. We are encouraging the children to blend and segment the sounds in the words they are reading and writing. Our Maths learning will continue to focus heavily on number recognition and addition. We will also link in lots of shape, space and measure, including money. We are beginning to learn about number bonds to 10, and some of us are beginning to look at number bonds to 20! In RE, this term's focus is on Perseverance and stories in the Bible. We will be reading lots of stories in the Old Testament such as Jonah and the Whale, Joseph, Moses and Daniel. Our classroom provision areas continue to reflect the needs of the class, as we have completed our termly assessment data. The areas of need we have identified are: Health and Self Care, Making Relationships, People and Communities and The World. One thing for sure is that they will be filled with lots of fun and exciting learning opportunities!

Year 1 News

We have got another interesting half term planned in Year 1. In geography, we will be learning all about the different continents and some of the animals that live on them. In Art we are learning about the architect Sir Christopher Wren and making collages of his work. Through our Science lessons we are going to be looking at the different kinds of plants and flowers we can find around school and investigating what they need to grow. The children will be planting their own seeds, looking after them and observing the changes as they grow. In RE we will question: What makes Jesus special? Who were Jesus's special friends? How can we build special friendships? In our English lessons, we will be reading traditional tales, funny poems and learning to write instructions. This term we are going to be focusing on using adjectives and verbs in our writing to make our sentences more interesting. We are going to continue building our knowledge of number in Maths, including place value, addition, subtraction and number sequences. We will also learn more about time and money and begin measuring lengths and weights.



Year 2 News



Happy New Year! The children have made a fantastic start to 2018, working very hard and showing a determined attitude! This term we will be looking at a range of traditional tales from other cultures and fantasy stories in English. We will also be continuing to learn about different types of non-fiction writing and poetry. During Maths this half term, we will be focusing on various skills such as addition and subtraction, times tables, place value, fractions, and weight and time. So we will be very busy! Our History topic for this half term is 'Food, Glorious Food.' We will be learning about how, not only food has evolved over the years, but all the types of appliances that were used hundreds of years ago to what we use now! We might even get to try some of the different types of food that people have eaten over the years. 'Plants' is the focus of Science during which we will be finding out about the differences between living things, parts of a plant and what a plant needs to grow! As you can see we have got a busy, fun-filled half term ahead of us in school but we would also appreciate your continued support and encouragement with your child's learning at home as this will help your child's progress, especially as it is creeping nearer to SATs.

Year 3 News

As always, it is a busy term with lots of exciting things to do. We will be continuing with our History Topic with a focus on how humans progressed and developed from the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. In English, we will be exploring Imaginary Worlds by looking at the Text Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl. The children will focus on verbs, pronouns and dialogue in a text. The computing topic will focus on being network engineers. Whilst we will be limited within school accessing the physical networks on the system, we will carry out many practical tasks recreating the principles behind a network and how it works. We will as always, consider the risks associated with networks and learn how to be safe in the online environment. DT will focus on mechanisms and how we can use levers and linkages to make things move. This will give them a first look at this idea until it is developed later in the school. RE will see us move from God incarnate and the birth of Jesus, to his life as he grew and the stories of his life. We will then study the Easter story and the consequences of Jesus' life. As always we ask that you encourage your child to read at home as much as possible. Even if it is for a small amount every day it will benefit them greatly.



Year 4 News



We are really pleased to welcome back all the children after a relaxing break. Happy New Year to all our children and families. May we take this opportunity to thank you for all your support in 2017 and look forward to this continuing in the New Year. This term we will be looking at a variety of books. We have already made a start with Little Mouse's Book of Fears by Emily Garrett. This book shows children that it is ok to be frightened and share their thoughts and feelings. Children will also learn the skills and structure needed to write a recount. Later in the term we will be looking at more poetry and non-fiction books. We have started an exciting new programme in Maths called Times Table Rockstars. The children have Rockstar names and a rating linked to their performance against the clock. By the age of 10 all children should know the times tables up to 12X12. Time table rockstars provides the children with a fun way to learn and improve their tables. Through our Geography lessons, the children will be learning all about the water cycle and the effects it has on the weather. Swimming for the children starts at the end of this term. Watch the website for details of a Parent's meeting that will explain how you can support your children.

Year 5 News

Welcome back, we hope you have had a relaxing break and a happy New Year! In Maths we will be continuing to look at place value, negative numbers, line graphs and multiplication and division. Moving onto English, we will be starting off looking at poems. The children will be using the classic Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats to develop their descriptive vocabulary. We will then move on to look at a non-fiction unit; this will include looking at argument and debate texts, discussing the differences between fact and opinion. Our science unit will cover Earth and Space for this half term. The topic will include proving that the Earth moves around the sun; that the moon moves around the Earth; and that the seasons, and day and night are all a consequence of these movements. For RE, we will learn to understand the importance of Jesus' teaching and the impact it has on us today. Our topic work will move towards Geography, by investigating the big question 'How is our country changing?' In Computing, we will begin by making tessellations using a program called Inkscape. DT will start with a new project on alarms. Art moves on to looking at landscapes, focusing in on the work of Eileen Downes.



Year 6 News

This will be an extremely busy term for all the children in Year 6 as we continue to work hard in all areas of the curriculum. We are encouraging the children to complete their SAT's revision books - we have already had one inspection of these. Keep up the good work! 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. Our first text is from the 1001 Arabian Nights as we focus tales from other cultures. In Maths we are consolidating our learning, extending the children's knowledge to ensure they are able to apply this in all contexts. The children are very keen to learn about the Ancient Greeks both in and out of school. Some amazing learning log challenges are coming in already! We are looking forward to taking part in an Ancient Greek workshop at our local museum - Touchstones. This will bring the learning to life! In RE we are learning about the Christian celebration of The Eucharist. This is when Christians commemorate The Last Supper. Bread (His body) and wine (His blood) are consumed in order to remember the sacrifices Jesus made for mankind. We will be visiting St Peter's Church where Reverend Watkinson will share with us how he conducts The Eucharist in his church services.





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PUNCTUALITY REMINDER



Please make sure your
child is lined up on the
playground for

8.50am



Congratulations to Mrs Sutton our Chair of Governors!



Our Chair of Governors, Mrs Sutton, has received high recognition from the Diocese of Manchester for her faithful service as a school governor for over 20 years! Mrs Sutton received an invitation to attend a special ceremony at Manchester Cathedral to recognise this momentous achievement. Mrs Sutton was presented with a certificate from Rt Reverend Mark Davies, Bishop of Middleton, Diocese of Manchester who was also joined by Rt Reverend Stephen Conway, Bishop of Ely.

We are blessed to have Mrs Sutton as our Chair of Governors; she is extremely supportive of our school and is very knowledgeable having spent a significant amount of her time teaching at the school before becoming a governor. She is a huge asset to St Peter's and has enhanced many young people's lives over her many years of dedicated service. Mrs Sutton helped ensure governance of the school was graded as outstanding during the recent Ofsted inspection this year. We couldn't be more proud!

Water Safety Assembly

On Wednesday 17th January, the children were very fortunate to have received water safety sessions by 'The Canal & River Trust'. This was a valuable learning opportunity for the children of St Peter's, as we have a canal in close proximity to

the school. The children now have a raised awareness of the hazards of being near water, how to avoid them and learned what to do in an emergency.



CHRISTMAS FAIR

This year we held our second Christmas Fair. Stalls included Father Christmas, Face Painting, Bottle Tombola, Chocolate and Sweet Tombola, Toy Tombola, Refreshments, Fun Games & Crafts! It was extremely well attended, great fun and proved to be a great success. Across the stalls we took nearly £2000. Thank you to everyone for their support!

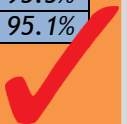


ATTENDANCE

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

Nursery	92.4%		
Rec RB	92.3%	Rec RF	93.3%
Year 1H	96.2%	Year 1S	96.5%
Year 2M	94.5%	Year 2K	95.2%
Year 3G	95.3%	Year 3M	97.0%
Year 4C	96.8%	Year 4J	94.3%
Year 5M	94.8%	Year 5N	95.0%
Year 6H	97.2%	Year 6M	95.5%
		Whole School	95.1%

Well Done!



Headteacher Message

Welcome back to school and 'Happy 2018!' Where does the time go? I have been very impressed with the way the children have returned after the Christmas holiday and I am sure we have a very hard working and successful term ahead. The second half of last term was very busy with some fantastic events to celebrate Christmas and I was extremely proud of all the children as they performed in their concerts and plays, which were enhanced by our new stage and lighting. The Christmas Fair was also a great success! Thank you for all your support! 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