

St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



SPRING TERM 2023/24
2ND HALF TERM



Spring

Parents' Evening



Wednesday 20th 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 will be sent
out, so we can allocate
you a time to meet your
child's class teacher.

We look forward to
seeing you then!



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 about, 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. Our core value this term is 'Justice'.

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!



WORLD BOOK DAY

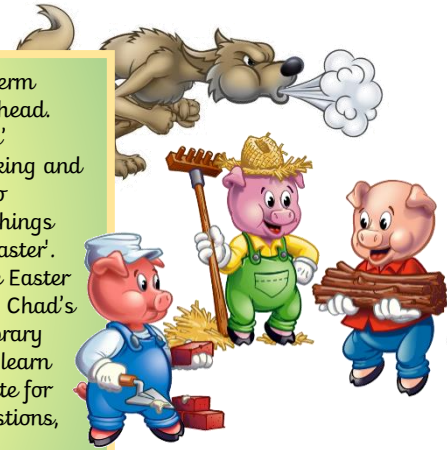
7 MARCH 2024

We all had great fun dressing up as book characters on Thursday 7th March. The day got off to a great start with an assembly where everybody showed their costumes off! We were delighted to find that, thanks to the children's kind donations, we raised over £270 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 all the children in their fantastic costumes!



Nursery News

It has been wonderful listening to all the lovely things the children have been doing during their half term break. They have all returned with a very positive learning attitude and ready for the busy half term ahead. Our topic this half term is 'Tradition Tales'. We start this topic off with 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' followed by 'The Three Little Pigs'. Children will be acting out the stories helping to develop their speaking and listening skills. Throughout this term we will continue to listen to stories, sing nursery rhymes, learn to recognise numbers 1-10, counting a number of objects and learning to write our names. These are all things that children should be practising at home. In RE we are starting the topics 'Stories Jesus Told' and 'Easter'. We will be listening to stories that Jesus told others. We will also be learning why Christians celebrate Easter and why it is an important time of year for Christians. There will also be another visit to the lovely St. Chad's church in Rochdale. We will continue to send a 'Home Learning Challenge' each week and a weekly library book for the children to share with their family. Reading with your children is very important as they learn new words and it helps to improve their literacy skills. Don't forget to regularly check the school website for photos and videos of your children enjoying their learning at St. Peter's Nursery. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to any of the Nursery team.



Reception News



Welcome back to another fun filled half term, we hope you hope you had a fantastic break, making lots of memories together and are ready for another exciting half term in Reception - including our first school trip to Smithills Farm! Keep checking our website gallery for our photos! This half term our topic is 'Traditional Tales and farm animals', we will start by learning about farm animals by reading our bug club non-fiction book - 'On the Farm'. We will then move onto 'The Gingerbread man', 'Egg to Chick', 'The Little Red Hen' and finally 'Billy Goats Gruff'. We have some very exciting activities planned this half term, including making gingerbread men, using a range of materials to build bridges for the three goats and a very exciting delivery of eggs, we will watch them hatch and grow into chicks! In Maths we will be learning one more and one less than, recap subtraction and explore number bonds to five and ten. We will also be counting sounds, actions and objects through our own St. Peter's mini Olympics! This half term our RE topic is Easter - we will be learning about Holy Week which consists of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. We will act out each event on our outdoor stage. Please continue to encourage your child to use their phonics when reading at home; we are seeing such great improvements in the children's ability to read.

Year 1 News

Welcome back to the spring half term! We hope you had a lovely week off and we are very much looking forward to all of the exciting activities that we have planned over the next few weeks. In RE we will be looking at the Easter story and discussing why this celebration is important to Christians. We will be discussing how the Easter story links to new beginnings at spring time and the significant meaning behind Jesus dying for us on the cross. In English we will be looking at how and why we write letters, poetry and exploring new texts. We will be looking at a number of different books such as Handa's Hen, George and the Dragon and the Great Fire of London nursery rhyme. In Maths we will be measuring different objects by using cubes and rulers. We will also be finding the difference between lengths, comparing and measuring weights, and revisiting addition and place value. We will focus on the topic of Habitats in our science lessons which will include understanding what a habitat is and exploring different types of habitats which are used by different animals. In history we have started a new topic which is all about The Great Fire of London. We will be sequencing the events on a timeline and comparing travel, jobs and buildings from now to 1666. We will also be developing our historical vocabulary through this topic and visiting the National Emergency Services Museum to learn even more. In DT we will be continuing to look at Homes and the different types of homes throughout the world. We will be also designing and using different materials to create our own houses. In PE we will continue to improve our gymnastics, dance and games skills through weekly lessons.



Year 2 News



Holy Week

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring term! We have many exciting events planned for the children so keep your eyes peeled. In maths, we will start the term by focussing on multiplication, division and fractions. We will also re-cap and improve our knowledge on time. As always, we will be encouraging the practise and use of times tables - 2s, 5s and 10s. In English, we will be looking at instructions and creating our own set of instructions to look after a pet. We are also focussing on the book 'Hansel and Gretel' by Helen Ward. The children will be making predictions, exploring unfamiliar words, ordering the events of the story and answering comprehension questions. In History, our topic is 'What was Rochdale's Role in the Industrial Revolution?' Throughout this topic, we will be exploring what the industrial revolution is and its importance to modern society. We shall also investigate the local area. Our Science topic is 'Living Things and their Habitats'. We will look at how to identify whether something is living, dead or never been alive using MRS GREEN. Can you remember what this stands for? In RE, we will be focussing on the topic 'Easter Symbols'. Our learning will be focused around many 'Big Questions' and we will be discussing the many symbols you will see around Easter time and explore what they represent.

Year 3 News

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term! Yet again it will be jam packed full of lots of great activities for the children to do. Our focus in RE will be Lent and Easter. Year 3 will learn about the stories of Holy Week, the emotions that these events can stir and the true meaning of Lent, including the way we celebrate. In Maths, we will be focusing on: fractions and time. We will also be concentrating on mental addition and subtraction, continuing with the written methods for both of these. Make sure you are practising your mad minutes at home! We will be spending the next few weeks in English looking at Non-Chronological reports. This will allow the children to focus on their grammar on grammar as we need to improve our understanding of completing and punctuating sentences. Our focus in Science this term will be looking at the life cycle of a Frog and Pond Life. The children will look at each stage from egg, tadpole, tadpole with legs, froglet, frog. They will transfer the eggs to the school pond and then observe over the term the progress. This in turn will allow the children to research and find out about what other animals, insects live in or around the pond. History this term will focus on the Roman invasion and the impact they had on Britain. They will learn the lives, challenges and achievements of the Romans in Britain. This will be further investigated by our Year 3 trip to DEWA Museum in Chester. PE is on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Please make sure your child has their PE kit in school on these days. Make sure you are continuing to read with your children as it all helps to contribute towards their wider learning. Thank you for your continued support.



Year 4 News



Wow! We are now in the fourth half term of Year 4! To start our History topic, "Anglo Saxons and Vikings", we have had an exciting visit to Tatton Park where we met the scary "Viking Lord Bloodaxe". We also learned about some of the jobs the Anglo- Saxons did and had a go at threshing and grinding wheat into flour. It was an excellent day with excellent behaviour from all our children. In English, we will be starting off looking at narrative poetry and discovering how the Weeping Willow tree got its name. After we will be reading a Non-fiction book about the Anglo-Saxons to link to our history topic. We will finish off the half term exploring mythical stories including stories about, Mermaids, Selkies and Beowulf, with Grendel - the monster. In Maths, we are looking at shape. We will be learning a new skill: using a compass to draw circles. We will also be investigating regular and irregular polygons. We must keep up with times tables learning so we are ready for the time table check in June. In Science, Year 4 moves onto living things and their habitats where we will be looking at what all living things have in common. We will then move look at what makes living things different and thing how we can compare them using scientific classification groups. In RE, this term we will focus on Trust and Betrayal. We will explore who we can trust and if we can trust all of these individuals for all things we need help with. The themes of Trust and Betrayal link to the Easter story. Both Year 4 classes have been receiving Cornet tuition and near the end of the term, Year 4 will be performing their cornet concert showing off all their new musical skills, playing new notes and songs they have learnt. Please remember that all children are still required to bring their swimming kit on Monday mornings including a bathing suit and towel. Thank you as always for your support.

Year 5 News

Welcome back everyone! We have a really exciting half term ahead of us including World Book Day and our educational visit to Quarry Bank Mill! We cannot wait to see everyone in their costumes and learn more about Victorian life for children at the mill. In English, we will begin the term by looking at the work of William Shakespeare and his famous plays! We will be focusing on understanding Romeo and Juliet and how we can use our knowledge and vocabulary to understand difficult words and phrases! We will then move onto non-fiction reference texts based on true or false and finally our poetry unit of 'You Wait Till I'm Older Than You!' where the children will be learning some very funny poems. In Maths, alongside the revisiting of place value and the four operations, we will also look at factors and multiples so keep practicing your times tables! Don't forget our Times Table Rockstar's battles! Our Science unit will look at changes in materials. We will be doing loads of experiments and looking at the properties of different materials. We will investigate reversible and irreversible changes as well as solubility! For RE we will be focusing on the period of Lent, Holy Week and Easter and how this time in the Christian calendar is a celebration of Victory! We will look at the inspiration we can take from Jesus and his journey to the cross and resurrection and how we can use this to motivate us through our own life's challenges and victories. Our History topic is 'What was life like for children during Queen Victoria's reign?' We will look at home life, education and we will get to experience this on our school trip! In DT we will be looking at bread. We will look at the origins of bread making, bread around the world and eventually the children will be making their own tasty inventions! We just want to remind you that although Year 5 are scheduled to have indoor PE three times a week, kit should be in school at all times in case on any last minute changes. The same applies to reading books - thank you for your support in this.



Year 6 News



Welcome back after February half term! 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 'The Boy in the Stripped Pyjamas'. 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 be moving onto chronological reports, thinking about the short film clip 'Lighthouse'. We will then move on to looking at Persuasive writing. In Maths, we will begin with finding percentages and fractions of amounts. Then we will move onto looking at multiplication and division. Children will be taking part in Freckles and answering 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 'Living things and their Habitats'. Children will get the opportunity to learn about Carl Linnaeus and his classification system. In History, the topic we are looking at is 'What was Life like for Children during WW1?' We will be learning about how the war effected the world globally, thinking mainly about children. In DT, we will be focussing on designing and creating our own slippers. The Christian Value we will explore is 'Justice'. This half term, we will be focussing on 'Who is Jesus?', the children will be answering Big Questions and posing their own. We are looking forward to another exciting term with Year 6! Thank you!



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Forthcoming Events

EYFS/KS1 - EASTER BONNETS

Tuesday 26th March (AM)



Decorate a hat for your child to wear in the 'Easter Bonnet Parade'

KS2 - EASTER EGGS COMPETITION

Tuesday 26th March (PM)



Decorate an egg for your child to display in our competition!



Between Wednesday 28th February and Friday 1st March, the Year 6 pupils went on their residential trip to Boreatton Park. This was a fantastic time for all the children; they were able to participate in adventure activities designed to motivate, build confidence and encourage development. Have a look at some of the fantastic pictures! Thank you to all the staff who took the children - as you can see, they had an amazing time!



Safer Internet Day

This year's Safer Internet Day took place on Tuesday 6 February 2024. From cyberbullying to social networking to digital identity, each year Safer Internet Day aims to raise awareness of emerging online issues and current concerns to create a safer and better internet for all, and especially for children and young people. As part of the celebration, we encourage everyone - including children and young people, parents and caregivers, teachers and educators, policymakers, industry and others - to join "Together for a better internet".

Speak with your child about their online activity...



ATTENDANCE

How's your class doing? Our attendance target is:

96%

Nursery	89.9%	Rec RK	92.7%
Rec RP	92.4%	Year 1A	90.9%
Year 1K	93.4%	Year 2B	93.0%
Year 2W	92.3%	Year 3J	95.6%
Year 3G	92.7%	Year 4H	96.1%
Year 4C	95.8%	Year 5H	95.5%
Year 5F	94.6%	Year 6M	96.2%
Year 6N	96.3%	Whole School	93.9%

Well done to classes 4H, 6N & 6M for achieving the attendance target!

Attendance Matters, Every Second Counts!

If attendance is between 90-96% (8-20 days absence per year) it means that during primary years your child will miss 2 or more terms of education!

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. We really are lucky here at St Peter's to teach such well-mannered, caring and responsible pupils. We've had some fun events already with school trips, and of course, '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. The new canteen building project is well underway, and I am very excited for the children to have a great dining experience when it is their lunchtimes; we are hoping it will be completed very soon!

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