

St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



AUTUMN TERM 2021/22 1ST HALF TERM



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back!

The Summer Holidays seem like a distant memory, but we are thrilled to be back in school with all the children.

Here we are again 'Back at School' and in these first few weeks the children have settled into their new classes fantastically. We are all so proud of them.

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

16th Sept - Class 6H
23rd Sept - Class 5M
30th Sept - Class 4J
07th Oct - Class 3G
14th Oct - Class 2W
21st Oct - Class 1S

Half Term

11th Nov - Class 5F
18th Nov - Class 6N
25th Nov - Class 4C
Christmas Holiday
13th Jan - Class 3H
20th Jan - Class 2H
27th Jan - Class 1K

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

Parents' Evening

Wednesday 20th 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



HEART OF ST PETER'S AWARD WINNERS

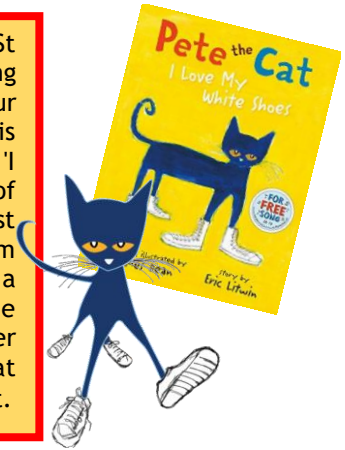


At St Peter's, we believe that every pupil should strive to be 'The Good Soil' Mark 4: 1-20. Therefore, we chose two of our Year 6 Leavers, who we believed to be shining examples of what we hold dear at St Peter's, to win the 'Heart of St Peter's' Award. They mirrored Jesus' teachings of the Christian Values throughout their time at school. Well done Zainab and Kaeleb!



Nursery News

As this first term begins we would like to welcome all of our families who have joined us at St Peter's this year. We have enjoyed meeting you all and look forward to a busy, fun and exciting year ahead. This term our topic will be 'All About Me'. We are currently getting to know your children and finding out their interests, likes and personalities, we will then be using this knowledge to support your children in their next steps of learning. In RE we are starting the topic 'I am Special'. We will be asking questions like: How do we know that we are special in the eyes of God? How do we know that God is our Heavenly Father? Why are our names important? Our first book this term will be 'Pete the Cat, I love my white shoes' by Eric Litwin. 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 our names and learning all the school routines. These are all things that children could also do at home with parents and older sibling. If you have any questions about your child starting Nursery or how to help your child at home, then please do not hesitate to speak to any of the Nursery staff. Thank you for your support.



Reception News



Welcome to Reception! We have been having lots of fun exploring our new classroom and getting to know our new friends. We have also enjoyed looking at the fabulous All About Me posters that some of the children made over the summer, they are amazing! This half term our topic is All About Me; we will be discussing who lives in our house, what we like to do with our family and the special memories we have made. In RE, we will be talking about what makes us special, appreciating and celebrating how we are all different! We will also learn about our school's Mission Statement 'Be the Good Soil' and discuss how we can be 'The Good Soil', every day, here at St Peter's. The first story that we are learning about is Harry and his Bucketful of Dinosaurs, Harry's favourite thing is dinosaurs! We will be discussing what our favourite things are as well as drawing and painting them! The children will also be practicing writing their name every morning, please encourage your child to do this at home too. The children have been showing us their amazing counting skills! We are now encouraging them to recognise numerals 1-5 and beyond, please encourage your children to look and name the numbers around them at home - these could be on your front door, bus numbers and prices in the supermarket! Our PE lessons will be on Monday and Fridays, please ensure your child has a full PE kit in school and each item is named.

Year 1 News

Welcome to Year One! The children have started Year One 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! Our topic in RE is God's creation story we will be discussing the meaning of creation and learning about the Christian beliefs. Towards the end of the half term we will be learning about harvest. All our RE lessons will include a reflection time which will encourage children to think about our religious learning. It will be a lovely opportunity to discuss and engage with the children about their actions and feelings. During this half term the children will be learning all about our local area of Rochdale in the topic 'Where we live'. This will be part of our Geography subject and so far the children have greatly enjoyed discussing and describing the areas in which they live. In Art we will be looking at self-portraits and the different techniques artists use to draw themselves. Some of the famous artists we will be looking at are Picasso, Van Gogh and Frida Khalo. In Science the children will be learning about different materials and their properties. 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. Please ensure the children have their PE kits in school every day as well as their reading books and reading records. Thank you!



Year 2 News



Welcome back to school and into Year 2! We are so excited to have the children back and can't wait to learn together and share our successes! What will we be learning this half term? Our unit in RE is 'Jesus, friend to everyone'. We will use Bible stories such as 'Jesus and the children' to help us further understand friendship. In English, we will begin by looking at 'Traditional Tales with a Twist', and we will be exploring a favourite story of ours, Prince Cinders by Babette Cole. We will then move on to looking at letters and non-chronological reports. In maths, we will be looking at the important unit of place value of numbers, addition and subtraction. We will also use our learning in these units and apply it to the context of money. In addition to our maths lessons, we will have a weekly timetables test that we call 'Mad Minutes'. Please support your child with practising these at home. Our science topic is 'Materials Matter'. We will learn new science vocabulary such as absorb and transparent and use this to describe the properties of materials. In geography we will be looking at the question, 'What are seasons?' This will involve us looking at seasonal changes across the UK. We are looking forward to an exciting year with you all!

Year 3 News

Welcome back to school and most importantly welcome to Year 3! A big part of this year will be the transition from Infants to Juniors. 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. This term in RE will see a focus of prophets surrounding our "Called by God" topic. This is very exciting and contains lots of stories from the Bible, with a reflective theme of repent, forgiveness and quests. Each RE lesson will contain a time for reflection where the children will be encouraged to consider their thoughts and actions in daily life and how to further improve these in order to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. We will also be starting our Harvest topic and begin to look at the Old Testament stories from the Bible. Maths and Literacy will continue just like last year with 1 lesson of each per day. In addition to this, we will spend extra time on handwriting and guided reading. Please can you encourage your children to read at home as much as possible. This is vital to their success at school and will benefit them greatly. Even if it is only a small amount every day. Your children will receive spellings to learn every week alongside a weekly piece of homework relating to that week's work. We very much appreciate your support in ensuring homework is completed. Please ensure your child reads with you every night. Not only is this an enjoyable task it also enhances their writing skills.



Year 4 News



Welcome to our Year 4 families! We are so pleased to be back with the children; their smiling faces have helped us back to normality in these uncertain times. The children have come back to school with excellent manners and a good memory for how to behave at school. In English we will be looking at the Fables of Aesop, a lot of animals tricking each other and teaching us lessons. For maths we are looking at numbers and place value. Times tables are extremely important and it would greatly support your child if you could help with tables learning at home. Times table Rock stars is a fun way to do this or pencil and paper games can be just as effective. Science lessons will look at Solids Liquids and Gases – States of Matter. In Geography we will be looking at North and South American continents making our way along the famous Route 66! Once again it is so good to be back doing what we should be educating your lovely children. Unfortunately, it is not as easy to catch us on the playground for questions at the moment. If you can't, we are happy to speak to you over the phone should you need to ask us anything. Please call the office to arrange this.

Year 5 News

Welcome back to the new school year! We're glad to see you all back. We hope you had a safe and wonderful break. Within our RE lessons, we will be focusing on Jesus the Teacher, developing our understanding of parables that Jesus taught. In English, we will begin with reading classic fiction: The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling. Later we will move onto our non-fiction unit of UFO recounts and ending the half term with writing instructions and explanations. In Maths, we will be developing our understanding of the four number operations. Some other topics we will look at are: shape, place value and money. For our Science Unit, Year Five will explore properties of materials. I won't give too much away, but expect tales of Alien soup. In Art, we will be focusing on the topic 'Look at this-Cezanne'. This involves selecting, arranging and presenting objects in a still-life painting. In computing, we will design, write and debug a programme using computer game software. Geography focuses on the question 'How is our country changing?' To link with this, our music topic will be all about our community. If you would like to discuss anything about your child's learning, please do come and speak to one of the team; we would be happy to help.



Year 6 News



Welcome back and in to Year 6! It's lovely having the children back in school. 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 'War Horse' where 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 write a persuasive letter. We will then move on to looking at recounts, instructions and explanations referring to 'The Day of Ahmed's Secret' and 'Sue Palmer's Book of Instructions and Explanations.' In Maths, we will begin with place value, addition and subtraction. We will then be looking at decimals and fractions. Then we will start to look at algebra. Children will be taking part in Accelerated Maths and answer questions that are marked automatically and then are tested at the end. We have a competition between the classes on TT Rock stars, and we will see which class wins just before October half term. In Science, we will be looking at fossils. Children will get the opportunity to observe some real fossils and discover how they were made. In Geography, we are looking at Journeys: trade and thinking about 'Where all of our stuff comes from.' We will be learning about how to look after our environment sustainably. In Art, we will be learning about Lowry focusing on sketching and drawing moving images. The Christian Value we will explore is 'Generosity'. This half term, we will be focusing on 'Ideas about God' and sharing our thoughts as a class. We are looking forward to an exciting year with Year 6!



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REMINDERS FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Absences

We wish to 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 on the school playground by 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 £7.50.

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 £12 per week (£2.40 per day).

All payments to be made online via:
Pay 360 Education

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT



On Friday 24th September we had a fantastic day raising money for Macmillan – a charity very close to our hearts! 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. We made a fantastic £500 to donate to the charity. Well done everyone!



Update from Mrs Stubbs (SENDCo)

It has been so brilliant to be able to get into classes and work closely with the children this year - they are settling in well and I can already see they are making fantastic progress in their new year groups. We are sending out our new Autumn term 'IEPs', so keep an eye out for these as they will outline the support and strategies we have in place for your child. Please make sure you take a look at our updated 'SEND' page on the school website. Here you will find lots of information on how we support those children with SEND in school, as well as links to local support agencies. As always, just call the school office to get in touch if you have any queries!



ATTENDANCE

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

Nursery	86.4%		
Rec RM	96.7%	Rec RK	94.3%
Year 1K	96.3%	Year 1S	94.5%
Year 2W	94.9%	Year 2H	97.1%
Year 3G	95.4%	Year 3H	96.8%
Year 4C	95.6%	Year 4J	93.6%
Year 5F	98.7%	Year 5M	94.2%
Year 6H	88.3%	Year 6N	97.2%
Whole School		94.9%	

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. It is so nice to see things return to 'normal' in school and to see the children able to enjoy the new and improved facilities the grounds have to offer.

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