

St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



AUTUMN TERM 2018/19
2ND HALF TERM



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!

It will soon be the season of Advent, 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.

Details of our Christmas Concerts are on the back page of this newsletter. We wish you all a hopeful and reflective season of preparation.

Thank you as always for your continued support!



CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND

Children in Need

On Friday 16th November we took part in 'Children in Need', we had a non-uniform day and managed to raise £541 to help 'Children in Need'. Well Done Everyone!



REMINDERS

PUNCTUALITY
Our school day starts at
8.50am

Please ensure your child is at school on time.

NO PARKING
Due to the narrowness of the road and congestion, we ask that you do not park on Muriel Street when dropping off or collecting your child. Parents are allowed to use Gordon Riggs car park or the layby opposite.



CHRISTMAS FAIR



Thank you for all the kind donations to our Christmas Fair. Don't forget to come along, it will be great fun!



Friday 7th December
3.30pm till 5.30pm.



Stalls will include;

Father Christmas, Face Painting, Bottle Tombola, Chocolate and Sweet Tombola, Toy Tombola, Refreshments, Fun Games & Crafts!



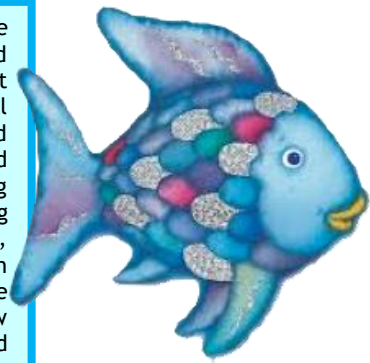
COME AND HAVE FUN
Ho! Ho! Ho!





Nursery News

Our topic this half term is 'water'. We have been learning about 'Mrs Wishy-Washy'; we have had some fantastic discussions about the story and sounded out initial sounds of the animals in the book. We counted Mrs Wishy Washy's washing on a washing line with different amounts up to 10 and counted as we put different animals in the tub to get washed. We have been also focusing on the story, Rainbow Fish and linking up all our areas of learning to relate to our story of the week. We have learnt about the life cycle of a fish and about the ocean and the sea creatures within it. We used our counting hoop to count to 20 and identified different numbers up to 10. We enjoyed counting different numbers of coloured scales on the fish and finding the matching number card. This half term we also started phonics. We have been identifying sounds, singing our letters and sounds song and learning about general sound discrimination e.g. environmental sounds, instrumental sounds and body percussion. In RE we have been focusing on who is special, what makes a person special and how important and special God is. We have been engaging in a variety of RE activities to give the children many opportunities to explore Christian Values. We enjoyed making a class poppy for the window by dipping our fingers into paint for Remembrance Day and learning about the soldiers in the war. It would be great for your child's development if you could look at books and ask your child to discuss what is happening in each of the pictures.



Reception News



In RE this half term we are learning about 'Special People', we will be talking about our families and other people that are special to us! We will be reading bible stories and finding out how special Jesus is. We will be decorating biscuits and enjoying this with our Year 6 'special friends'. On the lead up to Christmas we will be celebrating the Birth of Jesus. We are going to make cards and have a birthday party; we will end the party with a quiet reflection, and we will have time to read our cards for Jesus to hear.

In Literacy, we are learning about 'Light and Dark' and we began the half term with the story 'Owl Babies'. We have been really enjoying learning about Percy, Sarah and Bill. We have made WANTED posters so we can find Mummy Owl who went missing! We found out that Mummy Owl is very caring like our Mummies and Daddies and that she had actually gone to find food for her owl babies.

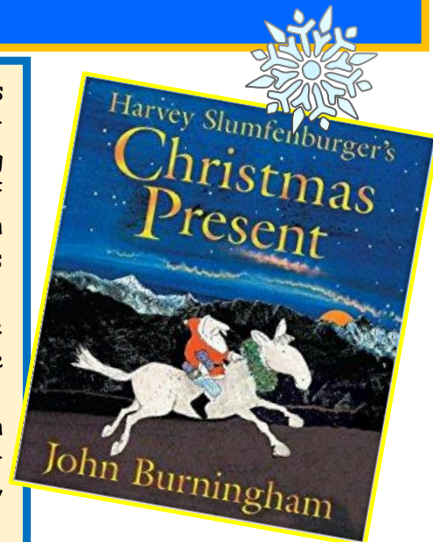
Your child now has a reading book in their book bag; it would be of real benefit to your child's development if you read with them at home. Although they may not be able to blend CVC words, they should be able to recognise letters and tricky words (I, the, to, go, no). Please do come and see us if you have any questions regarding your child's learning and development in the early years.

Year 1 News

We have got an exciting half term planned in Year 1! We have been learning all about Guy Fawkes and why we celebrate Bonfire Night in history. In science we will be learning even more about the different seasons and investigating all the different types of weather we experience during each season. We will be conducting lots of experiments - measuring the different types of weather, for example making rain gauges to measure the rain fall over the next few months. In art we will be learning about Claude Monet and trying to replicate some of his famous paintings ourselves.

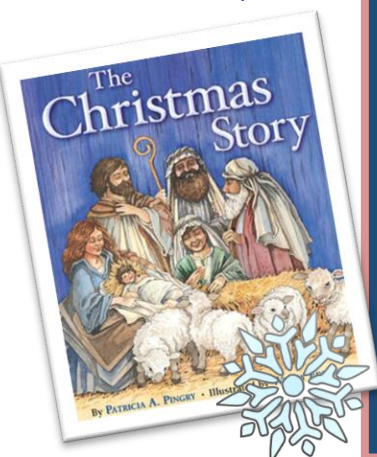
In RE we will be continuing our work on Judaism before moving onto the Christmas Story. We will explore the scripture that tells us all about the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ and dive deeper into what this means for us in our lives.

In maths we are going to be working on addition and subtraction and our number bonds to 10. In English we will be looking at facts about different machines before designing and writing about our own big machine. We will also be looking at rhyming poems and reading Harvey Slumfenburger's Christmas Present.



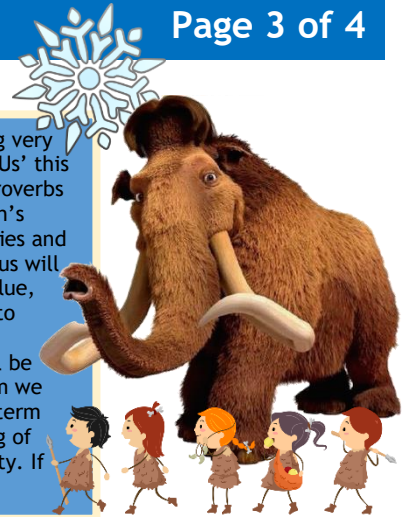
Year 2 News

It's a very exciting half term in Year 2! In our RE lessons we will be focusing on the Christmas Story and how the good news of Jesus Christ coming into our world was received. We will explore this through the Bible and develop our understanding of how this greatly impacted our lives. We will ask important questions about the Christmas story and how this event affected the world then and now. By the end of this topic, the children will be able to retell this story with confidence and understanding. In English, the children will continue to develop their writing skills through various pieces of work. We will look at a range of texts which will include fiction and non-fiction. In maths, we will be mainly focusing on our addition and subtraction skills, especially the use of number lines and place value. The children will also recap their knowledge on shape, position, direction and money. This term in science, we will be moving onto the topic of materials. The children will explore a number of materials and will conduct tests into a variety of materials for example what is absorbent and what is not, which materials can sink and which can float and a range of different experiments. The children will be busily preparing for their Christmas performance in the next few weeks so we would like you to help us in ensuring that the children are practising any lines or songs that they may be performing within the play. The children are very excited for this!



Year 3 News

Welcome back to our second Autumn half term! The children have been working very hard and are becoming very mature and independent in their learning. 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 then be moving on to looking at Proverbs and their meanings, exploring the Bible and discussing the value of wisdom, including reading about Solomon's wisdom. This is a lovely opportunity to explore our scripture in more detail, focusing less on the typical stories and parables and concentrating more on the implications and inferences surrounding Proverbs. In Maths, our focus will be remaining on key mathematical skills and knowledge such as addition and subtraction as well as place value, multiplication and division. In English, we will be exploring Roman Myths, these are a fantastic opportunity to capture imagination and will provide an engaging format for the children. Moving on from myths, we will be looking at non chronological reports and the features of these texts. Our new Science topic is Light - we will be looking at how light travels, what shadows are and many other brilliant questions surrounding this. This term we shall be looking at how people from the Stone Age lived and how humans changed through the ages. Spring term will see a development of this right through to the Iron Age. In Art our topic is Edith Holden and the painting of flowers. We will be refining our skills in this area and using music to improve our concentration and creativity. If you have any questions, please come and see one of the Year 3 team members to organise a meeting.



Year 4 News

We have already had a very busy start to the second half term. Earlier this month, we met our Linking Project class from St. Joseph's school in Heywood. We were very excited about meeting them at the M6 theatre, where we played getting to know you games AND watched a production! In RE, we started the term by continuing our prayer topic where we looked at why people pray. We followed this up by thinking of questions we could ask to find out about people's prayer habits. When we have finished this fascinating topic, we will move on to "Christmas: Exploring the symbolism of light". In English, we are looking at the Fantasy genre of fiction. The children prepared for this with their homework over half term. The quality of this was great and we thank you for your support. Poor Hiccup is an unlikely hero; we are looking forward to finding out if he can, "Train his Dragon." This half term we are starting to use varied methods in maths, specifically with addition and subtraction; estimating and rounding. Further to this, we will start 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. This half term we will be looking about how the earth "Shakes, Rattles and Rolls" in geography. This involves earthquakes and volcanos. Electricity is the topic for science and we have some exciting experiments planned. The children are getting stuck into practical work as well as understanding the importance of being safe and thinking about wasting and saving resources. As always, please come and speak to a member of the Year 4 team if you have any questions.



Year 5 News

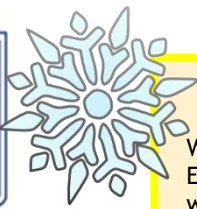
For RE Year 5 will be exploring proverbs. We will be discussing the value of wisdom and reading about the wisdom of Solomon. Later on in the term we will be moving onto Christmas: The Gospels of Matthew and Luke. We will be looking at these Gospels and their perspective of the Nativity story as well as deepening our understanding of the true meaning of Christmas. In English, we are looking at biographies and autobiographies of Roald Dahl and Michael Morpurgo. We will be looking at dialogue, and complex sentences. We will follow this with exploring recounts investigating UFO sightings, completing this unit with a report. Finally moving on to looking at some observational poetry. In Maths, we will start with place value, decimals and subtraction. This will be followed up with a week each on measures, fractions and a combination of all of the four number operations. We will also be looking at Roman Numerals relating to years. Our science unit will continue with our current work on life cycles. We will now begin to compare each stage of the life cycles and finish with a final write up comparing all of the stages. In computing, the children will design, write and debug a programme making a computer game software. Our topic work will move on to Geography, we will be looking at what life is like in the Amazon. We will be researching the city of Manaus, and looking at how we can help to save the Rainforest for the future. In design and technology we will continue our theme on Cam toys where we have currently built up to the design stage and will start to make these over the next few weeks. Art moves on to looking at painting and surrealism art, with a particular focus on Salvador Dali's 'Melting Clocks'. Thank you for your continued support!



Year 6 News

This will be an extremely exciting term for all the children in Year 6! As we get closer to Christmas, we will be focusing on 'How we prepare for Christmas'. We will be learning about the season of Advent and the belief that Jesus will return with the second coming. Children will continue to plan, hold and evaluate collective worship in class and we are looking forward to preparing for our Christmas production of 'Straw and Order'. Over the course of this half term the children will be learning lots of new and invigorating things across the curriculum. Within English, we will be focusing on War Horse and the children have the opportunity to edit and redraft their work; ensuring each piece of writing shows their true potential. Within maths, we are consolidating our learning, extending the children's knowledge to ensure they are able to apply this in all contexts. In History our focus is 'How has WWII impacted our local area?' where we will be thinking about Remembrance, artefacts. We really enjoyed the trip to the Imperial War Museum North that further enhanced our learning and how it shaped the world we live in today. Please do come and see one of the team if you have any concerns or queries about your child; and thank you for your continued support.





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REQM Gold Award!

We were thrilled to have been awarded the highest award for the Religious Education Quality Mark - Gold - for all we do here at St Peter's! We wholeheartedly believe that RE makes a powerful contribution to the children's learning. It provides them with the chance to explore the big ideas of religion and belief and to think about what matters in their own lives. The RE Quality Mark has two purposes: it recognises good practice in RE and also provides a powerful tool for development. It affirms the hard work the staff are already doing, raises the profile of the subject and gives them ideas and confidence for developing their practice even further. I'm sure you would join in me in congratulating all the staff and children in making this happen.

RE
Quality Mark
GOLD



If you would like to read the full report, please head over to the school website under 'Religious Life'.

Have a look at the wonderful stained glass windows that staff and children have made for their classrooms!

We're on the Web!

www.stpetersce.rochdale.sch.uk

Why not download our free app to keep up-to-date with school events! Search for 'School Spider'



Global Neighbours Award!

From recycling, saving energy and litter picks to donating food for local people, pupils and staff at St Peter's Primary School have been working hard to take their place as global citizens and we were delighted to have achieved Bronze Award status in Christian Aid's Global Neighbours scheme in recognition of our wide-ranging steps to love their global neighbour. This accreditation scheme celebrates how we help pupils learn about global poverty and the Christian responsibility to tackle it, as well as giving them the tools to play a confident part in creating a fairer world. We are the first school in the diocese to achieve getting the award, and the 10th in the country!! Well done to all the children and staff!



CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

EYFS

'A King is Born'

12th December 10am
12th December 2pm



INFANTS

'The Inn-Spectors'

14th December 2pm



JUNIORS

'Straw and Order'

19th December 2pm



Anti-Bullying Week

The theme this year was 'Choose Respect' and the aims of the week were to support the children to understand:

- The definition of respect
- That bullying is a behaviour choice
- That we can respectfully disagree with each other i.e. we don't have to be best friends or always agree with each other but we do have to respect each other
- That we all need to choose to respect each other both face to face and online



ATTENDANCE

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

Nursery	94.3%		
Rec RM	95.4%	Rec RK	96.5%
Year 1F	98.0%	Year 1S	97.2%
Year 2W	97.6%	Year 2K	97.5%
Year 3G	97.5%	Year 3H	96.2%
Year 4C	98.3%	Year 4J	98.5%
Year 5M	97.9%	Year 5N	98.4%
Year 6H	96.6%	Year 6M	98.4%
Whole School		97.3%	

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. It's already proving to be a very busy and exciting half term. Advent is just around the corner and Christmas will soon be here. I'm really looking forward to the Christmas Plays and Christmas Fair! 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 pop in to see me if you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education.

Mr A Whelan