

St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



SPRING TERM 2018/19
1ST HALF TERM



Class Assembly Dates

17th Jan - Year 2W
25th Jan - Year 1F
31st Jan - Year 5N
1st Feb - Year 2K
7th Feb - Year 4C
14th Feb - Year 3G

Half Term

7th Mar - Year RM
14th Mar - Year 1S
21st Mar - Year 5M
22nd Mar - Year RK
28th Mar - Year 4J
4th April - Year 2W

Easter Holiday

2nd May - Year 3H
9th May - Year 1F
16th May - Year RM
23rd May - Nursey (am)

Half Term

13th June - Year RK
20th June - Nursery (pm)

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



Dear Parents/Carers,

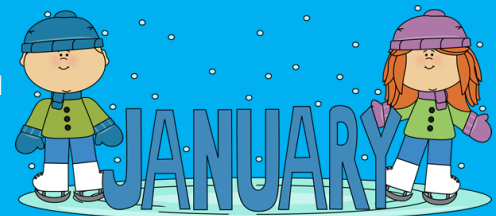
At the start of this New Year we warmly welcome you back to St Peter's and wish you a very happy, healthy and successful 2019!

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!



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 Sleeping Beauty! 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.



The Inn-Spectors



A King is Born



Sleeping Beauty



Straw and Order!

Nursery News

Firstly, we would like to wish you all a very happy New Year as we look forward to another busy term of learning. We hope that you all had a lovely Christmas Break. This term our topic in Nursery is 'Traditional Stories'. The children will enjoy listening and acting out stories like Goldilocks and the Three Bears, The Little Red Hen and other well-known stories. In RE this term we will be looking at some of the stories that Jesus would have listened to when he was a child and we will learn about the stories that Jesus told others. Our first story is Noah's Ark. We will also be asking the children to bring in their own favourite stories from home to share with the other children. In Phonics this term we will be introducing a sound of the week. Children will learn what this sound is and how to write it. The children will also learn about rhyme and alliteration. In Mathematics we will be looking at shapes and where we find these in our environment. We will also be counting with numbers to 20 and beyond and learning how to recognise and write numbers 1-10. Thank you for all your support!



Reception News

We would like to wish you all a happy New Year! We will begin this half term by learning about dinosaurs. The children have shown a great interest in different types and have already amazed us with their fantastic knowledge. As you may have noticed there are four buckets going home with children each day, this is to link into our story focus of favourite things and the book: Harry's bucket full of dinosaurs! In R.E. this half term we will be learning about stories Jesus told and stories Jesus heard, we have started by looking at Noah's Ark! In provision the children will be making Arks both inside and outside, we will also explore floating and sinking in the water tray. 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. We like to use robot arms when blending a CVC (3 letter word) - We are sure your children would love to show you when you are reading at home! Our Maths learning will continue to focus heavily on number recognition as well as mathematical language to explain our reasoning. We will be learning about positional language, weight and money! ALL children will need their PE kit in school as we will be doing PE on a Friday this half term. Please also ensure you bring your child's book bag daily as we don't want them to miss out on school reading and trips to the library. One thing for sure is that they will be filled with lots of fun and exciting learning opportunities! Thank you for your continuous support.



Year 1 News

We have got another interesting half term planned in Year 1. We are looking forward to starting our new topic in RE, 'Jesus was special' looking at his life and ministry. We will ask lots of different questions including: What makes Jesus special? Who were Jesus's special friends? How can we build special friendships? We will be learning all about the different continents and some of the animals that live on them in Geography. In Art, we are learning about the architect Sir Christopher Wren and making collages of his work. In Science, 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. We will be planting our own seeds, looking after them and observing the changes as they grow. In English, 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. If you have any questions regarding your child's learning, please do come and see one of the Year 1 team, where we will be happy to talk with you. Thank you!



Year 2 News

Happy New Year! The children have made a fantastic start to 2019; they are working very hard and showing much more determination! In RE we will be looking at the importance of the Bible and why it is such a special book to us all. We will be learning about the parables from both the old and new testament and discussing the meaning behind them and the lessons we can learn from these stories. This term, in English, we will be looking at a range of traditional tales and fantasy stories from other cultures. We will also be continuing to learn about different types of non-fiction writing and poetry. During Maths, 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 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, 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 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.



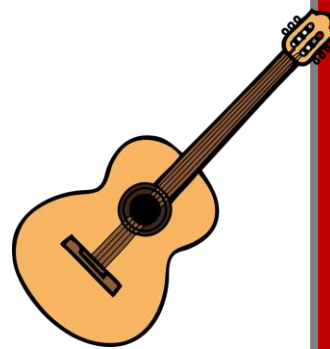
Year 3 News

Welcome back, we hope you had a very relaxing Christmas holiday and have brought your enthusiasm to our spring term! In RE our topic is "Jesus - The man who changed lives". We will be looking at important changes we have faced in our lives and reflecting on how this may change us as a person. We will be looking at the impact of Jesus on the world and individual's lives; how he helped them, how he changed them, how he saved them. Maths will see us continuing with important skills such as place value, addition and subtraction as well as multiplication, division, fractions and measurement. Please continue to practise times tables at home as much as possible and encourage your children to access their Times Table Rock Stars accounts as a way of making this fun for them. In English we will be exploring fiction stories including imaginary worlds and Arthurian myths and legends - like The Sword in the Stone. This is a very exciting selection of topics as it involves a lot of the children's creativity and imagination. A huge part of the development of our country is the history that it contains. During this term we shall be looking at how people from the Stone and Bronze Age lived and how humans changed and developed through the pre-historic ages. Spring term will see a development of this right through to the Iron Age. In Science, we will be looking at plants. Revisiting this topic from year 1 and 2, the children will have a lot of prior knowledge that we can investigate and learn more about, including the parts of plants, pollination process and the requirements needed for a plant to grow healthily. As always including the skills needed for the children to work scientifically when conducting experiments. DT will focus on moving 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 their school life.



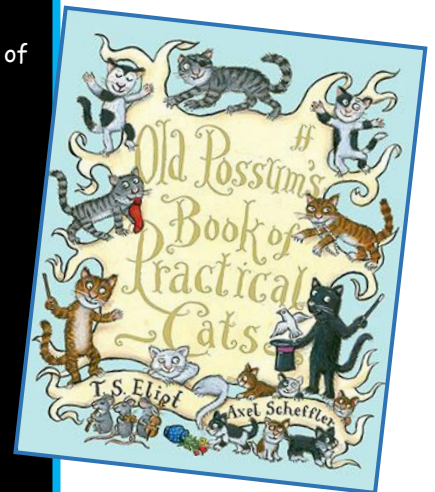
Year 4 News

Hello, happy new year and welcome back, to all our Year 4 families. We hope you have enjoyed the two week break with your children. This term is a very busy one. We have started the exciting opportunity of learning how to play the guitar! We are to have an hour's lesson every Tuesday until Easter. We are hoping that there are some budding 'Rock Stars' amongst us. Watch out for news of our concert in the second half of the Spring term. We will also begin our swimming lessons very soon. More details to follow. In English, we will continue to read a variety of text types, developing new vocabulary and writing skills. In Maths, we will be tackling fractions and decimals as well as continuing to develop number skills and problem solving. Central to our learning is Religious Education where our lessons encourage us to reflect on our faith and practises. We reflect on all our learning and the impact of the Christian values on our daily lives. We will be looking at 'Jesus - Son of God' where we will deepen the children's understanding of Jesus, who he was, his teachings and behaviors; and use the events covered in the stories in this unit to illustrate and emphasise that Jesus is the Son of God; that he was born both God and man. In Science, we will be looking at the water cycle and how this affects the whole world. May we take this opportunity to thank you for all your support in 2018 and look forward to this continuing in the new year. If you have any questions about your child's progress and learning, please do come and speak to one of us.



Year 5 News

For RE Year 5 will explore the lives of significant women in the Old Testament. The aim of this unit is to widen the children's knowledge and understanding of the role and significance of women in the Bible. To reflect upon the actions of these women and consider what we can learn from their stories. In Maths we will be continuing to look at place value, negative numbers and rounding numbers. We will then be looking at mental addition and subtraction, then moving onto line graphs including plotting co-ordinates. We will also be learning about multiplication, division and fractions. In English this half term the children will be using the classic Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats, and the children will be ending this unit writing and editing their own poem. We will then move on to look 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 the movement of the celestial bodies within our solar system and the impact this has on the planets. Our topic work will move towards Geography, by investigating the big question 'How is our country changing?' In Computing, Year 5 are being coders. DT will be based around our topic of bread, and Art moves on to looking at landscapes, focusing in on the work of Eileen Downes. Thank you for your support.



Year 6 News

This will be an extremely exciting term for all the children in Year 6! Over the course of this half term the children will be learning lots of new and invigorating things across the curriculum. This half term, we are focusing on 'Why the Exodus is such a significant event in both Jewish and Christian history?' The children will explore the Christian Values of justice, faith, hope and peace. We will explore the answers to big questions such as 'Why did God choose Moses?' and 'Why is freedom important?' Within 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. Starting with writing a non-chronological report based on creatures from the moon of Pandora. In Maths, the children are consolidating their learning, extending their knowledge to ensure they are able to apply this in all contexts. Our science topic is 'Animals and Humans'. First we will be learning about how the heart works in detail. Within history we are focusing on 'Why should we thank the Ancient Greeks?' thinking about everything they have created and looking forward to our wonderful trip to Touchstones.





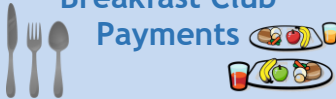
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School Dinner and Breakfast Club Payments



If your child attends Breakfast Club or has school dinners, please can we remind you that you **MUST** pay in advance.

Failure to do so, could result in loss of Breakfast Club place and suspension from school dinners.

PUNCTUALITY AND ATTENDANCE REMINDER

Please make sure your child is lined up on the playground for **8.50am**. If your child is ill, please make sure you ring the school office on **01706 648 195** before 9:00am. However, do try and send your child into school where our dedicated staff will keep an eye on them.

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

On November 30th, the children in Year 5 took it upon themselves to spread a little cheer at the start of Advent by carrying out random acts of kindness to the general public.

The children made Christmas tree decorations to hand out, as well as giving chocolate treats and flowers to passers-by in St Peter's Square in Manchester city centre. We were fortunate that ITV Granada reports wanted to report on this wonderful initiative. Please visit the school website and find the video and read some of the emails sent to the school regarding the acts of kindness and the impact they had on the public underneath the 'Religious Life' tab, under 'Random Acts of Kindness'. We are so proud of all the children- well done!



CHRISTMAS FAIR

This year we held our third 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 over £2000. Thank you to everyone for their support!

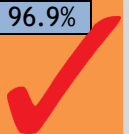


ATTENDANCE

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

Nursery	91.8%			
Rec RM	96.0%	Rec RK	96.4%	
Year 1F	97.1%	Year 1S	96.8%	
Year 2W	97.4%	Year 2K	97.0%	
Year 3G	98.0%	Year 3H	96.3%	
Year 4C	97.7%	Year 4J	97.5%	
Year 5M	97.8%	Year 5N	97.5%	
Year 6H	97.0%	Year 6M	98.1%	
			Whole School	96.9%

Well Done!



Headteacher Message

Welcome back to school and 'Happy 2019!' 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. The Christmas Fair was also a great success! Thank you for all your support! We are excited that all the toilets are being renovated and modernised across the school. This work should be finished just after Easter. 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