

St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



AUTUMN TERM 2024/25
1ST HALF TERM



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to you all and 'hello' to all the new faces!

The Summer Holidays are a distant memory, but we have lots happening in school with all the children.

Here we are again, well into the Autumn Term and in these past weeks the children have settled into their new classes fantastically. We are all so proud of them!

A big welcome to our new families – we really hope you enjoy being part of our wonderful 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

12th Sept - Class 6H
29th Sept - Class 5H
26th Sept - Class 4R
03rd Oct - Class 3J
10th Oct - Class 2B
17th Oct - Class 1KW
24th Oct - Class 3B

Half Term

14th Nov - Class 6R
21st Nov - Class 5C
28th Nov - Class 4H
Christmas Holiday
16th Jan - Class 2K
23rd Jan - Class 1CW

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

Parents' Evening

Wednesday 16th 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.

WELCOME



BISHOP'S VISIT TO ST PETERS



On the bright but cold morning of Monday 14th October, Bishop Mark from Manchester Diocese came to bless the new canteen.

Pupils, teachers, and governors gathered in the school hall with anticipation and excitement, where the Worship Leaders led a Collective Worship, all about 'generosity'. They gave a wonderful insight into the stained-glass windows in the canteen, depicting Jesus and Peter. The Bishop addressed the whole school in collective worship and spoke of 'friendship' and emphasising the importance of community and gratitude. He walked around the canteen, offering blessings for the safety, nourishment, and fellowship the space would provide. The Bishop's words were filled with hope, highlighting how the canteen would foster an environment of care and unity. The Worship Leaders had their photo taken with the Bishop, marking the official opening of the new canteen.



This blessed occasion will be remembered as a milestone in St. Peter's School history, bringing both spiritual and physical nourishment to its vibrant community.

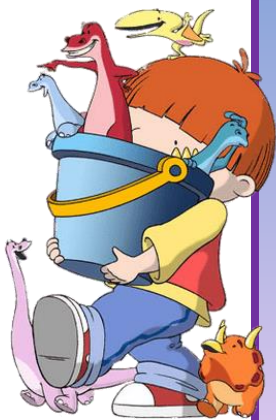


Nursery News

As this first term begins we would like to welcome all our new 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 'Happy to Be Me' By Emma Dodd. 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 should be doing at home with parents and older siblings. 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 will be having lots of fun exploring our new classroom and getting to know our new friends. 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. We are very pleased to see that many children can already write their names, we are therefore working on writing our surnames and letter formation. 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 for, and name, the numbers around them at home - these could be on your front door, bus numbers and prices in the supermarket. 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 Peters. Our PE lessons will be on Mondays and Fridays, please ensure your child has a full PE kit in school and each item is named. We look forward to a fun year ahead!

Year 1 News

Welcome to Year One! We are very happy to have you back in school and hope you have all had a lovely summer break! The children have started Year One with a positive attitude and are settling into their new routine. They seem excited and eager to learn lots of new and interesting things and hopefully this enthusiasm will continue. Our topic in RE is looking at belonging to a faith community, with a focus on Muslims, Christians and Jews, and how members of these communities show that they belong. 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. We are looking forward for an exciting year ahead with the pupils.



Year 2 News



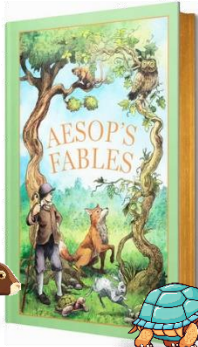
Welcome back Year 2! We are all so excited to begin this year with you all. Year 2 is a very important year, with lots of things to learn...are you ready? Let's see what we are learning this half term! In maths we will be learning more about the place value of numbers, learning new methods for addition and subtraction and carrying out some measuring tasks. In English we will be diving into the book 'Prince Cinders', and reading all about the poor character who is treated badly by his hairy brothers. This is a traditional story with a twist, which we will retell orally and write our own version. We can't wait to read your stories! We will also look at some non-fiction texts all about 'The Weather'. Our geography topic is 'What are Seasons?'. We will build on our knowledge from Year One learning why we have seasons, and if all countries have the same weather and climate. In science, we are going to be doing lots of experiments involving materials and their properties. Is cardboard waterproof? What does opaque mean? We will make predictions and learn lots of new vocabulary. Our RE we will be learning all about the 12 Christian values and what they mean to us. We will enjoy reading many Bible stories that will allow us to reflect on how great Jesus is, and how we can live our lives being the best version of ourselves. Our value this half term is 'Generosity'. How will you show this value at school and at home? Please remember to check our class page on the school website for reminders and any recent work that we are proud of! Additionally if there is anything you wish to ask, please come and speak to a member of the Year 2 team.

Year 3 News

We are delighted to be back and excited to be with the children once again. We could not wait to start this new school year! 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 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. 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. The Science topic this term is Rocks and Soils where the children will learn to identify the different types of rocks, how they are used and why. This half term we will begin with geography, looking at where we are in the world and how we would go about finding ourselves using a mix of digital and traditional methods. 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 as this also enhances their writing skills.



Year 4 News



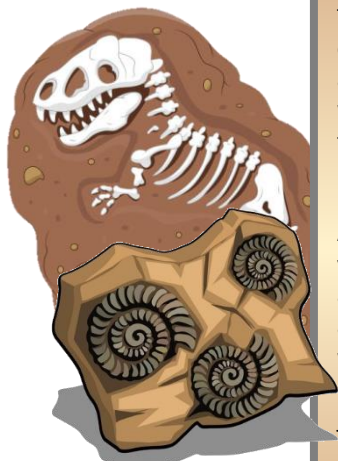
Welcome to Year 4! In English, work on fables has started; the children will be able to tell you some of the morals of these animal-based tales. After this, we will move onto explanation texts linked to our Geography work and then instructions and explanations. In Maths, we will begin with work on place value before moving onto addition and subtraction later on in the half term. We will be trying to stretch and challenge the children, encouraging them to be able to explain HOW they have found an answer not just to write it. RE starts with learning about the trinity where children will be learning about God the son, God the father and God the Holy spirit. In Science, it is States of Matter where we will look at what the three states are and how they can change at different temperatures. The children will need to use some of the knowledge they gained during their materials work in KS1. The first half of a full term begins with a geography unit. Year 4's first topic is A Great American Road Trip, which begins with exploring the difference between a continent, country, state and city and what makes up North America and South America. In PE, swimming will take place on Mondays all year. The other PE slot is scheduled on a Thursday. Please ensure that you have your kit in on these days, although things can change so it would be beneficial if kits could be on your child's peg all week. Homework will usually be given out on a Friday and be expected in the following Wednesday. Spellings will also be handed out on a Wednesday and be tested on the following Wednesday. Thank you!

Year 5 News

We hope you had a safe and wonderful break and you are ready for the exciting year we have planned for you, here at St Peter's. In English, we will begin with reading classic fiction: The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling. The children will explore many of his stories. Later in the term, we will move on to our non-fiction unit of UFO recounts. The children will look at report writing, finally creating their own recount. We will finish the term looking at instructions and explanation, focusing on future transportation devices. In Maths, we will be developing our understanding of the four number operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). Some other topics we will look at are: shape, place value and money. For our Science Unit, Year Five will explore properties and changes of materials and Geography will focus on How our Country is changing. Within our RE lessons, we will be investigating the question "How is God Holy and loving?" We will be developing the children's understanding of how we think we know God and how we can get to know him better. In Art, we will be focusing on the topic 'Look at this- Cezanne'. In this unit we will be selecting, arranging and presenting objects in a still-life painting. We will investigate the work of artists who have used the theme of still life in a variety of ways to convey ideas and feelings. In computing, we will design, write and debug a programme making a computer game software. In French, we will be covering the unit 'On Holiday. The children will learn the vocabulary needed to describe where they are going on holiday, where they're staying and how long they're staying. Homework will be given to the children on Friday and is expected back in to school on Monday and reading books are to be in school every day. May we remind you PE kit should be in school at all times in case on any last-minute changes to the timetable. Thank you.



Year 6 News



Welcome back Year 6! The children have come back ready to start the year with such positive attitudes. The Christian Value we will explore is 'Generosity.' This half term, we will be focusing on the contrasting and complementary ideas about science and religion and sharing our thoughts as a class. The children will be answering Big Questions and posing their own. 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 Freckles 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 of food, as well as trade – all whilst thinking about 'Where does all of our stuff come 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. We are looking forward to an exciting year with Year 6!



St Peter's Church of
England Primary School
Muriel Street
Rochdale
OL16 5JQ

Phone:
(01706) 648 195

Fax:
(01706) 710 302

E-mail:
office@stpetersce.
rochdale.sch.uk

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT



On Friday 27th 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 £475 to donate to the charity. The children all had a fantastic day with their friends. Well done everyone!



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 £10.50.

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 £13.75 per week (£2.75 per day). All payments to be made online via: School Gateway App

Parking on the Turning Circle



Please **DO NOT** park on the turning circle outside the school. It is not for parking.

There have been incidents of deliveries not having access to deliver goods, staff not being able to get out of the carpark and, most importantly, children nearly getting harmed due to careless driving.



ATTENDANCE

How's your class doing?

Our attendance target is: **96%**

Nursery	93.7%	Rec S	95.7%
Rec P	96.7%	Year 1KW	95.8%
Year 1CW	93.6%	Year 2B	96.5%
Year 2K	98.1%	Year 3J	97.2%
Year 3B	95.7%	Year 4R	95.0%
Year 4H	93.6%	Year 5H	98.2%
Year 5C	97.9%	Year 6R	95.8%
Year 6H	97.8%	Whole School	96.1%

Well done to classes: RP, 2K, 2B, 3J,

5C, 5H and 6H 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

Well, here we are again, well into another school year and I am delighted to say that the children have settled extremely well into their classes. It is so nice to see the children able to enjoy the facilities the grounds and school have to offer - especially the new canteen! It was so lovely to see so many of you at the MacMillan Coffee Morning enjoying the new space.

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