

St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



SPRING TERM 2018/19
2ND HALF TERM



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 has
been 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 'Forgiveness'.

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

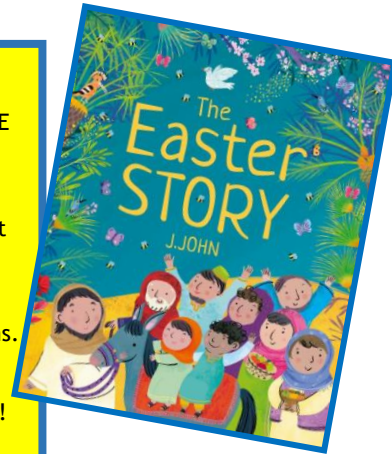


We all had great fun dressing up as book characters on Thursday 7th March. The day got off to a great start with an assembly from Reception, all about Noah's Ark. We also had a very difficult task of choosing a winner from each class and an overall winner. We were delighted to find that, thanks to the children's kind donations, we raised over £224 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 the winners!



Nursery News

This half term our topic in Nursery is 'Stories that encourage writing'. The children will enjoy listening to stories that will give them purposeful opportunities for writing e.g. Kipper's Birthday where children will write shopping lists for a party, party invitations, design birthday cards and create party decorations. In RE this term we will be looking at the stories that Jesus told and the Easter Story. We are also having a faith week, where we will look at Judaism and think about how it is similar or different to Christianity. At the end of the term we will once again be visiting the church. In Phonics this term we will continue to learn a sound of the week. Children will learn what this sound is and how to write it. The children will think about the importance of listening and play lots of listening games. In Mathematics we will be looking at measuring, children will compare different weights, heights and lengths of objects and be encouraged to order these items. We will be continuing to counting with numbers to 20 and beyond and learning how to recognise numbers 1-10 and beyond. Children will also be thinking about simple practical number problems. Children have started to bring home a library book to share with an adult at home, along with a home learning book for children to draw and write about their favourite part of the story and for an adult to comment on what the children thought about the story. Please ensure these are returned every Thursday! If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask one of the Nursery Team.



Reception News

This half term our topic is Under the Sea, our role-play area has transformed into a Fish and Chip Shop! We have just got back from our trip to the Sea Life Centre where we all saw a range of different sea creatures and learned more about their habitats and how they adapt. In RE this half term we will be learning about the Easter Story. The children will be role playing Psalm Sunday, making our own psalms and waving them as Jesus arrives into Jerusalem! We will also have our own feast to celebrate the Last Supper, and re-enacting Jesus washing the disciples' feet. 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. Please continue to read at home with your child, we can see the progress they are making as a result of this. We will be looking at a range of different books, from non-fiction books about sea creatures to stories such as Barry the Fish with Fingers. 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 2D and 3D shapes, sharing, halving, adding, subtracting and recapping money in our new fish and chip shop! ALL children will need their PE kit in school as we will be doing PE on a Friday this half term, this consists of a plain white t-shirt, plain black shorts and black pumps. 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. We look forward to another exciting half term filled with lots of learning opportunities!

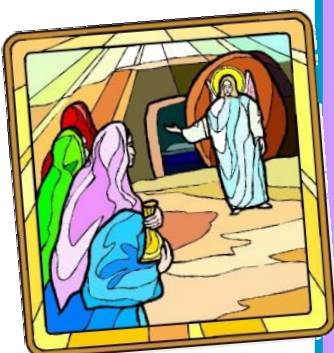
Year 1 News

We have got lots of interesting and exciting things planned over the next few weeks in Year 1. In RE we will be looking at the Easter story and discussing why this celebration is so important to us. We will be discussing how this links to new beginnings at spring time and the meaning behind Jesus dying for us on the cross. We will also be taking part in multi faith week and learning all about Judaism. In English we will be looking at instructions and information texts. We will be joining in with World Book Day and spending a week exploring the text Winnie the Pooh. We will also be learning about traditional tales and story sequencing. In maths we have been measuring different objects by using cubes and rulers. We will also be moving onto capacity, data and revisiting addition. We will continue to focus on our science topic of plants and have been growing our own bean plants! Through this we have been able to observe the different changes and stages in a plants life and we will continue to do so over the next half term. We will then move on to looking at the seasonal change from winter to spring. In history we will be looking at various local heroes from the area of Manchester. This will include past and present heroes and we will be looking at what they have done to be considered a 'hero'. In DT we will be looking at healthy foods. We will explore the different types of food we can make, and eat, and we will also be looking at where some of our food comes from during our trip to Smithills Farm. In Art we will be learning about Henry Moore and replicating his sculptures.



Year 2 News

Welcome back and we hope you have all had a relaxing break. We have planned lots of exciting activities for the children this spring half term! Our RE topic this half term will be focusing on our celebration of 'Easter', why it is such an important time for us all and the symbols associated with this special time of year. In English we will be starting with diary entries, where the children will create a diary about a woodland creature. We will then be moving onto fantasy stories and creating our own tales about dragons! Towards the end of the term we will focus on humorous poems. This term in maths we will begin by focusing on the 4 operations that the children use consistently throughout their maths learning (addition, subtraction, multiplication and division). We will be ensuring that the children learn all the different mathematical vocabulary linked to the 4 operations - please test your child at home to see how many they can remember! We will also be looking at some data handling and measuring. In Science, children will continue to observe various seeds and bulbs and will be describing how they grow into mature plants. We will investigate how plants need water, light and a suitable temperature to grow and stay healthy. We would also like to remind parents that reading is to be done every night with your child, and reading books should be brought into school every day, along with PE kits. It is essential that your child is reading as often as possible as this is crucial for their important upcoming SATs tests. Any extra help or support from home will enable your child to perform at their very best ability when sitting these exams. As usual if you have anything you wish to see us about please do ask. Thank you as always for your support.

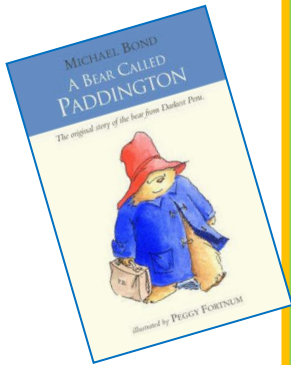


Year 3 News

Welcome back to the second half of the spring term! 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 rituals and the way we celebrate. In Maths, we will be focusing on: fractions, place value, multiplication and division. We will also be concentrating on mental addition and subtraction, continuing with the written methods for both of these. We will also be looking at time, position and fractions. We will be spending the next few weeks in English looking at non-fiction recounts and then move onto narratives. We will also be focusing on grammar as we need to improve our understanding of completing and punctuating sentences. In Science, we will continue looking at plants. We will be looking at the structure of plants in more detail and focusing on how water is transported. Another focus will be seed dispersal and the life cycle of a plant. In Geography, we are learning about climates around the world! We will learn about types of climate: temperate, desert, polar and tropical. We will also be creating our own 'triorama' of climates! Computing will see us become opinion pollsters! We will be designing our own questionnaires which we will be creating on the computer for each of the classes to complete. This data will then be collected and we will be presenting it in tables and graphs. In French, we will be learning about: manners, numbers, classroom objects and how to greet each other. In Art, we will be focusing on the artist Antoni Gaudí, where the children will create their own mosaics in his style!



Year 4 News



Wow! We are now in the fourth half term of Year 4! This is quite a short half term and we have lots to do. In RE, we are currently exploring trust and betrayal and how they are linked. We will then look at how these themes run through the Easter story. Later on this half term we will spend a week exploring aspects of Judaism during our multi-faith week. Our History theme this term is all about, "How the Victorians Influenced our Local Area"; earlier in the term both classes visited Toad Lane in the centre of Rochdale. Toad Lane is the site where the first ever Co-operative shop started. Today it is a global business. Some children in each class dressed up as Victorians and acted out the very first sale of half a pound of sugar. The children learnt a great deal about these innovative men and their influence on Rochdale and future modern society around the world. We will be using all the information we gathered to further our learning in the rest of our history lessons. Last week was Book Week and World Book Day was Thursday 8th March. Children dressed up as their favourite book character, on this day. In Year 4, we are reading a book called "Paddington," both Mr Jolly and Mrs Cavill have already read it and have been preparing lots of interesting activities for us around its theme. In Maths, we are continuing understanding all aspects of fractions. We will also learn about decimals and see how the two are interrelated. Swimming has started really well and the children are already making progress. We would just like to urge you to ensure your children's clothing has names inside, to avoid mix ups. Thank you for your support with this.

Year 5 News

For RE Year 5 will look at understanding how Jesus died and rose victoriously and what this means to us here at St Peters; focusing on the Easter story in detail. We will think about times in our life when we have been victorious and how this made us feel. In English this half term we will be looking at 'Short!' by K. Crossley-Holland. This book is a collection of short stories which investigates the use of adverbials to link sentences and paragraphs. The children will end this unit writing their own spooky story. Later on, we will be focusing on 'The Jungle Book', by Rudyard Kipling and D. Wiesner's narrative book about flying frogs - Tuesday - will be used to study report writing. The children will use both direct and reported speech, the use of formal and informal writing including the use of passive voice. In Maths we will start with place value, consolidating what we have learnt previously and looking at solving problems. This will be followed up with a week of measurement: area, perimeter and volume. A big focus after this will be on multiplication and fractions. For our Science unit, Year 5 will cover forces. The topic will explore the effect gravity has on humans and objects on Earth; identify the effects of friction, air resistance and water resistance and investigate mechanisms and how they can help us in the world in which we live. During the whole unit we will be working scientifically, using equipment to take accurate measurements and recording the results in tables and charts. Our topic work will move towards Geography, by investigating the question 'Where should we go on holiday?'. We will be focusing our investigation on the Alpine region; understanding beyond our local area to include Europe. We will look at the location and characteristics of this region, using map work, research and investigation to identify human and physical features of this location. In Computing, Year 5 will be architects. We will research examples of art gallery architecture, before creating our own virtual gallery. DT will continue with our bread topic. Art moves on to looking at 3D artwork, focusing on Michelangelo's famous sculptures. We will investigate him as an artist, techniques he has used and finally creating our own sculpture in his style.



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?' The children will then move on to looking at different 'People of Faith.' 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. Our text choices will include Charlotte's Web, The Lighthouse and linking our writing to PGL. In maths, we are consolidating our learning, extending the children's knowledge to ensure they are able to apply this in all contexts. Our Science topic is 'Living Things and their Habitats.' We will be learning about the classification system as well as different species of animals and where they live. Within Geography our focus is 'Are We Damaging Our World?' thinking about renewable energy and sustainability. All of these exciting things will help all the children in their upcoming SATs which will give them an opportunity to shine and show everybody what they know and how great they are! If you have any questions regarding your child's learning, please do come and speak to one of the team.



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Forthcoming Events

EYFS/KS1 - EASTER BONNETS

Wednesday 3rd April



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

KS2 - EASTER EGGS COMPETITION

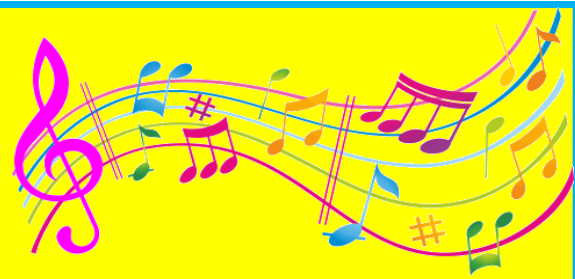
Tuesday 2nd April



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



iSing POP Concert



iSingPOP are a Christian organisation who help to promote the spiritual, moral, cultural and social development of pupils and their place in the community. The children have been learning a number of specially written songs, which support our school values.

On **Friday 15th March** there will be two concerts in the school hall, where you can join us to celebrate the children's achievements. The first concert for Reception and Key Stage 1 will begin at 11am and the second concert for Key Stage 2 will begin at 1.30pm. Each concert will last around 45 minutes. We look forward to welcoming as many of you as can attend.

~ Poet Visit 'Matt Goodfellow' ~

On Friday 8th March, for the culmination of World Book Day, the poet, Matt Goodfellow came into school to deliver a fantastic assembly (where we learned about the 'chicken on the roof!') Matt then worked with Year 3 and Year 4 in his poetry workshops where they could further improve their skills in writing. All the children had great fun, enhanced their love of reading and really developed their poetry skills!



Nursery Places

Places are available for September 2019. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in your child starting at our wonderful Nursery please come and get an application from the school office. If you have already applied, notification of places offered will be sent out over Easter. We offer places for children who are 3 years old and will turn 4 during next academic year.



NURSERY

ATTENDANCE

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

Nursery	90.3%	Rec RK	96.5%
Rec RM	96.0%	Year 1S	97.1%
Year 1F	97.0%	Year 2K	96.0%
Year 2W	98.4%	Year 3H	95.6%
Year 3G	97.5%	Year 4J	97.6%
Year 4C	97.1%	Year 5N	97.7%
Year 5M	97.8%	Year 6M	98.1%
Year 6H	96.4%	Whole School	96.7%

Well Done! ✓

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 a visit from author 'Matt Goodfellow' and '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. 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