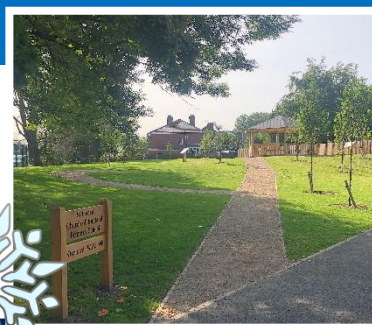


# St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



**AUTUMN TERM 2021/22**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> 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!

The season of Advent is forthcoming, 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.

Sadly, our Christmas Fair won't be going ahead this year due to the coronavirus, however we are delighted to be doing Christmas Shows and we wish you all a hopeful and reflective season of preparation.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support during these challenging times. We are so proud of the children here at St Peter's with how they have come back to school with a drive to learn!



## Children in Need

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November we took part in 'Children in Need', we had a non-uniform day and managed to raise £552 to help 'Children in Need'. Well Done Everyone!



## REMINDERS

### NO PARKING

Due to the narrowness of the road and congestion, we ask that you **do not park** on Muriel Street or in the turning circle outside the school gate when dropping off or collecting your child. Parents are allowed to use Gordon Riggs car park or the layby opposite.



On the 11th November, the whole school participated in different events linked to Armistice. Year 6 went to the Imperial War Museum North in Manchester to look at the history behind war and conflict, and how it has affected the world we live in today. The Year 5 children started the day with a very moving collective worship for the whole school.

The rest of the school attended a very moving service at school, where Steve Law, who served in the Royal Navy for 20 years came in do a reading, and this was followed by 2 minutes' silence. All the children showed real empathy.

The School Council went round the classes to sell poppies to the children to raise money for the charity Royal British Legion



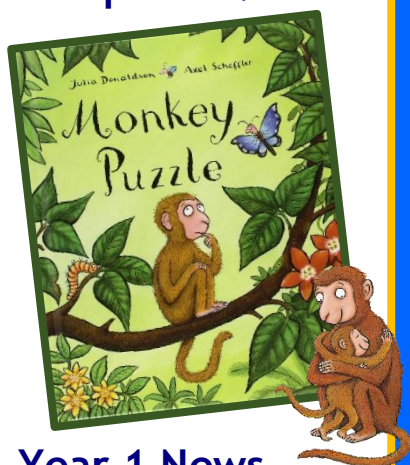


## Nursery News

I would like to start by welcoming all our families back after the half term break. We have had a very busy and exciting half term. We have now got to know all your children and what their next steps are to move their learning forward. This term our topic is Animals. We will be learning about different animals and where they live, and what animals make good pets and which ones don't. In RE we are starting the topics 'Special Times' and 'Christmas'. We will be looking at how we celebrate special times with our families and why Christmas is important to Christians. We will be looking at photos of your children at their own celebrations and they will share their experiences with their friends. Our first book this term will be 'Dear Zoo' by Rod Campbell. This book will introduce us to what animals make good pets and which ones don't. We will be describing these animals using words like 'fierce' and 'grumpy'. 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 and copying our names. These are all things that children should also do at home with parents and older sibling. We have sent your children home with a 'Home Learning Book' please complete the tasks each week with your children. This will help to improve your children's learning. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to any of the Nursery staff. Thank you for continued your support.



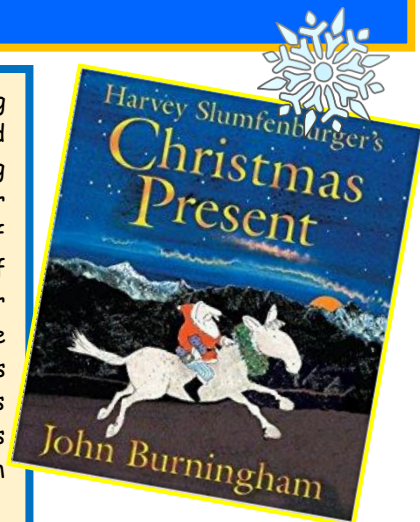
## Reception News



Welcome back to another busy and fun filled half term, we hope you had a lovely break, making lots of memories together as a family and are ready for another exciting half term in Reception! This half term our topic is 'Animals', we will start by learning about jungle animals through the story 'Monkey Puzzle', before moving onto nocturnal animals in 'Owl Babies' and looking at some non-fiction books. The children will be having lots of fun making animals using playdough, creating their own fact files and matching young animals with their habitats. In Maths we will continue to develop our number recognition and counting skills, learn key vocabulary related to capacity and size and also begin to describe the properties of shapes. We will also revisit addition and subtraction, with some fun practical games in our outdoor area to help us! This half term our RE topic is Special Times, this will include discussing our own special memories, the feeling associated with the memory, Jesus' special times and thinking about why it is important to celebrate special times. The children are making great progress in phonics, they are beginning to recognise a range of letters and can recall the sound they make, some children are now beginning to blend the sounds to read some words! Please continue to encourage your child to read their book at home, we love listening to them read to us in school!

## Year 1 News

We have got an exciting half term planned in year 1! In RE, we will be learning about and expanding on 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. We are going to be learning all about life in the past and discover how lots of objects and possessions were different for our grandparents. In science, we will be continuing our learning on materials and carrying out lots of exciting experiments. In DT, we will be looking at moving picture books and creating a variety of moving pictures. In maths we are going to be working on addition and subtraction and our number bonds to 10. In English, we will be practising basic sentence structure and starting to use a range of adjectives. We will also be looking at rhyming poems and reading 'Harvey Slumfenburger's Christmas Present'. During this half term we will continue to focus on developing the pupil's phonics knowledge. Please ensure you read with your child at home and complete all phonics activities and homework sent out during the term. We look forward to another great half term with Year 1.



## Year 2 News

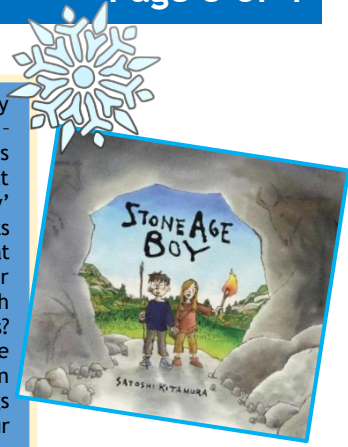


Welcome back to the second half of the first term. We have a lot of exciting things planned this term! In RE, we will be focusing on the topic 'Christmas - Why was the birth of Jesus so important?' Our learning will be focused around many 'Big Questions' and we will be discussing how to spread the good news of Jesus' birth. In maths, we will begin by focusing on measurement with a focus on capacity and time. Do you know what time it is now? We will also be doing a weekly 'MAD MINUTES' sessions, where the children are timed whilst completing their times tables. Ready, steady, get practising! In English, we are focusing on the book 'The Cherry Tree Farm' by Enid Blyton. The children will be making predictions, exploring the front cover and making inferences based on what they have read. Towards the end of this half term, we will look at a non-fiction text all about Guy Fawkes. In History, our topic is 'Why do we remember the fifth of November?' Throughout this topic we will be exploring the events that led to Guy Fawkes plot to set the Houses of Parliament on fire. Have you heard any fireworks lately? Was his plan successful? Our Science topic continues to be 'Materials Matter'. We are now focusing on materials that are used to make different balls and the reason why these materials have been used. Which ball was the bounciest, the football or the bouncy ball?



## Year 3 News

Welcome back to our second Autumn half term! The children have impressed us very much since moving up to Key Stage 2 and we hope this will continue for the next 7 weeks. 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 be focusing on God's presence and how it can impact people's lives as well as what instances we feel God's presence and what emotions/challenges it helps us with. In English, we will be exploring Adventures Stories by reading 'Stone Age Boy' and 'Stig of the Dump'. Moving on from adventure stories, we will be looking at poetry and some nonfiction texts concentrating on the format and features of both. Our new Science topic this term is Light - we will be looking at different kinds of light sources and how they are incorporated into our everyday lives. We will be expanding our knowledge in Science by visiting the Science and Industry Museum in Manchester, an exciting trip we are very much looking forward to! We have also begun our History topic, what was life like during the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages? The children will come to know how these 3 periods in History have played an important role in today's world. The children will learn how people discovered the metal Bronze and how it was utilised during this era in time. Then moving into the Iron Age and the changes that came about during this time period. Your children will receive spellings to learn every week alongside a weekly piece of homework relating to that week's work. Please encourage your children to read at home as much as possible. This is vital to their success at school and will benefit them greatly.



## Year 4 News

After a busy first half term, we are glad to be back and we are working harder than ever! This half term we will be looking at the successes of the Ancient Egyptians in History. In science, we have the electrifying topic of Electricity. The children will be getting stuck into practical work, building their own circuits and lighting up mini-light bulbs, as well as understanding the importance of being safe and thinking about conserving resources. We are pleased to announce that this year, once again, we will be taking part in Rochdale's Linking Network Programme. This will involve visits with and to our linking school in Heywood. This year, our first meeting with the children and staff from St. Joseph's will be at the M6 Theatre, where we will watch a show together. More details coming soon! In English, we have been looking at some Japanese poems that involve lots of syllable counting! We will be moving onto a book about Tutankhamun and another one about a very clever black cat. Place value will continue to be a big focus for the start of this half term. This knowledge underpins everything else we learn about in maths. important! Further to this, we are starting 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. In RE we will continue our Prayer unit exploring the prayer habits in different religions. Jesus the Light of the World is our next theme and this links in with Christmas light too. Swimming and Games will continue again this half term.

Thank you for your continued support.

## Year 5 News

Welcome back everyone! What another amazing half term we have planned in Year 5! In English, we will begin the term by looking at travel writing, focusing our attention on relative clauses. We will then look at the narrative text, *Goth Girl* and end our term with the poetry unit, *The Walrus and the Carpenter* by Lewis Carroll. In Maths, we will be looking at division facts. We will learn how to use short division and using our knowledge of times tables to help us. We will then move onto negative numbers in their real life contexts! 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. Linking with this, we will be focusing on songs all about our Solar System to further our knowledge on this topic! 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. Our History topic will explore the world of the Maya, and especially why most of the Maya seemed to die out around 900AD. In D&T, we will be exploring musical instruments. We will then move on to planning and making our own. In Computing, we are looking at the unit of 'We are cryptographers' looking at different methods of code and understanding their uses. We will be working to crack the codes and design our own! As well as our subject work we will also be continuing with our weekly art and craft workshops with artist 'Emma' from Rochdale Heritage Zone. Our climate change banner is looking striking!



## Year 6 News

Welcome back after the half term break! 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 blogs and reports, thinking about formal and informal writing. We will then be moving onto 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens'. We will be reading the story in class and basing our writing around it. We will then move on to looking at narrative poems referring to 'The Highwayman'. In Maths, we will begin with fractions, thinking about equivalence and ordering. Then we will move onto looking at shapes; identifying the properties of shapes and calculating the area and perimeter. We will continue with the competition between the classes on TT Rock stars, and we will see which class wins just before the end of the term. In Science, we will be looking at light. Children will get the opportunity to observe how light travels and how shadows are formed. In History, we are looking at Ancient Greeks and thinking about 'Why we should thank the Ancient Greeks. We will be learning about how the Ancient Greeks have impacted the world we live in today. In DT, we will be designing and building our own shelters, making them durable, windproof and waterproof. The Christian Value we will explore is 'Trust'. This half term, we will be focusing on 'Advent' and sharing our thoughts as a class. The children will be answering Big Questions and posing their own. We are looking forward to another exciting term with Year 6!





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# Christmas Shows

## Nursery

### 'The Nativity'

9<sup>th</sup> December 10am  
(AM Nursery)  
9<sup>th</sup> December 2pm  
(PM Nursery)



## Reception

### 'Born in a Barn'

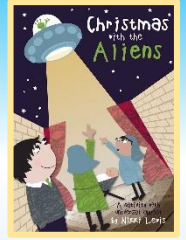
8<sup>th</sup> December 2pm



## Key Stage 1

### 'Christmas with the Aliens'

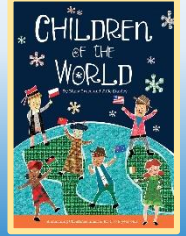
10<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am  
(Year 1)  
10<sup>th</sup> December 2pm  
(Year 2)



## Key Stage 2

### 'Children of the World'

14<sup>th</sup> December 9.30am  
(Year 3 and Year 4)  
14<sup>th</sup> December 2pm  
(Year 5 and Year 6)



Please note, parents will be able to attend these shows at present, but bear in mind this may change if Covid restrictions are in place. In this circumstance, the shows will be filmed and put on the school website



Pantomime

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December



Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December



Dear Lord,

In this season of Advent we prepare our hearts for your coming.

You are the vine; we are the branches.

Come and tend us, prune us, clean us.

Discard in us everything that does not bear fruit,  
Nourish in us everything that bears much fruit.

As we celebrate your coming as a vulnerable baby  
Our hearts await your glorious return as the eternal King.  
Nurture in us expectant hearts, O Lord.  
Cultivate in us a deep longing for more of you.

Until that Day when you burst through the heavens,  
And flood our horizons with your glorious splendour.  
For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory,  
throughout all ages and generations.  
Amen.

## Anti-Bullying Week

Kindness is more important today than it has ever been. The isolation of the last year has underlined how little acts of consideration can break down barriers and brighten the lives of the people around us. This is one of the reasons, that 'One Kind Word' had been chosen as the theme of Anti-Bullying Week that took place from 15 to 19 of November 2021.

This year the goal was to inform children and young people, parents and carers to know that it takes a collective responsibility to stop bullying.

**ONE KIND WORD**

Anti-bullying Week 2021

## ATTENDANCE

How's your class doing?

This year our attendance target is 96%

Nursery	89.1%		
Rec RM	94.4%	Rec RK	94.9%
Year 1K	95.2%	Year 1S	93.3%
Year 2W	96.4%	Year 2F	96.3%
Year 3G	96.1%	Year 3H	95.9%
Year 4C	95.3%	Year 4J	92.1%
Year 5F	96.4%	Year 5N	95.3%
Year 6H	90.9%	Year 6N	94.9%
Whole School			94.5%

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. We are fast approaching Advent and Christmas will soon be here. I'm really looking forward to the children's Christmas Shows and seeing you all there - but please bear in mind this could be subject to change if the local authority asks the school to implement any restrictions due to covid.

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 to speak to me if you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education.

Mr A Whelan