

St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



SPRING TERM 2015/16 1ST HALF TERM



Dear Parents/Carers,

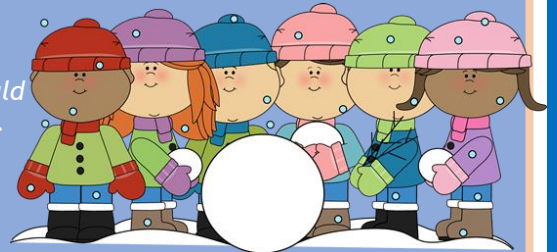
At the start of this New Year we warmly welcome you back to St Peter's and wish you a very happy, healthy and successful 2016!

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 terms 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!



Class Assembly Dates

14th Jan - Year 2B
21st Jan - Year 1K
28th Jan - Year RC
4th Feb - Year 6H
11th Feb - Year 5W

Half Term

3rd Mar - Year 4C
10th Mar - Year 3H
17th Mar - Year 2G
24th Mar - Year 1M

Easter Holiday

21st Apr - Year RM
28th Apr - Year 6M
5th May - Year 5T
12th May - Year 4J
19th May - Year 3M
26th May - Year 2B

Half Term

16th June - Year 1K
23rd June - Year RC
30th June - Year RM

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



CHRISTMAS EVENTS

We had a busy Advent period with lots of festive events. Our Foundation Stage, Infant and Junior performances really put us in the Christmas spirit! We enjoyed a funny pantomime of Cinderella, had parties and even had a special visit from Father Christmas!



Please look at the photos and video clips on our website



Nursery News

Nursery children have made a great start to the New Year and have settled back into the routine well, even with a different teacher! This term we will be learning all about toys, looking at the children's favourite toys, writing about them and painting pictures too, as well as looking at toys from the past and present. In phonics the children are beginning Phase 2 of Letters and Sounds, where they are starting to learn the sounds and names of letters and identifying the initial sound in words. In RE the children will be looking at why they are special as well as looking at other important people in different faiths. In Maths the children will be counting to and beginning to recognise numbers to 20, learning the names and properties of 2d shapes and adding one and two more. Homework books will now be sent out each Friday and tasks will be linked to what we have been learning during that week. I am sure this half term will be very busy but very enjoyable!



Reception News



Welcome back to the Spring term in Reception where we have lots of exciting things planned. This term we will be learning all about toys and the different ways in which they work including sharing our favourite ones. The children have been bringing in their favourite toys and sharing them with the class. We've taken photographs of the children with their favourite toy and are completing a piece of writing about it. In Maths the children will be counting, ordering and comparing numbers to 20. We will be working on number formation and writing numbers up to 20. We are also going to be looking at patterns and lines of symmetry as well as 2d and 3d shapes. In RE our topic is 'I am special'. The children will be talking about ways in which they are special and people who are special to them. We will also be talking about special places and sharing their favourite place. We are sure this term will provide the children with lots of enjoyable experiences as well as lots of opportunities to learn. If you would like to speak to your child's teacher about their learning or ways you can support your child at home, pop in, you are always welcome.

Year 1 News

We have got another interesting half term planned in Year 1. We will be learning all about the different continents and some of the animals that live on them in Geography and making animal collages in art. In Science we are going to be looking at the different plants and flowers we can find around school and investigating what they need to grow. We might even plant our own seeds, look after them and observe what changes as they grow. We will ask lots of different questions in RE, like, What makes Jesus special? Who were Jesus's special friends? How can we build special friendships? In English we will be reading traditional tales, funny poems and learning to write instructions. We will 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. We will be doing PE on a Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. It is essential that your child has the correct PE kit in order to take part.



Year 2 News



Happy New Year! The children have made a fantastic start to 2016, working very hard and showing much more of a determined attitude! We have already been reading traditional stories from other cultures during Literacy, but your child will also be learning about fantasy stories as well as looking at non-fiction instruction texts. During Maths this half term we will be focusing on various skills such as addition and subtraction, times tables (2,3,5,10), place value, fractions, and weight and time, so we will be very busy! Our History topic for this half term is 'How food has changed over time', we will be learning about how not only food has evolved over the years but also comparing the types of appliances that were used hundreds of years ago to what we use now! 'Plants' is our focus for 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 in school but we would also appreciate your continued support and encouragement with your child's learning at home as this will help your child progress, especially as it is creeping nearer to SATs.

Year 3 News

Welcome back to school as we begin the Spring Term! This half-term we will be continuing reading and writing about a range of texts, including lots of fiction, and continuing to concentrate on our handwriting and spelling. In Maths we will become really confident with the four number operations (adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing) and will learn new methods to help us solve problems. In Science we will be exploring plants, which fits in nicely with spring time, whilst in History we will be discovering the Bronze and Stone Age dwellers and comparing them to their Stone Age friends. We will focus on changes in Religious Education and will be designing and creating scary monster masks in Art! Lastly, Computing will see us record and edit our own sports presentations. We're all looking forward to another super, hard-working half-term.



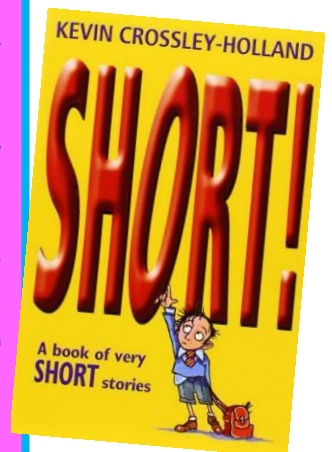
Year 4 News



A very Happy New Year! The children have already settled back into school really well after the Christmas holiday. They are maturing into sensible Year 4's with the correct approach to learning and we are very proud of them! In English we have already started an exciting unit about 'Myths and Legends', where the children have been learning about mythical creatures such as Mermaids and Selkies. Ask them about the horrible monster, Grendel in Beowulf! In Maths we are continuing to extend and deepen learning. Problem solving and application of calculations are areas of focus. Times tables ALWAYS! You may have heard in the news that the government is introducing a times table test for Year 6 from 2017. Homework is vital to support and reinforce learning that takes place in the classroom. Learning Logs are supported quite well but there is room for improvement with some of our children. Please take 10 minutes to ensure your child is doing their best with this. Once again we thank you in anticipation of your continued support.

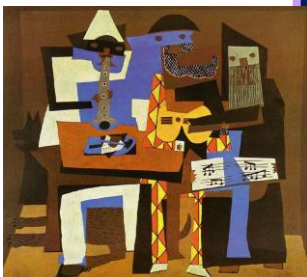
Year 5 News

A new year, a new start for all. We would, firstly, like to welcome Mr Wood to the Year 5 team as we start our new term. Both Miss Thomas and Mr Wood would like to praise the children for coming back from the Christmas break with a positive attitude to all areas of the curriculum. Our RE curriculum for the Spring term focuses on the Parables and teachings of Jesus. We will be learning some new lessons from these teachings and how they support Christian and British values. The children approach each Maths lesson with dedication and have already begun looking at positive and negative amounts in isolated and real life contexts. Going forward we encourage all children to further improve their multiplication knowledge (times tables) by practising at home on a daily basis. So far we have been writing mystery stories, following the work of Kevin Crossley-Holland, which the children have approached with much enthusiasm. Additionally, we have now moved out of the Year 5 classrooms and into the temporary classrooms whilst renovations commence. We are very excited for our new areas for learning!



Year 6 News

This half term in English we will begin with learning about stories from other cultures and times. This will include looking at a collection of stories from 'Arabian Nights'. After this we will be moving on to persuasive writing. In addition to this, each week we will focus on reading test questions in order to equip your child with the necessary skills for SATs. During Maths lessons we will be focusing on areas of weakness based on mock SATs tests which we have carried out. We will begin with area, perimeter and volume and move onto other areas such as: fractions decimals and percentages; probability; word problems and algebra. Our Science topic for the new half term is 'Animals and Humans' and in History we will be learning about 'The Ancient Greeks'. In RE we will be making comparisons between The Passover, The Last Supper and The Eucharist. We will visit St. Peter's Church as part of this to make the learning more exciting and interactive for the children. As part of our Art and Design work, we will be looking at portraits; focusing on the famous artist - Picasso. In Design and Technology we will be looking at stained glass windows and designing our own. Homework will continue in the form of a weekly Learning Log challenge, spellings and a piece which will be on our website to complete. Children have CGP study books for Maths, English and SPaG. We recommend that the children carefully study the content of these between now and the actual SATs tests in May. We have told the children to complete two pages per week from the question books which accompany the study books.



Picasso



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



PUNCTUALITY REMINDER



Please make sure your
child is lined up on the
playground for

8.50am

BUILDING UPDATE

The building work is now well
underway. The Nursery, Year 1,
2 and 6 classrooms and
resource areas have now been
completed. The Library and
staffroom are almost done and
we now just have the Year 3,4,5
classrooms and resource areas
computer suite and junior
corridors to finish.

We are expecting all the work to
be completed by the end of the
Easter holidays! Thank you for
your patience whilst this work is
carried out.



Our New Library!



~ YEAR 3 CORNET CONCERT! ~

Last half term 3H performed their Cornet Concert. With the help of Rochdale Music Service, they have been learning how to read music and play the cornet. The children thoroughly enjoyed their weekly music lessons and their performance was fantastic! Please have a look at the photos and video clips on our website.

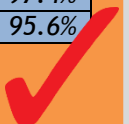


ATTENDANCE

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

Nursery	91.9%		
Rec RC	94.4%	Rec RM	95.9%
Year 1K	95.7%	Year 1M	95.9%
Year 2B	95.1%	Year 2G	96.3%
Year 3H	95.5%	Year 3M	95.8%
Year 4C	95.8%	Year 4J	96.1%
Year 5W	95.1%	Year 5T	96.0%
Year 6M	96.5%	Year 6H	97.4%
Whole School			95.6%

Well Done!



On Friday 20th November 2015 St Peter's had a 'Blue Friday'. This was to promote Anti Bullying week. The children wore blue clothes and brought in a £1 to donate to the Anti Alliance charity. The day was centred around 'making a noise' for bullying which was this year's theme. The children took part in lots of activities such as making anti bullying slogans, making friendship trees, circle times and drama.



Headteacher Message

Welcome back to school and 'Happy 2016!', 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 building work is progressing well and the projected completion date is Easter, so the end is now in sight! Thank you again for your patience during the works, the finished areas are looking lovely.

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