

St Peter's Church of England Primary School

AUTUMN TERM 1 2025 NEWSLETTER

A huge welcome back to all our families—both new and returning! While the autumn term is well underway, we wanted to officially extend our warmest greetings and say how wonderful it is to see the school bustling with energy and learning.

This half term, our Christian value is Thankfulness. It's been inspiring to see the children exploring what it means to appreciate all things — great and small - in our lives, fostering a spirit of gratitude that we hope will continue to shine brightly throughout the year.

We've already had a busy and exciting start! As you read this newsletter, enjoy finding out all about the fantastic work the children have been doing in their classes, as well as news of events that have taken place, such as our recent MacMillan Coffee Morning, alongside details of forthcoming events. Thank you for your continued support as we learn and grow together. We wish you a happy and successful half term!

Honor the Lord with your wealth,
with the first fruits of all your crops;
then your barns will be filled to overflowing,
and your vats will brim over with new wine.
Proverbs 3:9-10



**This Term's
Christian Value is:**



MAYOR OF ROCHDALE VISITS ST PETER'S NEW CANTEEN



The Mayor of Rochdale visited on 26th September to have a look at our new canteen. Pupils, staff, and governors gathered to welcome her and celebrate the occasion. The Mayor spoke to the children about the importance of nutritious food and praised the school for investing in facilities that support pupil wellbeing. She also toured the new space, which has been designed to create a bright, welcoming environment where pupils can enjoy their meals together. The children were excited to show her their favourite features, from the colourful seating to the new salad bar, and the replica stained glass windows. The Mayor joined the pupils for lunch, taking time to sit and talk with different year groups about their experiences at school. Her visit highlighted the value of community support and gave pupils a memorable opportunity to meet a local leader. The day was a proud moment for the whole school community.



Class Assembly Dates

18 Sept – Class 6H
25 Sept – Class 5H
02 Oct – Class 4R
09 Oct – Class 3J
16 Oct – Class 2B
23 Oct – Class 1KW

Half Term

13 Nov – Class 6R
20 Nov – Class 5C
27 Nov – Class 4H
04 Dec – Class 3W

Christmas Holiday

15 Jan – Class 2K
22 Jan – Class 1CW

Please come and join us for
your child's class assembly!

Assemblies start at 9.00am



EYFS & KS1 News

Nursery



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 here in Nursery. 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, followed by 'Pete the Cat and his New White Shoes' by Eric Litwin. 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 the children could be doing at home with the support of 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.

Reception



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 'Stuck', this is about a boy who let's go of his kite and it gets stuck in the tree. He then has to use his problem solving skills to attempt to get his kite out of the tree! 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 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.

Year One



Welcome to Year One. The children have returned with enthusiasm and are settling well into their new routines. Their positive attitude and excitement for learning are clear to see. In RE this term, pupils will explore the Christian creation story. They will learn to sequence and retell key events using important vocabulary. Children will also find out that Christians interpret the story in different ways. By comparing versions, pupils will think about how Christians believe they should care for the world. They will reflect on why many Christians thank and praise God for creation. This unit helps pupils understand religious stories, beliefs and values while encouraging discussion and personal reflection. Our Geography topic, 'Where We Live', focuses on the local area of Rochdale. Children have enjoyed describing where they live and exploring what makes our community special. In Art, pupils will study self-portraits and experiment with techniques used by famous artists such as Picasso, Van Gogh and Frida Kahlo. In Science, they will investigate materials and their properties. In Maths, pupils will build confidence in counting, sequences, addition, subtraction, time and money. In English, they will enjoy exploring a range of texts, including stories, poems and songs. We look forward to a happy and productive year ahead.

Year Two



We are very excited to begin this next academic year with you all. Year Two is an important step in your learning, full of new challenges and exciting opportunities. Are you ready? Let's look at what we will be learning this half term. In maths, we will focus on understanding place value, using new strategies for addition and subtraction, and exploring measurement through practical tasks. In English, we will study the story Prince Cinders, a funny twist on a traditional tale. We will retell it orally and write our own versions. We will also read non-fiction texts about the weather to build our knowledge and vocabulary. Our geography topic is What Are Seasons? We will investigate why we have different seasons and whether all countries experience the same weather. In science, we will carry out investigations about materials and their properties. We will test, predict, and use scientific language such as waterproof, opaque, and transparent. In RE, we will learn about the Good News that Jesus brings and how his stories guide us to be kind, thoughtful, and thankful. Our school value this half term is Thankfulness—we will explore ways to show this through our actions. Please keep PE kits in school until half term and bring reading books and records every day. Visit our class webpage for updates and examples of our fantastic work.

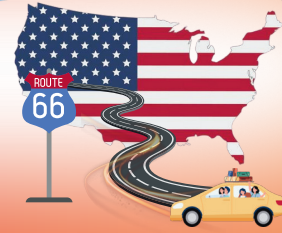
KS2 News

Year Three



Welcome to Year 3. We are delighted to begin a new year of learning together and look forward to seeing the children continue to grow in confidence and independence. Year 3 marks an important transition from Infants to Juniors. Expectations are higher, but we will guide and support the children every step of the way. In RE, our focus will be on God's creation. The children will explore how the world was made, where this fits into the Big Story of the Bible, and how Christians care for the environment. Each lesson will include time for reflection and discussion. In English and maths, children will have daily lessons, along with handwriting and guided reading sessions. Please encourage regular reading at home as this has a powerful impact on learning. Our science topic is Rocks and Soils. The children will learn how to identify different rocks, explore their properties, and understand their uses. In geography, we will study maps and practise locating places using digital tools and atlases. In computing, we will develop programming skills. In art, the children will focus on sketching, learning techniques such as cross-hatching and stippling. Weekly spellings and homework will support classroom learning.

Year Four



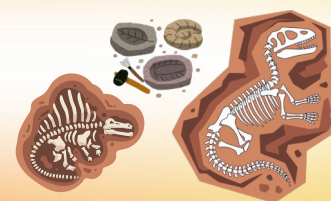
Welcome to Year 4! We are delighted to see everyone back and ready for another exciting year of learning and gaining even more knowledge. The children have already enjoyed shown fantastic enthusiasm in the work they have carried out in class. In English, we have begun by exploring fables and discussing the morals behind these traditional tales. We will then move on to explanation texts linked to Geography, followed by work on instructions. In Maths, we are starting with place value before moving on to addition and subtraction. The focus this year is on explaining how answers are found, not only recording them. In RE, we will explore what kind of world Jesus wanted. Science begins with our chemistry topic, States of Matter, where pupils will investigate how solids, liquids, and gases change with temperature. Our Geography topic is 'A Great American Road Trip', studying the differences between continents, countries, states, and cities while exploring North and South America. PE lessons include swimming every Monday; please keep kits in school all week. Spellings will be tested each Friday. Please encourage reading and Times Tables Rock Stars at home. Thank you!

Year Five



Welcome back to a new school year at St Peter's. We hope you had a safe and enjoyable break and are ready for the exciting learning ahead. In English, we begin with The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling. The children will explore his stories and characters before moving on to a non-fiction unit on UFO recounts, where they will write their own reports. In Maths, we will develop fluency in the four operations: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We will also strengthen understanding of place value to support accuracy in all areas of number work. Our Science topic is 'Properties and Changes of Materials'. Pupils will investigate mixtures, solutions and methods of separating them. Geography will focus on 'How Our Country Is Changing', exploring the effects of WW2 bombings and the development of the Olympic Park. In RE, our question is "How is God holy and loving?" We will think about how people know God and how we can develop our relationship with Him. Art will focus on Cezanne and still life. Pupils will select and arrange objects to create their own pieces inspired by his style. Reading books should be in school daily. PE takes place Monday to Wednesday indoors and Friday outdoors. Here's to a great year ahead!

Year Six



Welcome to Year 6. It is wonderful to see the children return with such enthusiasm and readiness to learn. In RE, we will explore how science and religion can offer both contrasting and complementary ideas. The children will discuss Big Questions to deepen their thinking. In English, we will study a range of genres. We begin with the short film Alma, using it to inspire descriptive and narrative writing. Later, we will read Holes by Louis Sachar and write from a character's perspective. We will finish the term studying instructions and explanations using Sue Palmer's Book of Instructions and Explanations. In Maths, we start with place value, addition and subtraction, then move on to decimals, fractions and algebra. Pupils will also take part in Freckles Maths activities and TT Rock Stars competitions, building speed and accuracy through weekly challenges. Science begins with fossils. Children will handle real specimens and learn how they form. In Geography, our topic Journeys: Trade explores where our everyday items come from and how we can protect the planet through sustainable choices. In Art, pupils will study L.S. Lowry, developing sketching and drawing skills to capture movement. We look forward to an inspiring and successful year with Year 6.

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT



On Friday 26th September, we had a fantastic day raising funds for Macmillan Cancer Support, a charity very close to our hearts. Macmillan works tirelessly to reach and improve the lives of everyone living with cancer in the UK. Their support extends beyond medical needs to address the crucial social, emotional, and practical impact cancer can have, while also campaigning for better cancer care. Thanks to everyone's incredible generosity, we raised a wonderful £352 to donate to the charity. The children thoroughly enjoyed the day with their friends and teachers, as they sat having a chat across the table from each other with a drink in one hand and a biscuit or cake in the other. Well done and thank you to all involved!



On Wednesday 8th October, every class from across the school attended Nelson Street Church for collective worship. The venue was far from a traditional church setting, complete with a glitterball and vibrant lighting that created a lively and welcoming atmosphere. Each session was filled with joyful singing, thoughtful reflection, and a strong sense of togetherness. Pupils listened attentively, joined in with enthusiasm, danced and sang along, as well as sharing their own prayers. Everyone left feeling uplifted and grateful for the opportunity to worship together.



Reminder



Parents' Evening

This will be taking place on Wednesday 22nd October. It's a great opportunity to talk about your children's progress and meet the class teacher. We look forward to seeing you all there!



Our attendance target is:

96%

Nursery	96.8%	Rec S	95.2%
Rec P	94.9%	Year 1KW	96.3%
Year 1CW	95.2%	Year 2B	96.9%
Year 2K	98.3%	Year 3J	97.7%
Year 3W	97.6%	Year 4R	97.8%
Year 4H	96.1%	Year 5H	96.3%
Year 5C	95.0%	Year 6R	97.3%
Year 6H	95.7%		
Whole School Total		96.5%	

ATTENDANCE

Attendance Matters, Every Second Counts!

Below 90% 90%-93% 93%-96% 96%-100%

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!

If your child has 90% and below attendance, they are classified as a persistent absentee, significantly impacting on a child's learning outcomes.

How is your class doing?

Well done to:

Nursery, 1KW, 2K, 2B, 3W, 3J, 4H, 4R, 5C & 6H for achieving and exceeding the attendance target!

Headteacher Message

As we reach the end of another busy half term, I want to thank you for your continued support. It was lovely to see so many of you at our Macmillan Coffee Morning and to share such a positive event together. Your generosity helps make a real difference. We are always here to listen and support, so please do get in touch if you have any questions or concerns. I am so proud of our children and everything they have achieved this term. They continue to make us proud every day with their hard work, kindness, and enthusiasm for learning. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.



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