**Embrace excellence through God, to build a better world.**

***"Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with your God."* – Micah 6 v. 8**

I simply cannot end this half-term without thanking you all for the astonishing effort that you have all put into remote learning, and I have nothing but admiration for you all. You have all been supporting your children wonderfully; the quality of outcomes that the children have shared on the Google Classroom is testament to all of your astonishing efforts. I cannot begin to imagine the demands and challenges involved, so the sincerest of congratulations on the fantastic job you are all doing.

I also wish to show my appreciation and admiration for the utterly dedicated team we have at St Peter's. Our entire team has done an incredible job in extremely difficult circumstances. I cannot thank them enough. In everything they do, every day, they go above and beyond. All of your lovely e-mails, kind words, and messages of appreciation have meant a lot to our team, and thank you for all of your support.

I would also like to thank our wonderful governors for their wisdom and support, and especially Vicky Russell, our chair of governors. Come rain, shine, or snow, Vicky has been handing out paper resource packs to all of our families who need one, and every week she has run our lockdown library, which has been a huge success.

We are all desperately looking forward to being able to safely, fully re-open the school, and to warmly welcome all of the children back, and we hope to find out the government's plans early next half term.

In the meantime, our provision will continue as normal, and our teachers will be getting in contact with you regarding the timetable for the first week back. We hope that you all have a safe and restful half term.

**STEM Week**

There have been quite a few more excited emojis than usual posted in the class streams this week! The children have had so much fun taking part in a range of experiments, from bubble blowing to paper plane racing, and a whole range of DT projects to complete at home! I hope that this week has offered a welcome break in the routine.

We've also had the pleasure of meeting a lot of inspirational role models from different STEM careers this week, including a lot of Mrs Noonan's family members! Our children have been treated to a range of talks from a range of different professionals. We've heard from neuroscientists, engineers, land-speed record holders, 3-D printing enthusiasts, chemists, and a very special social entrepreneur. Links to the recordings will be going out via ParentMail for all to enjoy.

Our guest speakers have also sent through some lovely messages about how wonderful the children were to speak to. Here's just one:

*"I would like to say how impressed I was with the children, there were many wonderful and probing questions and I found it a real delight to engage with them."*

A big thank you to Mrs Noonan, Miss Cook and Mr Thomas, who have put together a week filled with fun STEM activities for the children. And of course, a huge thank you to all of our parents and carers at home for helping to make STEM week such a success.

**Well Done Year 6**

I would like to give a very special mention to our Year 6 pupils. They have had a very different year from the Year 6 experience they were expecting, and have faced a number of different challenges, which they have faced with resilience and a strength beyond their years. For many of our Year 6 pupils too, this can be a stressful time for them and their families as they await results from secondary schools. But, like with everything so far, they have approached this with great maturity. Well done Year 6 – we could not be prouder of you.

**Three Parks Challenge**

Our wonderful PTA team have organised a challenge called the Three Parks Challenge. This is a challenge to the children to run/walk/cycle (etc.) around any three local parks over the half term holidays (at any time and across any number of days). The PTA are organising some nice medals and a few treats for the finishers. The PTA are suggesting a donation of £4 per entry. Please click here for the PayPal link. I have also attached a poster to the newsletter about the event – we hope you are able to take part and have fun!

**Safer Internet Day**

Throughout the week, the children across the school have been taking part in a number of Safer Internet Day activities. The theme this year has been based around *an Internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world*. Children in all year groups have been learning about how to always have their Internet detective hat on, and have been learning about how to check the reliability of what they see online. We've been learning about 'Fake News', and also have been learning about how sometimes news sites like to put out jokey news, particularly on the 1st April! Below is one of my favourite hoaxes:

Flying Penguins | World Penguin Day

And yes, I do feel a little embarrassed to say that after I watched it for the first time, I had to Google it to find out if it was true.

**Sports Competitions**

In order to keep up our customary St Peter's sporting and competitive enthusiasm, Miss Cook has hosted a couple of PE competitions to be completed from the comfort of home!

Our first challenge was a Keepy-Uppy competition, and we had a lot of excellent entries! We had to pick two winners though, and a big congratulations to Luke in Year 2, and Jack in Year 4 for completing the most keepy-uppies without dropping the ball on the ground!

Our second challenge was a yoga pose competition, where children had to perform their favourite yoga pose and to be as creative as possible. Well done to Milena our winner from KS1, for being extremely creative and using her computing skills. Miss Cook couldn't pick just one winner from KS2, so well done to our joint winners in KS2: Elisa from Year 4 for the photo and her technical pose, and Emma in Year 6 for the skills and her edited video. Well done!

All of our winners will receive a special certificate when we are back in school, and thank you to everyone for taking part. We hope you had fun!

**Home-schooling Funny Photo Competition**

For those who've passed the office and have heard me laughing to myself over the past few weeks, no, lockdown hasn't finally gotten to me – I've been enjoying all of your amazing funny photo entries!

We had lots of potential winners, but I think the one which has summed up the mood for many of us at the moment, is this picture of Nicky in Year 1:

I hope this makes you smile Nicky – there will be a certificate and a little prize waiting for you when you return to school! Thank you for making us all chuckle.

**Acting Headteacher's Award**

| | 29th January | 5th February | 12th February |
|---|---|---|---|
| Reception | Charlotte and Clara | Reyan and Freddie | Rio and Sadie |
| Year 1 | Bella and Max | Ben and Lucy | Charlie B and Serenity |
| Year 2 | Edward and Risha | Michaela and Amelie | Cosi and Luke |
| Year 3 | Poppy G and Sandy | Kitty and James | Phoebe and Aneirin |
| Year 4 | Rosie and Annabelle | Juliet and Florence | Janis and Rawdon |
| Year 5 | Thomas and Samira | Isabel and Giorgio | Henry and Stella |
| Year 6 | Archie and Kyeiwah | Emma and Ayaat | Elsie and Malakai |

**Citizenship Award**

Children can be nominated for a Citizenship Award by other pupils, parents and staff members. Whilst school is closed to most pupils, please do e-mail in nominations from home. Currently we are looking for nominations for children who have displayed acts of **perseverance**, as this is the Christian Value as a school we are focusing upon this half term.

**15th January –** Izzy (Year 5), Elsie (Year 6) and Hetty (Year 5)

**5th February –** All of Year 6, Mr Thomas (Year 6), Zac (Year 2), Mrs Isaac (Year 6), Isabel K (Year 5) and Florence (Year 5)

**12th February –** Ammanuel (Year 6)

**Website**

Please remember to log on to our website to view your child's class page at www.stpetersce.lbhf.sch.uk

The blogs are updated weekly by the class teacher, and even though they won't give you too much more information about what the children have been learning about this week (you already know all about that!), they are being used as a space to celebrate success, and share with you what will be learnt next week.

Class webpages are updated weekly by your child's class teacher.

We also have a Twitter account which you can find here:

https://twitter.com/St_Peters_CE

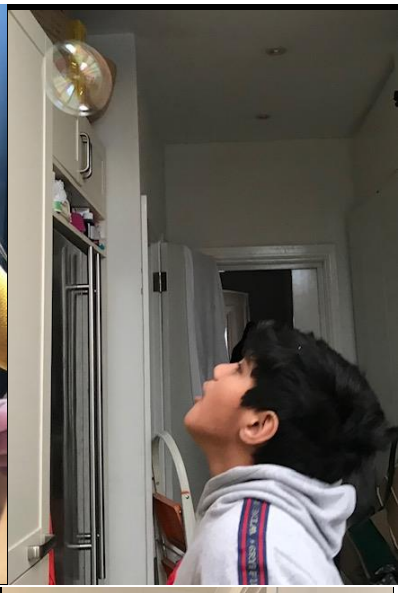
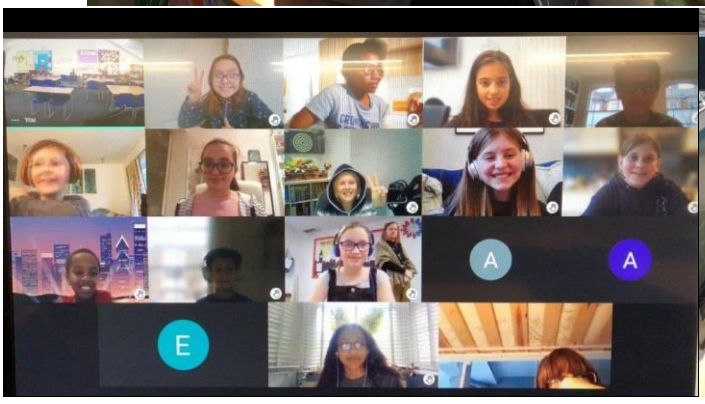
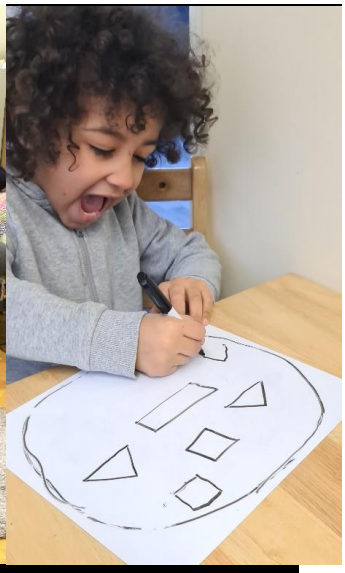
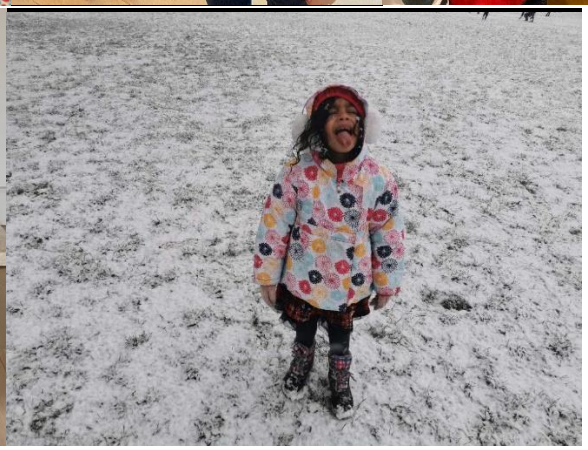
Please do give us a follow!

Kindest regards,

Mrs Zalar

Acting Headteacher

**Dates for Next Half Term**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 22/02/21 | | **Spring 2 Begins – Children return to Remote Learning** |
| 24/02/21 | | Service in celebration of Ash Wednesday (Virtual) |
| 04/03/21 | | World Book Day |
| 16/03/21 | 6pm – 7pm | Online Safety Parent Meeting (Virtual) |
| 22/03/21 | 4pm – 7pm | Parents' Evening (Virtual) |
| 23/03/21 | 3.30pm – 6pm | Parents' Evening (Virtual) |
| 30/03/21 | | Winning House Reward |
| 31/03/21 | | Easter Egg Rolling |
| 01/04/21 | 9am | Easter Service (Virtual) |
| 01/04/21 | 2pm | **End of term** |

# Well done St Peter's!