NEWSLETTER

Let your light shine before others, so they see your good works and give glory to God

Matthew 5 v.16

Rooted in Christian faith, which underpins the school's ethos, we seek to enable all pupils to develop their full academic potential; discover skills and talents in art, music, sport and drama; and grow in spiritual awareness and moral character. By striving for excellence within an inclusive environment, enabling every child to develop their gifts and flourish, we seek to shine as a community, so our achievements give glory to God.

18th October 2024

Today has been a real treat - I have been able to relax, sit back and put my feet up, as the school reins have been taken over by Ella (Year 3) who won the auction bid to take over the role of headteacher for the day at the last PTA Quiz and Auction Evening.

Ella has done a truly wonderful job today; I would be very happy for this to become a weekly event! Throughout the day, Ella has been involved in various 'headteacher' activities, all of which she has undertaken with great enthusiasm and passion. Despite her extremely busy day, Ella still found time to contribute to this week's newsletter:

"It has been really fun being headteacher for the day. First I led the morning staff meeting and told all of the teachers what they will be doing next week. After welcoming the children into school, I then led the assembly. Leading the assembly was really hard work but I enjoyed it anyway. Next, I spent time in the Reception class and read the children two stories. It was lovely looking after the Reception children because they are so cute! After that I went to lunch with the Key Stage One children, this was lovely as well because the children were all asking me questions and I got to help them with their lunches. After my own lunch, I showed one of our new Governors around the school. We went into every class and the children talked about what it is like to be a pupil at St Peter's School. After that I helped Rob with a number of jobs he had to do around the school including helping him to find a home for our new Glockenspiels. I have had a wonderful day and I definitely want to be a headteacher when I grow up!"

Next Friday signals the end of the first half of the autumn term - I really have no idea where the weeks have gone. I would like to thank the children and staff for their hard work this half term; it is never easy coming back to school after the long summer break, particularly when the weather is starting to change and the nights are drawing in, but it has been a very positive start to the school year. Thank you also to all of our parents and carers for your ongoing support, and to our Governing Body who always give of their time so generously. Whatever your plans for the half term break, I hope that you manage to get lots of rest - difficult I know with young children - but you will need to be fully energised for next half term, as the countdown to Christmas begins and things are set to get even busier!

Please note that when the children return to school on **Monday 4th November**, they should all be wearing their winter uniform, which includes black school shoes (no boots please). We would also ask that children bring a coat or waterproof jacket to school with them every day, to ensure that they are prepared for the erratic weather conditions we have been experiencing of late.

Show Racism the Red Card

Today we showed our support for Show Racism the Red Card by wearing red to school. Show Racism the Red Card is an anti-racism educational charity; they work to challenge racism through empowering role models within communities, organisations and sports, in order to dismantle racism in society.

They achieve this through:

- Producing educational resources;
- Developing activities to encourage people, including young people, to challenge racism;
- In parts of the UK, challenging racism in the game of football and other sports.

If you could like to donate to Show Racism the Red Card, you can do so via their JustGiving which page. https://www.justgiving.com/theredcard

Celebrate our community day

Yesterday we had a wonderful time celebrating our community. The day began with a focus upon Diwali, given the fact that a number of our families will be celebrating the Hindu festival of light at the end of the month.

Following on from this, and given the fact that our Celebrate the Community Day falls during Black History Month this year, we focused our learning upon Jamaica, Bermuda, Mexico and Cuba - four countries involved in Windrush. The children were each given a special St Peter's passport, and throughout the day they travelled to each country in turn, in order to learn more about its food, culture and traditions. To further enhance this experience for the children, Chloe and Joy our fabulous chefs cooked up a Caribbean inspired lunch for the children to enjoy.

Special thanks to our incredible staff team who planned a wide range of creative activities to support the children in gaining an appreciation and understanding of our four focus countries, and to Miss Cook for coordinating this very special event.

Family Supper

After a fabulous day of travelling around the world and celebrating our community, after school we joined together for our now infamous Family Supper event. The table was laden with a wealth of tasty treats for us all to share and enjoy; thank you to everyone who contributed to our sharing table this year. The Family Supper is always one of my favourite events of the school year. It was wonderful to have the opportunity to talk to so many people, some of whom are new to our school and were attending the event for the very first time. Special thanks to everyone who helped to make last night's event such a great success - Mina and her team of helpers, Charlotte and Jane, Rob and all those who helped to set up or clear away at the end of the night, your support is very much appreciated.

Year 5 Assembly

Last Thursday Year 5 delivered a fantastic assembly based around their recent residential visit to PGL, Marchants Hill. The trip was a great success; it was clear to see the enjoyment the children had experienced from the wide range of photographs on display and the passionate way they delivered their lines. The assembly ended with a very energetic performance of 'Living on a Prayer', a song the children have been learning in their music lessons recently. Wow, what a performance, Jon Bon Jovi himself would have been proud!

Well done and thank you to Year 5 for being wonderful ambassadors for our school whilst at PGL; for showing such courage and perseverance when faced with new challenges, and displaying kindness and respect for one another throughout the trip. Thank you also to Year 5 for collectively doing such a great job presenting your assembly to the entire school, it was incredible, such a pleasure to watch. Thank you to Miss Cook, Miss Royer, Mrs Todaro and Mr Coleman for accompanying the children to

PGL this year and to Mrs Noonan, Mr Coleman, Miss Royer and Mrs Warty for their support with last week's assembly. Silent cheers all round!

Nature Walk

The relationships between our Reception children and their Year 6 buddies are well and truly flourishing. On Friday 4th October, the buddies came together again in order to participate in a nature walk in St Peter's Square, where they observed the insects and plants in their natural habitats and collected fallen items – lots of conkers and leaves - for the nature table in the Reception classroom. The sun shone, which is extremely rare these days, which further added to the enjoyment of the afternoon, as the children revelled in the opportunity to spend extra time with one another. A fabulous end to a very positive week.

Meet the Author

On Tuesday afternoon the children from Year 5 and Year 6 visited Ravenscourt Prep, in order to meet the author Robin Stevens. Robin is an American born English author of children's fiction, best known for her Murder Most Unladylike series. Robin shared with the children how she works creatively, revealing how she crafts her engaging stories and develops her characters. The children enjoyed asking questions about her books, her inspirations, and what it is like to be a full-time writer. Robin also offered invaluable tips for budding young writers, encouraging them to explore their imaginations and never be afraid of revising their work to make it even better. It was an inspiring afternoon, and many of the children left with a newfound passion for storytelling.

A couple of polite reminders…

Please ensure that you arrive promptly to collect your children at the end of the school day or after their school club. Unfortunately, since the start of term, we have had a number of parents arriving late to collect their children. If you are unable to collect your child on time, then we would ask that you arrange for another parent to collect your child (and inform the school of this arrangement) or that you book your child a place at JAG, as we do not have staff available after 4.30pm to supervise uncollected children.

We have also noted that a number of parents who are intending for their children to go to JAG are forgetting to make the necessary booking, which is causing a lot of confusion and additional work for my staff team. Please ensure that if you want your child to go to JAG, that you book the required session/s online in advance, so that JAG staff know to collect your child after their school club.

As always, thank you for your support and understanding with regard to these matters.

Better Late than Never, but Better Never Late!

Since returning to school in September, we have been closely monitoring the punctuality of the children. Unfortunately, in the past half term alone, 50 children have been late to school on at least one occasion, with a number of children arriving at school late on a regular basis. Individual emails will be sent out next week to parents whose child/ren have arrived late to school on 5 or more occasions this half term. Please note that the school day starts at **8.55am for the children in Year 1 – Year 6 and at 9am for the children in Reception.** This means that the children should be in their classrooms at this time. We will continue to monitor the punctuality rates of the children with the support of Cathy Sciueref 'H&F Attendance Officer', to whom we are required to make referrals for those who persistently arrive late to school.

Attendance

Monitoring attendance is part of our statutory duty, we are committed to working with you all to ensure that the children are attending school on a regular basis.

A copy of the term dates for this academic year and the academic year 2024 -2025 have been sent out to all parents and carers, these dates are also available to view on the school website. Please make a note of these dates and avoid booking events and holidays which mean that children are required to take time out of school. **Please note that we are unable to authorise any holidays taken during term time.**

Please see below our attendance percentages for the last two weeks:

	Week commencing 30th Sept.	Week commencing 7th Oct.
Reception	**95.0%**	**98.3%**
Year 1	**90.7%**	**94.0%**
Year 2	**99.0%**	**99.3%**
Year 3	**97.3%**	**95.7%**
Year 4	**99.3%**	**97.7%**
Year 5	**97.3%**	**97.3%**
Year 6	**93.0%**	**98.0%**

House Points

Class earning the most house points to 11th October: **Reception class**
Class earning the most house points to 18th October: **Year 4 class**

	House points 11/10/24	House points 18/10/24	Total
Cross	**194**	**207**	**1257**
Fisher	**176**	**185**	**1215**
Rock	**227**	**236**	**1287**
Keys	**200**	**209**	**1341**

Headteacher's Award

	11th October	18th October
Reception	**Otis & Pippa**	**Lola & Digby**
Year 1	**Saoirse & Thomas**	**Gabriel & Dia**
Year 2	**Rex & Dion**	**Leonora & Cosima**
Year 3	**Katie & Xander**	**Bear W & Evalyn**
Year 4	**Clara & Zach**	**Evie & Orly**
Year 5	**Whole class for assembly**	**Chloe & Ava**
Year 6	**Elsa G & Molly**	**Georgie & Marta**

Values Award

Children can be nominated for a Values Award by other pupils, parents and staff members. When making a nomination, we ask you to state the value/s the child has shown (***courage***, ***respect***, ***thankfulness, perseverance***, ***service*** or ***kindness)*** and how they have demonstrated this value.

11th October – Oscar (Y1), Kleo & Xander (Y2), Aurelia (Y5)
18th October – Charlotte (Y1) Ruby & Amalia (Y3), Zach (Y5)

No nuts please!

Just a quick reminder that we are a nut-free school. Please double-check the ingredients before sending any snacks into school - particularly cereal bars - as sometimes they can contain hidden nuts which can be dangerous for other children. Thank you.

Medicines in School

If your child is required to take medicine during the school day, please ensure that it is handed in, in its original packaging via the school office; we need parental permission in order to administer any medication. For health and safety reasons, children are not allowed to keep any medication in their bags. Our Medical Lead is Mrs Noonan; should your child have any serious medical issues that you need to share with us, please contact her via communications@stpetersce.lbhf.sch.uk

Website

Please remember to log on to our website to view your child's class page: https://www.stpetersce.lbhf.sch.uk/ This will give you information about what your child will be learning this coming half term.

Instagram

Please follow us on @stpetersschoolw6 and show your support for our school by liking our posts. Thank you!

Finally

If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to speak, in the first instance, to your child's class teacher. We are always here to help, and believe greatly in the importance of good communication between home and school.

Warmest regards,

Miss Frazer

October		Black History Month
WC 21/10/24		Interschool sports competition (Football)
24/10/24		**Year 2 Class Assembly**
WC 28/10/24		**Half Term**
04/11/24		**Children return to school**
07/11/24		DT Day 1
W/C 11/11/24		National Anti-bullying Week
11/11/24		Odd Socks Day – children and staff to wear odd socks to school
11/11/24	4pm – 7pm	Parents Evening
12/11/24	3.30pm – 6pm	Parents Evening