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.

20th October 2023

Today signals the end of the first half of the autumn term. 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 30th October**, they should all be wearing their winter uniform, which includes black school shoes. We would also ask that children bring with them a coat or waterproof jacket, to ensure that they are prepared for the erratic weather conditions we have been experiencing of late.

After-school provision

Our child-care provision led by JAG has been running since the start of term. Unfortunately, despite continual promotion and even the offer of free taster sessions, the uptake on this provision is much lower than we were anticipating, based upon the feedback we received from parents when we sent out questionnaires to ascertain demand.

At the current rate of uptake, continuing to offer after-school care via JAG is becoming financially unviable both for JAG and for St Peter's. We are holding off making a firm decision until after the half term break, but at the current point in time, if numbers do not increase significantly and very quickly, JAG will end its relationship with the school at the end of the autumn term.
PLEASE NOTE: NO FIRM DECISION HAS BEEN MADE AT THIS POINT. We are still very much hoping that numbers might increase, so if you are holding off trying JAG, then please hold off no longer and give them a try!

We are aware that a small number of families have come to rely on the extended day childcare provided by JAG. In the event that numbers do not increase and we are forced to end our relationship with JAG, we would endeavour to find an alternative solution to assist with your childcare needs. However, please be aware that this will take us time to implement and as such, regretfully we cannot guarantee than an alternative provision would be in place for the start of the spring term.

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, 52 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 have been sent out today to parents whose child/ren have arrived late to school on 3 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 Michael Saunders 'H&F Attendance Officer', to whom we are required to make referrals for those who persistently arrive late to school.

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.

During our collective worship session this morning, we shared a short video by Brendon Batson OBE. Brendon was the first black player for Arsenal; during his career he was known as a member of the three degrees alongside Cyrille Regis and Laurie Cunningham for West Bromwich Albion and a campaigner against racism in football. Thank you to Siara (Sofia's mum in Year 2) and her family, for recording this inspirational clip for us.

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

Year 5 Assembly

Yesterday 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 passionate way they performed for us all. It also shone through in the photographs, which were displayed as the children sang. 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 yesterday, the assembly was a pleasure to watch. Thank you to Mrs Johnston, Mrs Todaro and Miss Royer for accompanying the children to PGL this year and for their support with yesterday's assembly.

Celebrate our community day

We had a wonderful day in school last Thursday when we took time out to celebrate our community. The focus for our learning on the day was upon East and South East Asian Heritage, Poland and a number of Western European Countries, which make up approximately 11% of our current pupil cohort. During the day, a number of parents came into school to lead sessions with the children. We were also treated to a special performance from Michaela, Marta and Maya (Year 5). These days are now integral to our school calendar; they are a wonderful opportunity to celebrate what makes us special as a school community, a chance to foster cultural identity and belonging, and to learn from one another. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this day possible, and of course huge thanks and a great big silent cheer to the incredible Miss Cook, who always goes above and beyond for our school. ***Please see our EDI newsletter for more details.***

Family Supper

After a busy day celebrating our community, we then hosted our now infamous Family Supper event, which saw so many members of our school community come together to share food, with a wide range of tasty treats for us all to enjoy. As always, it was wonderful to have the opportunity to chat to different people, some of whom were attending the event for the very first time. Special thanks to our PTA team, our EDI team, Rob, to everyone who contributed food to our table and to those who helped to set up or clear away at the end of the night, your support is very much appreciated.

Black History Month

At St Peter's we honour Black History Month in October, but also strive to incorporate the teaching of Black history throughout the year across the breadth of the curriculum.

As part of our celebrations this year, we welcomed award-winning illustrator, Chanté Timothy, into school. Chanté shared her journey to becoming an illustrator and read a passage from 'Keisha Jones Takes on the World', a book she illustrated. Chanté then worked with the children from Year 4 and Year 5, helping them to create illustrations which champion a cause close to their hearts.

On Tuesday, the children in Year 4 performed the poem 'Windrush Child' by John Agard at a special Black History Month Event held at Riverside Studios, organised by Hammersmith and Fulham. The event was also attended by the Mayor and Cllr Holder, both of whom we hope to invite to our school later on in the academic year. It was wonderful for our school to be involved in such an important event; thank you and well done Year 4.

Over the past few weeks, the children have also focused upon:

- Empowering books with black characters/protagonists
- Significant individuals who have impacted Black History
- Artwork inspired by Gakonga, Waruguru Waithira, Batik technique, the Ndebele tribe, the Kikuyu tribe, the Maasai tribe of Kenya and Trinidadian artists
- Stories that promote anti-racism
- Poetry written by people of Caribbean and African descent

Please see our EDI newsletter for more details.

Punctuality

Please remember that gates will be opened at **8.45am** for children to go straight into their classrooms in readiness for the beginning of the school day: **8.55am** for children in Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 and **9am** for children in Reception. **The side gate and the main school entrance gate will both be closed at 8.55am and the Reception gate will close at 9am**. Please ensure that your child arrives on time, as arriving late is not only disruptive and often upsetting for your child, but can also disrupt the learning of others. **If your child does arrive late, please ensure that you report to the school office to ensure that your child is marked in the register.** Please also ensure that your child is collected promptly at the end of the school day: **3.20pm** for children in Reception; **3.25pm** for children in Year 1 and Year 2 and **3.30pm** for children in Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6. Thank you for your help with this matter.

Attendance

A copy of the term dates was sent out at the beginning of the academic year, 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 past two weeks:

	Week commencing 2/10/23	Week commencing 9/10/23
Reception	**99.0%**	**99.3%**
Year 1	**98.7%**	**99.7%**
Year 2	**95.6%**	**98.7%**
Year 3	**99.4%**	**99.0%**
Year 4	**94.0%**	**100%**
Year 5	**98.0%**	**98.7%**
Year 6	**97.4%**	**96.3%**

House Points

	House points 13/10/23	House points 20/10/23	Total
Cross	**322**	**413**	**2044**
Fisher	**254**	**409**	**1636**
Rock	**297**	**498**	**1986**
Keys	**249**	**490**	**2181**

Headteacher's Award

	13th October	20th October
Reception	**Florence & Laia**	**Theodore & Felix**
Year 1	**Matteo & Xander**	**Redd & Leonora**
Year 2	**Seb & Ottolie**	**Alaric & Bear**
Year 3	**Pawel, Clara & Francesco**	**Jemima & Thibault**
Year 4	**Leon & Jovita**	**Sabine & Rebecca**
Year 5	**Maya, Marta & Michaela**	**George, Alexander and all of Y5**
Year 6	**Hayden & Nujin**	**Didi & Carmelle**

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.

13th October – Peto (YR), Xander (Y2), Alexander & Ethiopia (Y5)
20th October – Belle (Y1), Zach (Y3), Amie & Max (Y4)

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 Johnston; 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

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

30/10/23		**Children return to school**
02/11/23		Poetry Recital (Theme – Michael Rosen)
06/11/23	4pm – 7pm	Parents Evening
07/11/23	3.30pm – 6pm	Parents Evening
09/11/23		DT Day 1
WC 13/11/23		National Anti-bully Week
13/11/23		Odd Socks Day – children and staff to wear odd socks to school
16/11/23 – 16/12/23		Disability History Month – theme Disability, Children and Youth
16/11/23		**PTA Movie Night**
17/11/23		Children in Need
23/11/23		**Year 3 Class Assembly**
02/12/23		**PTA Christmas Fair**