Embrace excellence through God, to build a better world
"Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with your God."- Micah 6 v. 8

26th November 2021

We are days away from the beginning of Advent; during our collective worship session on Tuesday, which focused upon light over darkness, we showed the children an advent candle and explained how its helps in the countdown to Christmas. At St Peter's, we are ready to embrace the Christmas season with open arms: our Christmas trees, provided by Pines and Needles, are due to arrive at school towards the end of next week; rehearsals for our Nativity play are in full swing; the Christmas Fair preparations are well underway and sounds of Christmas carols can be heard along St Peter's Road. Christmas is such a magical time in the school calendar, and we want to ensure that we help to create some very special memories for your children and their families as we move towards this very special event in the Christian calendar. On **Monday 6th December** we will be putting a Christmas post box in the main school entrance and in the learning corridor, to allow children to post any Christmas cards they wish to send. Obviously, it is only for cards being sent to pupils and staff at St Peter's School, cards to Granny and Grandpa will remain the responsibility of the Royal Mail! If your child would like to use our special Christmas post box, they must remember to write the recipient's name and year group clearly on the envelope.

Please ensure that you have made a note of our key Christmas events, as you really won't want to miss them...

- On **Friday 3rd December** we will be holding a non-uniform day for the children. In return for them being allowed to wear their own clothes to school on this day, we would ask each child to bring in a bottle for the Christmas fair tombola. Thank you in advance for your support.
- Our Christmas Fair is next **Saturday** (**4th December**) from **3pm – 6pm**, please come along and bring your friends and family with you too, it is going to be a great day.
- School Christmas lunch will take place on **Friday 10th December.** Year 6 will enjoy a Christmas dinner at Treginnis Farm, on **Thursday 9th December.**
- As a school, we will be supporting national Christmas Jumper day on **10th December** in aid of the Children's Society. We would like as many children as possible to swap their school jumper for a Christmas jumper on this day.
- Carols by Candlelight is led and performed by children in Key Stage Two; this year we will be holding this event on **Monday 13th December** at **4pm** in St Peter's Square. All of the Key Stage Two children are encouraged to attend – more details to follow.
- Reception and Key Stage One **Nativity** Play. This morning, we have taken the decision, as a staff, to record the Nativity play again this year. This decision was not taken lightly, however in light of the new COVID variant, we feel that it would be foolish of us to invite large numbers of people to gather together in the hall, prior to everyone going off on their Christmas break. We hope you understand our decision.
- On the last day of term (**Friday 17th December**), we will hold a special service in St Peter's Church at **9am.** We intend to follow the same format used for our Harvest service; Key Stage Two children will attend the church, whilst the younger year groups, plus parents and carers, will be invited to join via a live stream.

THANK YOU!

Thanks to your generosity, another 6 IQAir air purifiers were delivered to school last week, which means that we now have 2 purifiers in 5 of our 7 classrooms. We are aiming to put 2 IQAir purifiers in every classroom, so we still need to collect a little more to make this possible. If you have not already done so, please log on to https://justgiving.com/campaign/StPetersIQAir and give whatever you can to this very worthwhile cause. **Clean Air = Healthy Kids**.

Year 3 Assembly

On Thursday, Year 3 treated us to a wonderful assembly based on the Ancient Egyptians, which was their topic last half term. Their whole performance was amazing, their costumes were fantastic, and their dance moves absolutely brilliant - I am sure they will all be walking like 'Egyptians' for the rest of the term! To help them to learn all their lines, which they spoke with great confidence, they had the support of their own special mascot. Well done Miss Russell and Year 3!

Remembering Ali Abucar

I am sure that you have all seen reports regarding the tragic death of the young basketball coach, Ali Abucar, who was killed while trying to help an elderly woman as she was attacked in Brentford on Friday. Ali, a coach for Chiswick Gators Basketball Club and a former student at Chiswick School, is known to St Peter's, as he helped to run our basketball club for several years.

I have spoken to Michael from Gators Basketball Club, to express our condolences, and asked him to pass on to Ali's family our sadness at hearing about his death, and the fact that he is very much in our thoughts and prayers at this time. I have agreed with Michael that, in honour of Ali, we will restart our Basketball club again next term. In addition to this, we plan to purchase some extra basketballs, which will be used by the children in honour of Ali.

Another star is born…

As many of you are aware, Stella Harris (Y6) is currently starring as the young Nala in the West End production of the Lion King. On Wednesday afternoon, the Year 6 children were lucky enough to go along to the performance at the Lyceum Theatre to watch Stella in action. It was a truly incredible experience for them all; Stella was the star of the show, and we were all incredibly proud.

As if one West End star in our midst wasn't enough, I am delighted to inform you that Oliver Dunkley, also from Year 6, was recently cast as the young Simba in the Lion King and will begin his theatre run at the beginning of December. What an amazing opportunity. On behalf of the entire school community, I would like to congratulate Oliver on his incredible achievement, and would like to send him our very best wishes; I am confident that he will be a wonderful addition to the cast.

He's Behind You

Oh no he isn't, oh yes he is…

On Friday, the children from Year 5 and Year 6 visited the Lyric Theatre to watch their performance of Aladdin. As always it was a fabulous show, which left the children and staff feeling full of Christmas cheer. The children had an enjoyable afternoon and were wonderful ambassadors for our school.

Anti-bullying Week

Last week, as a school, we supported national Anti-bullying week. The week began with the children and staff wearing odd socks to school; the children also participated in a number of activities and online sessions in class, centred around the issue of bullying.

Movie Night

Thank you to the PTA for organising a fantastic movie night for the children last week, it was a lovely event which was very well attended.

Children in Need

Non-uniform was the order of the day last Friday, as we showed our support for Children in Need. Thanks to your generosity, we have so far raised a fantastic £497+.

School applications

Secondary school applications are all complete, and our Year 6 pupils are now beginning the process of attending interviews and banding tests for their chosen schools. This can be a very stressful time for the pupils (and parents), and I wanted to say how impressed I have been by the children for the maturity they have already shown this year. Secondary school reference requests are beginning to arrive, which will keep Mrs Adcock and me very busy for the next few weeks and months. Families will be notified of their secondary school allocation in March 2022.

Treginnis Farm

Thank you to everyone who attended the virtual Year 6 information meeting regarding the forthcoming trip to Treginnis Farm. The trip, planned for the week commencing 6th December, is now just over a week away, and already the children are talking of little else – their excitement is a joy to see. Throughout the trip, the children will become fully immersed in life on the farm, completing a wide range of tasks including: milking goats; collecting eggs, chopping logs for the fire and, my absolute favourite, mucking out the stables! Please log on to the Year 6 class webpage whilst the children are away to read about their adventures.

A few quick reminders…

- The weather has suddenly turned very cold, please ensure that your child brings a warm coat to school with them each day. I know many of the children do not feel the cold, but coats still need to be worn. Please ensure that coats are black or navy in line with our uniform policy.
- As soon as you drop off or collect your child, move away from the school gate and avoid blocking the pavement, as this will ensure that children are not forced to walk in the road.
- Keep a watchful eye on your child once you have collected him/her; please do not allow them to wander off alone, as they may end up in the road.
- Avoid bringing dogs up to the school gate, as there are a number of very nervous children (and adults) who do not like walking past them, and consequently walk in the road to avoid them.
- Whilst we can't stop vehicles unrelated to the school driving down the roads at drop off and collection time, we can reduce the number of vehicles significantly, if parents and carers avoid driving along St Peter's Road and Beavor Road at these times. I appreciate that some of you have no alternative but to drive; if that is the case, please can you consider parking a few streets away from the school and then walking the short distance to St Peter's. This would have the double benefit of not only reducing the amount traffic on the road, and therefore the likelihood of an accident, but it would also help to reduce the amount of pollution too.

House Points

	House points 19/11/21	House points 26/11/21	Total
Cross	**301**	**501**	**3823**
Fisher	**274**	**474**	**3968**
Rock	**336**	**613**	**4086**
Keys	**329**	**624**	**4267**

Headteacher's Award

	19th November 2021	26th November 2021
Reception	**Hunter & Rose**	**Marina & Ruby**
Year 1	**Sylvia & Zach**	**Lennox & Jemima**
Year 2	**Bart & Bowen**	**Charlie & Ava**
Year 3	**Maya & Elsa G**	**Everyone in Year 3**
Year 4	**Bea & Phoebe**	**Bea & Didi & James**
Year 5	**Namkhai & Annabelle**	**Florence & Tristan**
Year 6	**Izzy & Giorgio**	**Stella & Annabel**

Citizenship Award

Our Citizenship Award is given in recognition of acts of kindness and good citizenship which have been demonstrated around the school. Currently, we are looking for nominations for children who have displayed acts of **compassion,** as this is the Christian Value as a school we are focusing upon this half term.

19th November – Lucy & Leon (Y2), Edie (Y3), Sebi (YR) and Phoebe (Y4)
26th November – Cosmo, Serenity, Charlie B, Harry & Alfie (Y2), Florence & Louie (Y6), Mrs Johnston

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. 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. 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.

Medicines in School

If your child is required to take prescribed medicine during the school day, please ensure that it is given in 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 medications in their bags.

Term Dates

Term dates for this academic year and next academic year are published on our 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. Thank you for your continued support.

Website

Please remember to log on to our website to view your child's class page www.stpetersce.lbhf.sch.uk This will give you information about what your child has been learning throughout the week. Class webpages will be updated weekly by your child's class teacher.

Finally

If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to speak 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.

Kind regards,

Miss Frazer

04/12/21		**PTA Christmas Fair**
06/12/21		Year 6 Residential Visit
WC 06/12/21		Interschool competition (Dodgeball)
10/12/21		Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day
10/12/21		School Christmas Lunch
13/12/21	4pm	Carols by Candlelight Key Stage Two
14/12/21	10am & 2pm	Nativity Play – Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
15/12/21		Winning House Reward
16/12/21	9.30am	Christmas Quiz Key Stage Two
16/12/21	1.30pm	Christmas Party Reception and Key Stage One
17/12/21	9am	Christmas Service in Church
17/12/21	2pm	**End of term**