

# St Peter's Church of England Primary School Newsletter



SPRING TERM 2024/25  
1<sup>ST</sup> HALF TERM



HAPPY  
NEW YEAR  
2025

## Class Assembly Dates

16<sup>th</sup> Jan - Year 2K  
23<sup>rd</sup> Jan - Year 1CW  
30<sup>th</sup> Jan - Year 5H  
06<sup>th</sup> Feb - Year 3J  
13<sup>th</sup> Feb - Year 4R

### Half Term

13<sup>th</sup> Mar - Year 2B  
20<sup>th</sup> Mar - Year 1KW  
27<sup>th</sup> Mar - Year 5C  
03<sup>rd</sup> April - Year 4H

### Easter Holiday

01<sup>st</sup> May - Year 1CW  
08<sup>th</sup> May - Year 2K  
22<sup>nd</sup> May - Year 3B

### Half Term

12<sup>th</sup> June - Year RP  
19<sup>th</sup> June - Year RS  
26<sup>th</sup> June - Nursery(am) &  
Nursery (PM)

Please come and join us  
for your child's class  
assembly!  
Assemblies start at  
9.05am



## January

Dear Parents/Carers,

At the start of this New Year we warmly welcome you back to St Peter's and wish you a very happy, healthy and successful 2025!

We hope that you and your family had a fantastic Christmas holiday and you really enjoyed spending time together, sharing the joy and magic of the festive season.

In this half term's newsletter, we will be telling you about events that have taken place and about some of the things we have planned for the weeks ahead.

As always, please let us know if there are any suggestions you would like to make or have any concerns.

Thank you as always for your continued support!



## CHRISTMAS EVENTS

The Christmas events at St. Peter's were a tremendous success! Throughout the bustling Advent season, the children delighted in a range of fun and festive activities. The Nativity concerts, presented by Early Years, Key Stage One, and Key Stage Two, were wonderfully performed and warmly received by well-attended audiences. We also held a beautiful carol concert, where staff narrated the story of the very first Christmas, complemented by traditional carols and Christmas songs. The celebrations continued with a Christmas Fair, class parties, a performance of *Jack and the Beanstalk*, and even a special visit from Father Christmas! A heartfelt thank you to all the staff, children, and families for making these events so memorable and successful.



## Nursery News

Welcome to the Spring Term! Our theme for this half term is *Journeys*. We will begin with *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury, followed by *The Train Ride* by June Crebbin. The children will be encouraged to talk about journeys they have taken and describe the things they saw along the way. They will also explore positional language, using words like *under*, *over*, *up*, and *on top*. Throughout the term, we will continue listening to stories, singing nursery rhymes, and developing early math skills. The children will focus on recognising numbers 1-10, counting objects, counting forwards and backwards, and learning to recognise and copy their names. These are great activities to practise at home! In RE, our topic is *Why is the word God so important to Christians?* We will learn about the creation story and how to care for God's world. The children will paint pictures of God's creations, write thank-you prayers, and help with a litter pick in our outdoor area. We will also send home a weekly library book for families to enjoy together. If you have any questions, please speak to the Nursery team. Thank you for your support!

We're  
Going on a  
Bear Hunt



## Reception News

Welcome back to a fun-filled half term! We hope you had a fantastic break, creating special memories together, and are ready for an exciting term in Reception! This half term, our topic is *Journeys*. We'll begin by exploring a winter journey in *One Winter's Day*, learning about seasonal changes and vocabulary like "hibernation." Next, we'll dive into *The Naughty Bus*, followed by an adventure in space with *Whatever Next*, and explore non-fiction books about the Moon. The children will also enjoy learning about Winter during our seasonal walk. In Maths, we'll focus on number bonds, using practical activities to help children understand these relationships. We'll also introduce 3D shapes, encouraging children to spot them indoors and outdoors. In RE, our topic is *Why is the word God so important to Christians?* We'll learn about the creation story and ways to care for God's world. Activities will include painting God's creations, writing prayers, and starting a litter pick in our outdoor area. PE lessons are on Mondays and Fridays. Please encourage your child to practice dressing independently at home to boost their confidence. Finally, keep supporting your child with phonics and reading at home. We're so proud of their progress!



## Year 1 News

Happy New Year and welcome back! We have an exciting few weeks planned in Year One, filled with fascinating learning opportunities. In RE, our new topic is *Who is Jewish and how do they live?* We will explore special Jewish artefacts, traditions, and worldviews, including the importance of the Torah, the mezuzah, and the Shema prayer. We'll also learn about Shabbat and Chanukah, discussing why these occasions are meaningful to Jewish people. In Geography, we'll investigate people and their communities, exploring cities and islands from around the world. In Art, we'll develop our weaving skills as part of our Tackling Textiles topic. In Science, we'll study humans and animals, exploring similarities and differences while learning about the human body and life cycles. In English, we'll read traditional tales, humorous poems, and letters, as well as learn to write instructions. We'll focus on using adjectives and verbs to make our sentences more engaging. In Maths, we'll build on our understanding of numbers, including place value, addition, subtraction, and number sequences. We'll also explore time, money, and begin measuring lengths and weights. It's going to be a fun and busy term, and we look forward to all the wonderful learning ahead!



## Year 2 News

Welcome back to the Spring term! We have lots of exciting learning planned for Year 2. In Maths, we'll start by exploring the properties of numbers before moving on to finding fractions of amounts. Would you prefer half a cake or a quarter? We'll also continue our weekly *MAD MINUTES* sessions, where children race against the clock to complete times tables. Ready, steady, start practising! In English, we'll focus on *The Dragon Machine* by Helen Ward, part of our *Fantasy Texts* unit. The children will make predictions, explore new vocabulary, sequence events, and answer comprehension questions. Later in the term, we'll dive into writing instructions. In Geography, our topic is *Where does our food come from?* We'll investigate how food is produced and how it reaches the shops. We'll also explore foods from different parts of the world and their countries of origin. In Science, our focus is *Animals, including Humans*. We'll learn about animal life cycles and the organs in our bodies. In RE, our topic is *Who is Muslim and how do they live?* We'll explore key beliefs, ways of living, and discuss *Big Questions* about Islam. We're looking forward to another exciting term full of learning and discovery in Year 2!



## Year 3 News

Happy New Year and welcome back! We hope you had a restful break and are ready for an exciting few weeks in Year 3. In RE, our topic is *How do festivals and worship show what matters to a Muslim?* We'll explore beliefs about God in Islam, focusing on Surah 1, and how these are expressed through practices such as prayer, fasting, celebrating, and living according to the Five Pillars of Islam. In Maths, we'll continue with key skills, including place value, addition, subtraction, and multiplication and division facts. Regular practice of times tables at home is encouraged, and Times Table Rock Stars is a great way to make this enjoyable. In English, we'll read *Fantastic Mr. Fox*, writing character descriptions and creating our own versions of the story. Later, we'll dive into Greek myths and legends, fostering creativity and imagination. In Science, our focus is *Animals including Humans*. We'll study food, its importance for the body, and compare human and animal skeletons and muscles. In Geography, we'll learn about global climates, including temperate, desert, polar, and tropical zones, and create a *triorama* to represent these. In Art, we'll explore Islamic patterns, designing our own using stencilling and printmaking techniques. PE is on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. Please ensure kits are in school on these days.



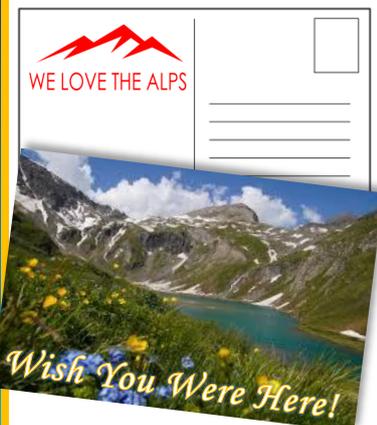
## Year 4 News



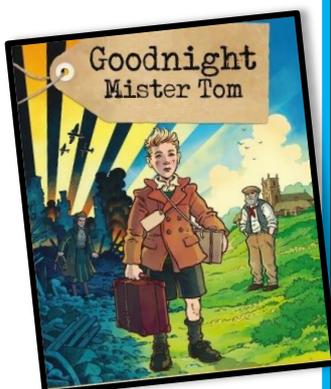
Welcome to 2025! We're excited for a new term filled with engaging topics and learning opportunities. The first term flew by, and this Spring term promises to be just as quick! We begin with Geography, where Year 4 will be Investigating Rivers, linking to our Science unit on States of Matter. In Science, we'll also explore *Animals including Humans*, a hands-on topic where children study the digestive system and teeth, building on Year 3's work on nutrition, skeletons, and muscles. In RE, we'll examine what it means to be a Hindu in Britain today, exploring the concept of Brahman and Puja at home. In English, we're finishing biographies by writing about Tutankhamun, linking to our Ancient Egypt studies. Next, we'll explore fairy tales like *The Lost Happy Endings* and move on to information texts. In Maths, we're focusing on fractions, then shapes, multiplication, and division. Times tables remain a key focus, with plenty of TTRS practice to prepare for the Year 4 check. Swimming continues through Spring and Summer, consolidating Autumn progress. PE focuses on Outdoor Games, so please ensure PE kits are in school on Thursdays. Thank you for your ongoing support—we look forward to a fantastic term!

## Year 5 News

Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful break and are ready to start 2025 with excitement and curiosity. This term brings fantastic learning opportunities across all subjects. In English, we'll begin by exploring horror stories and writing in this genre. Next, we'll practice forming arguments for and against various topics. Later, we'll become detectives, investigating unusual events and writing reports on our findings. In Maths, we'll revisit place value and the four operations while focusing on shapes. We'll explore the properties of polygons and deepen our understanding of 3D shapes. Our Science unit, *Animals including Humans*, will examine how animals adapt to their environments and explore fascinating life cycles, including some unusual ones. In RE, we'll focus on Jesus as the Messiah, exploring prophecies about His birth and His significance in the Christian faith. Our Geography topic, *Where should we go on holiday?*, explores the Alpine region, including tectonic plates and mountain formation. In Art, we'll study containers as both practical and artistic items, learning techniques to create our own special containers. Please ensure reading books are in school daily and encourage regular reading at home. PE is on Tuesday and Friday, but kits should remain in school in case of changes. Thank you for your support!



## Year 6 News



Welcome back after the Christmas break! In English, we'll explore various writing genres, focusing on editing and redrafting to showcase each child's potential. We'll start with *Goodnight Mr. Tom*, using the characters' thoughts and feelings as inspiration for our writing. Later, we'll study information texts about evacuees. In Maths, we'll begin with rounding and measurement, then move on to fractions and percentages of amounts. Children will participate in Freckles Maths for automated practice and end-of-unit tests. The TT Rock Stars competition continues—let's see which class comes out on top this term! In Science, our topic is *Animals including Humans*. We'll explore how the human body works, including how blood circulates. In Geography, we'll ask, '*Are we damaging our world?*' learning how human actions impact the planet globally. In Art, we'll focus on Monet, examining his work through the theme *What can you see?* Our Christian value this term is *Courage*. In RE, we'll focus on Hinduism, answering Big Questions and posing our own. We're excited for another fantastic term with Year 6 and look forward to all the learning ahead. Thank you for your continued support!



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# Year 2 Recorder Concert



## School Dinner and Breakfast Club Payments

If your child attends Breakfast Club or has school dinners, please can we remind you that you **MUST** pay in advance.

Failure to do so, could result in loss of Breakfast Club place and suspension from school dinners

## PUNCTUALITY & ATTENDANCE REMINDER

Please make sure your child is lined up on the playground for **8.50am**.

If your child is ill, please ring the school office before 9:00am on:  
**01706 648 195**

Last half term, on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December, Year 2 performed their Recorder Concert. With the help of Rochdale Music Service, they have been learning how to read music and play the recorder. The children thoroughly enjoyed their weekly music lessons and their performances were fantastic!

## MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

LOST MINUTES = LOST LEARNING!

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!



Every school day counts BUT every minute is equally important!

## ATTENDANCE

How's your class doing?

Our attendance target is: **96%**

Nursery	91.0%	Rec S	93.4%
Rec P	94.3%	Year 1KW	95.6%
Year 1CW	93.4%	Year 2B	96.8%
Year 2K	97.5%	Year 3J	96.6%
Year 3B	94.9%	Year 4R	96.1%
Year 4H	94.4%	Year 5H	95.3%
Year 5C	97.4%	Year 6R	96.4%
Year 6H	96.5%	Year 6R	96.4%
<b>Whole School</b>		<b>95.4%</b>	

Well done to classes: 2K, 2B, 3J, 4R, 5C, 6H and 6R for achieving the attendance target!

**Attendance Matters, Every Second Counts!**

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!

## Headteacher Message

Welcome back to school and 'Happy 2025!' Where does the time go? I have been very impressed with the way the children have returned after the Christmas holiday and I am sure we have a very hard working and successful term ahead. The second half of last term was very busy with some fantastic events to celebrate Christmas and I was extremely proud of all the children as they performed in their concerts and plays. I am excited for World Book Day on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March and seeing the children dressed as their favourite book characters! As always, please feel free to pop in to see me if you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's education.

Mr A Whelan