



St. Peter's Roman Catholic Primary School



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Through Jesus we love, we learn and we grow together

28th March 2023

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome to the Spring term edition of the St. Peter's newsletter. I hope this will give you a flavour of some of the wonderful things that have been happening in school over the last few weeks. We have almost reached the end of another term and I am very proud of the whole school. We have had a number of different visitors who look around St. Peter's, and the comments regularly include how happy and well-behaved the children are; it is a pleasure to hear. In the run up to the Easter break, please may I remind you that this term ends at 3.15 pm this **Friday, 31st March**.

Attendance: Our current attendance is 92.4%, which is well below the national expectation of 96%. It is really important that your child is in school, on time, every day. Good attendance at school is essential. Please remember that children should be dropped off and collected from the playgrounds at the correct times, and not to/from the office. Gate opens on Newcastle Gardens at 8.30 am / whistle 8.40 am / gate closes 8.50 am. The school day ends at 3.15 pm.

A reminder about our Friends of School events this week:-

Easter Bonnet competition: Children are invited to design an Easter bonnet; this can be out of simple materials. We have already received some creative and colourful entries!

Easter Egg Hunt : We also plan to hold an exciting egg hunt this week. The hunt will take place in and around the school and the children will have to answer a number of different questions to find the eggs. If they answer the questions correctly they will be given a chocolate egg. The Easter Bunny may even make an appearance! The cost to enter the Easter Egg Hunt is 50p, payable to the office as soon as possible please.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support, trust and belief in the school and our work. I wish you all a happy, holy and peaceful Easter break. **We look forward to seeing the children return on Tuesday 18th April.**

Mr Moran Headteacher



ATTENDANCE

At St. Peter's we continue to improve our school for all children and as well as them coming fully equipped and in the correct uniform; we would like to raise your attention to attendance and punctuality.

It is really important that your child is in school, on time, every day. Good attendance at school is not just beneficial it is essential

If your child is absent, we will be asking for you to supply a form of medical evidence (doctors note / medical card or copy of the prescription) to support this illness. We will also be reviewing the patterns of absence where appropriate. The Educational Welfare Officer visits our school monthly to inspect every child's attendance. If medical evidence is not provided, the absence will be unauthorised and if there are more than 8 sessions of unauthorised absences, this could result in the EWO being notified.

LATENESS:

Did you know that being 15 minutes late each day is the same as missing two weeks of school over the year. Lateness is just as serious as non-attendance and could also lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice. The start of the school day is an important time for children to develop their social skills with their peers, as well as preparing them for their learning. We start our school day at 8.50 am; our school gate is opened from 8.30am, the whistle is blown at 8.40 am in order to settle children for teaching to begin at 8.50 am.

Again - we do understand that there are reasons as to why a child may be late but all children, where possible need to arrive on time from the playground entrance as lateness does have an impact on the other children in class. Many thanks for your support with both attendance and punctuality.

Attendance Matters



Every Day Counts....

PARKING

It is clear from many conversations on the gate that parking is a real source of frustration and concern for many parents. We appreciate that not having the use of a car park, or a place to stop to drop-off or collect your children, causes issues for you. However - for the safety of your children - **please do not park on the pavement or wait in the road**. Parking on the pavement forces families, sometimes with pushchairs, out into the road and this is very dangerous.

We would ask that if there is not a place to park outside school that you park nearby and walk back. Alternatively, you could circle around and try again a few minutes later. **Please do not park on the pavement**. Thank you very much to our families who are following these rules to help keep everyone safe.

CLASS UPDATES:-

ASSISI:

In Assisi class this term, our topic has been 'Growing Together'. We have enjoyed reading 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. We worked together to make a beanstalk and then made our own leaves using different materials. We measured how tall we are and stuck our leaves on the beanstalk at the right height. Finally, we used the words we have learnt to compare our heights.



NIGHTINGALE:

This term we have been very busy learning new art skills. The children have learnt about the 3 primary colours and how these can be mixed to form secondary and tertiary colours.

We have looked at and learnt about artists such as Jasper Johns and Clarice Cliff and had a go at recreating some of their most famous pieces.

The children have all developed a wide range of art techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line and shape and more importantly have had great fun creating with paint and producing some amazing work.



ROMERO:

As part of our school Intergenerational Links, a group of children from Romero class joined the Salvation Army Carpet Kurling team. Both generations had a wonderful time learning from each other and having fun together.



CAFOD BIG LENT WALK!

The children, staff, parents, some grandparents and Father Daniel recently completed The Big Lent Walk! All this was in aid of helping our global neighbours fight poverty, the effects of climate change and natural disasters.

Please check out the link here: <https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/debra-balfour/post/2677510>



THUNBERG:

Another term is over in Thunberg Class, but plenty has been achieved as we reach the two-thirds finished part of the year.

A few highlights include:

Exploring the narrative poem 'The Highwayman' by Alfred Noyes. After doing this, we had a go at writing our own version by twisting the plot or re-inventing our own new ideas. '

*'And Thunberg Class came rewriting –
Rewriting – rewriting.*

Thunberg Class came rewriting the poem, in all their splendour and success.'

A deeper understanding of fractions as been developed, as the knowledge of the **part** and **whole** has been explored with varying representations including number lines, bar models and circular 'pizza' parts. The class have also begun the journey at developing the fluent application of **long multiplication** to multiply 2-by-2 digit numbers.

The question 'Mountains – Why live up one?' has been answered, and the jury is still out on if it is a positive (free, **geothermal energy**; extra **fertile land**) or a negative (life-threatening **pyroclastic flow**; suffocating **ash clouds**)!

A more consistent, refined handwriting style has been fostered and reinforced. The days of italicised slants are gone; the days of vertical prowess are here!

The VIPERS skills have been more confidently applied during comprehension lessons and wider connections have been made. An example is in the recognition of **oxymorons**: a fantastic figurative device!

Installation art! If you fancy some avant-garde made out of the oddest selection of bits 'n bobs, then a Thunberg artist has the solution!

Well done, Thunbergers – only one more term to go!



ORMROD:

Ormrod have had a very busy and interesting term looking at World War 2 and South America, particularly focusing on the impact of war for children and the Amazon Rainforest. During spring term 1, we have tried to empathise with those that experienced life during The Blitz and looked at the lasting impact war has had.

Our topic during spring term 2 took us into the rainforests of South America, looking at all sorts of wildlife and the importance for preservation and conservation.

The children have produced some super work and shared many imaginative ideas throughout. T

This term also saw the children participate in Bikeability, Indoor Rowing and Kurling. Our New Age Kurling Team represented the school brilliantly when we visited Notre Dame School recently.

A big thank you to everyone who has supported our Ormrod children this term.



EASTER MASSES AT ST PETER'S & ST THOMAS MORE

HOLY WEEK 2023

Palm Sunday: 2nd April

6.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass with Blessing of Palms

9.00am Blessing of Palms & Mass

at St Peter's & St Thomas More

10.30am Blessing of Palms & Mass at St Peter's



Monday in Holy Week: 3rd April

9.30am Mass at St. Peter's

Tuesday in Holy Week: 4th April

9.30am Mass at St Peter's & St Thomas More

Wednesday in Holy Week: 5th April

9.30 am Mass at St. Peter's

HOLY THURSDAY: 6th April

7.30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

at St Peter's [the church will be open until midnight]

GOOD FRIDAY: 7th April

10.30 am Walk of Witness at St Peter's

3.00pm Solemn Liturgy of the Passion & Death of the Lord

at St Peter's

HOLY SATURDAY: 8th April

8.00pm The Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter at St Peter's

EASTER SUNDAY: 9th April

9.00 am St Peters & St Thomas More, 10.30am St Peter's

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 17 th April	Staff Professional Day
Tuesday 18 th April	Children return to school
Tuesday 25 th April	Tempest Photography
Monday 1 st May	Bank Holiday (school closed)
Thursday 4 th May	Polling Day (school closed)
Friday 5 th May	Coronation Day whole school picnic
Monday 8 th May	Coronation Bank Holiday (school closed)
Tuesday 9 th May	SATs week
Friday 26 th May	FOS Sweet Treat Finish for half term
Monday 12 th June	Year 1 & 2 Phonics Check week
Friday 7 th July	Reports to Parents/Carers
Friday 14 th July	FOS Summer Fair
Tuesday 18 th July	FOS Summer Disco's
Monday 24 th July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Tuesday 25 th July	Whole School Mass End of School Year

PARENT / CARER ADVICE AND SUPPORT

Advice and support is available from our SENDCO and PSA. If you would like to arrange a meeting with Ms Caldwell, our SENDCO, please email alisoncaldwell@stpetersrc.plymouth.sch.uk or call the school office (217010). Ms Caldwell is in school each Tuesday.

Miss Cork our Parent Support Advisor is available daily by calling the school office, or by email: scork@st-petersrc.plymouth.sch.uk

WARM WEATHER

During spring and summer please ensure you provide all day sun protection for your child.



Please check Class Dojo on a daily basis.



ClassDojo

A lot of information is communicated through the app to ensure parents/carers are updated regularly.

Please ask your child's class teacher if you need any assistance with Dojo.

A reminder that the school is closed on Monday 1st and Monday 8th May for the Bank Holidays and on Thursday 4th May for the local elections.

TERM DATES SUMMER 2023

Monday 17 th April	Staff Professional Development Day
Tuesday 18 th April	School re-opens
Monday 1 st May	School closed – Bank Holiday
Thursday 4 th May	School closed—local elections
Monday 8 th May	School closed – Bank Holiday
29 th May – 2 nd June	<i>Half Term Holiday</i>
Monday 5 th June	Staff Professional Development Day
Tuesday 6 th June	School re-opens
Tuesday 25 th July	End of School Year