



St Peter's C of E Primary School

30th April 2024

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Dear all,
Attendance is a huge focus within Education at present and is a key driver for the current Government. As such, Attendance Policies across the country have recently been updated to reflect government guidance. I have posted our new policy on Class DoJo this week and urge you all to please read it.

Even as Headteacher, my hands are tied with many aspects of the policy. External agencies now monitor our attendance data and act accordingly, such as issuing letters and, on occasion, fines. I do not have the power to grant any holidays and can only grant school absence in truly extenuating circumstances, which I then have to justify to the DfE. The DfE do actually have the power to rescind permission this if they deem fit, so this is a really serious business.

If you have any questions, please do come and speak to us. Mrs Bray is very knowledgeable and takes an active lead on attendance across the school. As always, our aim is to work with you all to ensure that your child receives the best education possible, and attendance plays a crucial part in this.

Many thanks,

Mr B

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2024

May

Monday 6th Bank Holiday
Monday 27th-Friday 31st Half Term
Weds 22nd— Fri 24th Year 5/6 residential to Kingswood

June

Saturday 15th WASP's School Fete
Wednesday 19th Sports Day
Thursday 27th Reserve Sports Day

July

Tuesday 9th Yr 6 Leavers service to parents
School closes Wednesday 10th July

August

Tuesday 27th School opens

September

12th—13th Year 3/4 Residential to Beaumanor

Spotlight On

Spotlight on: Reading

Did you know that...

- children who enjoy reading are more likely to have good mental wellbeing (NLT 2019)
- reading for pleasure is more likely to determine whether a child does well at school than their social or economic background (Pearson 2024)
- children who have their own books at home, are six times more likely to read above the level expected for their age (NLT 2022)
- children with well-developed literacy skills have greater life expectancy (NLT 2018)
- Children who read before bed, sleep better (Sleep foundation 2024)

For more information, go to:

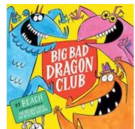
[Why is reading so important? | Pearson UK](#)

Mrs Howard's Books of the month:

Ages 4-5 and up

Ages 6-8 and up

Ages 9-11 and up



Big Bad Dragon Club

Author: Beach

A funny picture book about dragons learning they don't always have to be bad!



Test Trouble

Author: Serena Patel Illustrator: Louise Forshaw

Arun hates tests, so when his teacher sets a timed maths test, he does everything he can to get out of it. This light-hearted chapter book explores the importance of resilience and is ideal for reluctant readers.



Alyssa and the Spell Garden

Author: Alexandra Sheppard Illustrator: Bex Glendinning

Touching on social anxiety and divorce as well as featuring a non-binary child and characters of many ethnicities, this is a truly inclusive tale of magic, community and healing.

ATTENDANCE

Each week we like to say well done to the class with the best attendance

8/4/24	Zebras	98.89%
15/4/24	Turtles	100%
22/4/24	Polar Bears	99.29%

There will be a reward for the class with the best attendance at the end of this half term.
Overall attendance up to 30/4/24 is **99.5%** it would be great if we could reach **97%** by the end of term.

"Reading

"Reading for pleasure is the single biggest factor in success later in life, outside of an education. Study after study has shown that those children who read for pleasure are the ones who are most likely to fulfil their ambitions. If your child reads, they will succeed - it's that simple."

- Bali Rai

The more that you read,
The more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
The more places you'll go.
-Dr. Seuss

← Visit booktrust.org.uk for more info.

At St Peter's, our Christian values underpin the ethos and whole life of our school:

"In everything treat others the same way you want them to treat you" Matthew 7-12

♥ Thankfulness ♥ Friendship ♥ Justice ♥ Forgiveness ♥ Trust ♥ Hope ♥ Compassion ♥ Respect ♥



WASPs News

SUMMER FAIR 15TH JUNE

Teddy Bears and unwanted sealed gifts needed for our Summer Fair 15th June.

We have so many exciting stalls booked on to our summer fair, please follow our Facebook page to keep up to date with all our events— wasps—St Peters Primary School.

Please consider joining WASPs

We really need more parents/carers to join wasps to ensure we can continue the legacy of the charity. If you are interested in joining our small friendly team please email waspsta@hotmail.com for further details. All volunteering works around your family.

40 Days of Kindness for Lent

Our winner for the 40 Days of Kindness for Lent bingo competition was Ernest Meason from Year 1. The Meason family have kindly chosen to donate the £92 raised to St Peter's. We plan to add that money to the £40 raised for our Book Week Guess The Teacher competition and buy a new laptop to add to the bank we have for children to use in school.

Thank you to all of the children who took part and all of the families who donated.



Year Three and Four's trip to the Mandir

'We visited the Mandir (Hindu temple) in Leicester on Friday 19th April as part of our topic on Hinduism. It is a beautiful building

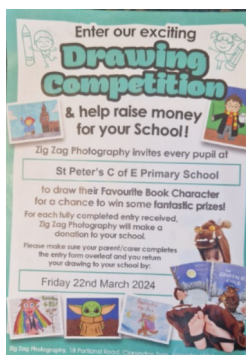
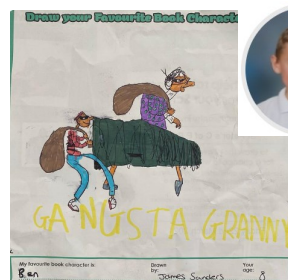


and we learned that the carvings on the exterior were hand-made in India. We had to take our coats and shoes off on arrival. In the entrance, there was wall with writings in English and Sanskrit (the Hindu language). We learned some Sanskrit words. The next room contained multiple pictures of God as a child going through his life from an early age and a Hindu lady explained this story to us. We saw a Hindu man dressed in white giving an offering of water to a golden image of God (we learned that fresh flowers and water are offered to all of the 'statues' in the temple every day). There was a swing and another display of the Hindu deities (covered in gold leaf) in the final room. We did Pradakshina (walking around the deities while clapping and saying God in Sanskrit in your mind). We found out that God has 108 names! We also learned some yoga and meditation throughout. By Isabella, Year 4.

Photography prize

Last term, ZigZag photography invited children to take part in a drawing competition. Here is James Sander's (Year 3) winning entry:

He has won an art set, book voucher and £350



photoshoot for his family, as well as raising money for school. Well done! Thanks to all of you who took part.

P.E. News

From Miss Mayne

On Tuesday 30th April we had some brilliant football sessions lead by Sam from the FDS in Partnership with Aston Villa FC. All children thoroughly enjoyed their sessions and some even had the pleasure of being invited to Aston Villa Academy for some trial sessions!



LEON BAPTISTE

100m & 200m



Leon Baptiste delivered a fantastic assembly to the children all about his professional career in sprinting and boxing. An amazing £886 was raised! Thank you to everyone who donated and supported us for this event to go ahead.

St Peter's newshounds...



Refurbishment of the new library began over the holidays (thank you WASPs). Some furniture has been removed and there is a new green carpet to tie in with our woodland theme. We will keep you up-to-date...



It's competition time...

During May, we are holding a Spring Poetry Competition. Your poem needs to be related to Spring in some way. It can either rhyme or not. Please put your full name and year group on the back. The top three entries from each class will go into a poetry book. First place in each class will get a chocolate and a certificate. We will come around to classrooms to remind you about the competition and collect any entries. We can't wait to read your poems!

Almost Spring

The sunshine gleams so bright and warm,
The sky is blue and clear.
I run outdoors without a coat,
And spring is almost here.

Then before I know it,
Small clouds have blown together.
Till the sun just can't get through them,
And again, it's mitted weather.



By Megan Catherall and Lydia Pennington



Learning in school and out...

Year 6 enjoyed a fascinating trip to the Warning Zone just before Easter. Mrs Cook and Mrs Laywood were really proud of their behaviour.



We love hearing about our children's interests and hobbies outside of school. Ronnie in Year 3 has begun fishing with his Dad, now has his own rod and caught 5 fish at the weekend!



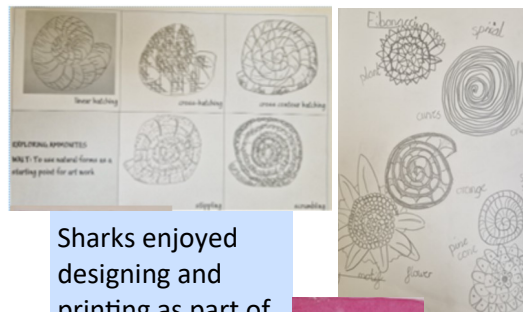
Tigers are eagerly anticipating the arrival of some butterflies!



Year 1 building beach huts linked to their Text 'Queen Victoria's Bathing Machine'...



...and having a fun DT day making sandwiches.



Sharks enjoyed designing and printing as part of their Art Day Ammonite project.

