

#### St. Peter's Newsletter

#### Friday 24th November 2023



#### **Headteacher Message**

Good afternoon,

Christmas preparations have started! The nativity practice and songs can be seen and heard around school. As we move into next week the school will also be decorated and look very festive. Thank you to 'The Friends' for kindly agreeing to decorate the school.

We have a plan for every child to be performing this year;

- Reception class will be learning songs around a nativity that Mrs Daly and Mrs Parker will narrate.
- Y1 and 2 have been allocated parts for the KS1 nativity.
- Y3,4 & 5 will be singing and leading our planned Carol's by Candlelight in the school grounds.
- Y6 will be leading a carol service in church.

All the dates have been added to the calendar and are at the bottom of the newsletter under 'Christmas Dates for the Diary'. To ensure safe capacity, we need to limit the number of people attending, so we are happy to take bookings for a maximum of 2 per child per performance. These bookings can only be for your own child's performance. Please ensure you book your places via the school office either via telephone, face to face or email <a href="mailto:bursar@stpetersheysham.lancs.sch.uk">bursar@stpetersheysham.lancs.sch.uk</a>. Mrs Highton is compiling the booking sheets so can take bookings from this afternoon onwards.

Our curriculum focuses this week have been Science and PE. Mrs Daly is our science leader and Mrs Owens leads the Physical Education curriculum. Our science curriculum has been carefully sequenced by Mrs Daly, ensuring that children learn scientific knowledge (facts) and develop their knowledge and skills to think and work like a scientist. We are really pleased with how the children are learning and progressing across the school.

As we head into December things are getting very busy so please ensure you read carefully in each weekly newsletter for updates, key information and any changes!

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Dodd and the team at St Peter's

#### **Our School Worship and Christian Characteristics**

# Why do we need peace?

This week we explored what brings us Peace. Who, what and when do we feel at peace. We heard the Bible Story "The Storm of the Lake" and considered who we look to help bring calm and peace to our lives. Mrs Rigby led a whole school visualisation where we kept still, quiet and thought about the sea, waves, storm and then the feeling of calmness.

In class the children have been thinking about peace around the world. Spreading peace is important for us to be good citizens. Our world has seen conflict and unrest this year and sometimes the news can feel daunting. However, small acts of kindness help us spread peace in our communities and homes and can make a real difference. The children have been busy making peace chains. We are going to join them all together and read some of the things the children have added to their link.

Next week we are going to be thinking about self-control and how we can accept responsibility for our words and actions.

#### **Gates and Late Arrivals**

We need to, once again, remind all parents / carers that the gates must close and be locked by 8.45am prompt to ensure children can be in class in time for morning registration. If there is something you feel we can do to help with you arriving to school on time, please contact us and we can explore what we can do to support. Communication to persistent late families will be sent out soon. Thankyou

#### **Sporting Events**

#### **Bowling Group**

We had a positive group of children who enjoyed bowling on Monday afternoon. The children represented the school well showing cooperation, turn taking and respect for everyone involved. Thank you to parents who supported this event.

#### **Tolerance, Kindness and Respect**

Thank you to all the parents / carers that are using the communication methods in place and going to the class teacher for class issues and then booking appropriate time with key staff as required. Since I have been headteacher I have outlined that we want to be an open, honest school. Communication is important and mutual respect is key to ensuring we can all work together to provide a positive environment in school and at home.

As a school we are working extremely hard and are very inclusive of all children's needs. We live in a diverse world where we have rules and where we need to show kindness and tolerance. Children make mistakes and no child is perfect! Part of school life is learning that we are all human, we make mistakes and we learn from them. I call these 'teachable moments'- when things do go wrong and where we can teach children how to handle things differently.

Our pastoral family learning mentor, Mrs Rigby's role is very diverse. She is continuing to support children and families. Her role is to equip both parents and children with the skills to be resilient and more independent.

Every child is important to us! We aim to create a safe school environment where children flourish together but there will be times where children make mistakes. We want to ensure all children feel safe, secure and valued within our school and this also means making sure children are not labelled as 'naughty', 'troublemakers', 'bullies' etc.

It is also not helpful when parents are making comments within WhatsApp groups or messaging other parents about children and creating 'stigma' around a child. We have worked hard and continue to work hard to ensure there are communication methods in place. We encourage parents to speak respectfully to the class teachers at the right time. We also ask that if you do have an issue, you do not talk about this in front of your child. Children need to see home and school working together.

What we have noticed in some year groups, is that children are going home and stating things that have happened in school, which is then being misinterpreted. We need parents / carers to ask questions in a tolerant manner and put trust in the staff and school.

There are sometimes where we deal with behaviour as part of normal school daily life and we may not report everything. Please be tolerant and careful with the words we use to describe children.

We also politely ask all parents, carers and family members to be respectful to our staff, particularly when in the company of children. There can be times when emotions can run high and be demonstrable in language and behaviours. Please be mindful in all communications, that we are here to help and can only do that when the environment created is calm. This will help us all to set a positive example to children, demonstrating self control and respect for others.

#### **General Reminders**

#### **Parking**

Please remember to park responsibly and courteously, to keep our families and neighbours safe. Regular visits will be taking place from the police to monitor parking in the area.

#### Online Safety Evening Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December

We recognise that the calendar is very busy in December and everyone's minds will be on different things. Many children may be receiving gifts of new technology, phones and or devices this Christmas time. Do you know how to keep your child safe? Do you know the current issues with online gaming / apps etc? We know that the children are more tech savvy than adults and we also know that some of our children are accessing content online that is not age appropriate. Please come along for 1 ½ hours to find out what you can do at home this Christmas to make sure your child is safe online. Please book via the school office.

#### **Christmas Dates for the Diary**

As per the previous newsletters, we will continue to add dates for the diary over the festive period as soon as we can.

December <u>proposed</u> dates – we will be aiming to keep to these dates and are giving you lots of notice to enable you to sort any leave required from work.

\*Important update-the book fair has been cancelled as we appreciate how many activities are taking place this month already. Another book fair has been secured in the new year\*

- Friday 1st Elfie Lunch
  - \*Pre-orders are now in. If you have not pre-ordered, please send your child to school with a packed lunch on the day\*
- Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> Whole School Panto trip to the Dukes Lancaster to see 'A Christmas Carol'
   \*Please ensure all payments and consents are completed on ParentPay ASAP\*
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> Y3 Advent / Christingle Worship @ 9am in the Hall
- Friday 8<sup>th</sup> Elf Run Fundraiser for St John's Hospice
   Our online JustGiving page can be found here for sponsorships: https://www.justgiving.com/page/susan-neville-1700227717260
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Y1/2 Nativity @ 1.30pm in the Hall
- Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> Y3,4,5 Carols by Candlelight @ 6pm in the Hall / School
- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Y1/2 Nativity @ 1.30pm in the Hall
- Monday 18<sup>th</sup> Y6 Carol Concert @ 6pm at St Peter's Church
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> EYFS / Reception Class Christmas Sing Along @ 9am in the Hall
   \*This has been rescheduled from the previous week\*
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> Whole School Christmas Lunch pre-order forms to follow

For all events which parent/carers are invited to, please ensure you book a place (2 maximum per child per performance) via the school office as noted earlier in the newsletter. Thankyou

#### Food Bank - Donations



Thank You for your continued support with your donations to Morecambe Bay Community Foodbank. We are very grateful for all your donations.

Rev. Mark has been collecting them weekly from school and delivering them to the Food Bank. There is no expectation to donate, so please only do so if you can.

The foodbank have recently added a list of items they are in greater need of, however as always, any donation is appreciated and received with thanks.



Class	Date
Sanderlings	24 <sup>th</sup> November
Lapwings	1 <sup>st</sup> December
Oystercatchers	8 <sup>th</sup> December
Dunlins	15 <sup>th</sup> December
We will restart Foodbank Donations in January 2024	

Dates for the Diary – Week Commencing Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November.	
Monday 27th November	Y4 are swimming. Kits in school please.
Tuesday 28 <sup>st</sup> November	Young Voices Practice (Y4,5,6): 3.15-4.15pm
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	<ul> <li>JAM Club: 3.15 – 4.15pm</li> <li>Y2 / 3 Dance Club: 3.15 – 4.15pm</li> <li>Time for Flowers Wreath Making: 6 – 9pm  Places have to be booked in advance</li> </ul>
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Y4 Art Club: 3.15 – 4.15pm
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December <b>拿</b>	Elfie Lunch     If you have not pre-ordered an Elfie Lunch for your child, please send     them to school on this day with a packed lunch. Thankyou

## Reminder of key dates and activities for Autumn Term (excluding Christmas specific dates noted above)

 11<sup>th</sup> December – Online Safety Evening – Please book your place with the school office. It will be a very informative night to support parents with keeping their children safe online. Pizza and cake will be provided!



#### **Keeping Children Safe Online:**

In the real world we protect our children. So why not keep them safe online?

An 'essential' online safety briefing for parents, guardians, and carers.

Date: MONDAY 11TH DECEMBER Start time: 6PM

PLEASE BOOK YOUR PLACE VIA THE SCHOOL OFFICE

Duration: Approximately 1 hr 15 mins with time for questions.

#### About the briefing

Many people, including young children are users of the internet.

Having access to online information and the functionality that the internet can offer has many benefits and for most it plays an important part of our everyday lives. However, as technology moves on at such a pace it is difficult to keep up with new trends and developments, particularly regarding mobile devices/games technology and safe accessibility to online content.

Young people are spending more time online and research shows evidence that issues relating to exploitation, manipulation or abuse are adding to concerns regarding online safety. Research now shows that life online can also have an impact on wellbeing and in some cases contribute to mental health problems.

What are our children doing online? Do we know how they are behaving? Are they safe? Who are they communicating with? Do they know what to do if they come across something suspicious? Are they accessing content appropriate for their age? Are they giving away too much personal information that may make them vulnerable or affect them in the future? Are they spending too much time online?

Are they spending too much time online?

Are we having conversations about all the above?

We would ask at least one parent/carer from each family to attend this session where a Lancashire Education Authority Consultant will present an awareness briefing to address some of the issues mentioned above.

The session is for parents/carers only and will last for approximately 1hr 15mins with an opportunity for questions during or after the presentation.

The Local Authority and our school have policies in place to ensure children are learning in a safe and secure environment which includes being safe online. Therefore, this session has been organised to help you to contribute to this process in helping children to be aware of the potential problems associated with using the internet and modern technologies.

The session is not suitable for children

OFSTED regard these sessions as an integral part of a school's Safeguarding/Online Safety policy and they expect schools to have offered this support for parents. Please help us to keep young children safe.



### Promenade Concert Orchestra

Conductor - Howard Rogerson

## 'Music From The Films'

TITANIC LIMELIGHT STAR WARS The Platform, Morecambe Sunday, 26th November 2023 at 3pm

Tickets £16

THUNDERBIRDS Accommpanied children free

PINK PANTHER

**BIG COUNTRY** 

**JAMES BOND THEMES** 

**GUYS & DOLLS GERSHWIN MEDLEY** 

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www.promenadeconcertorchestra.org.uk





