

St Peter's



Church of England
Primary School

October 22

Autumn Newsletter

from St Peter's
Primary School

Dear Parents and Carers

What a busy and exciting start to the school year it has been! The most memorable moment for me in the first few days was joining back together in the hall for collective worship. I cannot describe the joy of hearing music, singing and excitement floating through the air as children joined together in song again this term. Throughout the pandemic, being separate as a school was the hardest part and there is no doubt that these moments now seem more special and important than ever before.

*Thank you for showing
 excellence in:*

- ☐ *who you are*
- ☐ *all you do*
- ☐ *your service
 with others*

We started our year with a re-launch of personal development at St Peter's and welcomed our visiting experts to teach us all about yoga and mindfulness. Our learning mentors, Mrs Evans and Mrs Barnett also spent time across all classes in the school helping us learn how to 'be calm' and 'empty our minds' in order to support our mental wellbeing. This will remain a key focus for us as a school and we are very fortunate to have such expert support available to pupils and staff. These opening weeks also gave us the opportunity to refresh our understanding of the school vision with all pupils and launch our brand new Excellence Cards, which I know many of you will be proud to see children bringing home.

Across these weeks, children learnt about our new value of citizenship in our community, and we launched being a 'St Peter's Citizen'. Over the year, we will continue to explore this with children and look forward to celebrating those shining examples of being an excellent St Peter's citizen. The first week of the year also brought with it the sad passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. It was incredibly moving to open the doors of our school to children and families on that Friday morning to share their prayers and reflections of thanks for her life of service. We were honoured to be able to present these to The Countess of Wessex in London and she was clearly touched by these messages, sending her thanks to the children of St Peter's.



Year 5 were quick to launch our first legacy learning project of the year with their visit to the Houses of Parliament and thinking about the important British value of democracy. Year 5 also led us in the 'International Day of Democracy' by facilitating a ballot for our new house names. It was wonderful to see so many year 5 pupils confidently meeting parents and families at the door to welcome them in and encourage them to cast their votes at our ballot stations. Children were also all invited to vote for the names for our new houses and we were then delighted to once again join together in our new family groups later in the term – something that has not happened at St Peter's for many years – another joyous moment for us all.

As the cost of living crisis continues to impact on families up and down the county, I am mindful that more families within our school community will find the winter periods challenging, especially in the run up to Christmas. You will have seen the recent change in our approach to contributions for school trips and I hope that this has been a financial support to those who need it and we are grateful to the community for coming together to support each other in this where you can. We have also continued with our uniform re-sale (donations) shop and we are looking at ways to make this bigger, better and more inviting to all. This also shines a light on the important work in Year 4 with their legacy project linked to 'Fare Share'. We are looking at ways to continue to build on this important legacy project throughout

the year to reach wider areas of our community. Many pupils across the school contributed to a wonderful harvest collection and a large number of our pupils also joined Mrs Battista to speak and present to the congregation at St Peter's church – a true example of *'Excellence in our service with others'*.

It was wonderful to join our year 6 pupils for a few days at Mill on the Brue and we were all so proud of the way that they represented the school. I know that they are still tired from their adventures and need a good half-term rest!

We have loved welcoming our new reception children for their first term at St Peter's, sharing stories and launching them into all of the excitement of learning at school. Last night, we welcomed many parents to our first quiz night of the year and we hope to have several more – a wonderful way for our fantastic PSA to continue to raise money for wider enrichment across the school. Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

Next term, our attention turns swiftly to another important legacy project in Year 6 as they lead us in an act of remembrance across the school on Friday 11th November. House Captains will also be selling poppies on the playground throughout the week as usual.

A final reminder that Monday 31st October is our Inset day and we look forward to welcoming children and families back to school on Tuesday 1st November.

Wishing you a wonderful, safe and restful half-term break.

Mr Eustace

Reception

In Reception we have been exploring the celebration of Harvest and what that entails. We went on a nature walk around the conservation area and spotted apples and blackberries that could be harvested.



Alongside this, we have also been learning three harvest songs during Music. We performed all of these as a cohort during our Harvest Service and even got parents/carers to join in as well! It was lovely to welcome so many Reception parents and carers back into our school, and we look forward to welcoming you back again during the Christmas season. We would like to say a massive thank you to Reverend Rob for leading the Harvest Service.



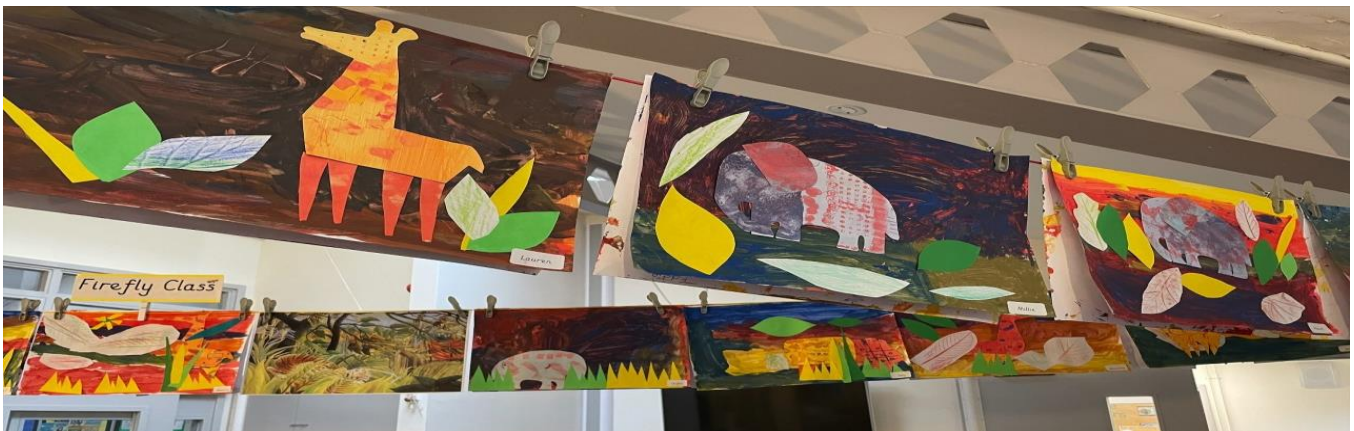
Year 1

We have had a fantastic start to the year.

This term we have been learning about the artist Henri Rousseau, focusing on his painting 'Tiger surprise'.

As expert artists we have unpicked his work and developed key skills to create our own African masterpiece. These skills included line work, colour mixing, pattern and printing.

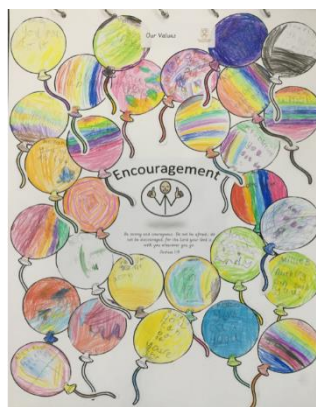
We are very proud of our finished product and have created our own art gallery in the year 1 area.



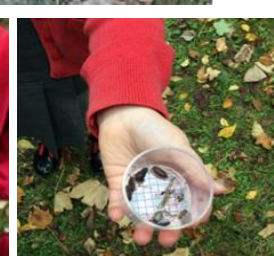
Year 2

Year 2 have had a super start to the year!

We began the year by thinking about what it means to be a St Peter's Citizen and how we can show 'Excellence in all we do'. We linked this learning to our value of **encouragement** and thought about messages of encouragement we could share with our friends.



In our science lessons this term, we have been studying living things, habitats and microhabitats. We have been investigating how animals are suited to the environments in which we find them. As part of this learning, we created an investigation to explore which environment woodlice prefer to live in. We used simple equipment to collect woodlice and then put them into different chambers to see which microhabitat they preferred. Our findings showed us that woodlice prefer an environment that is damp and dark. We loved hunting for woodlouse in the conservation area and were amazed at just how many we found!



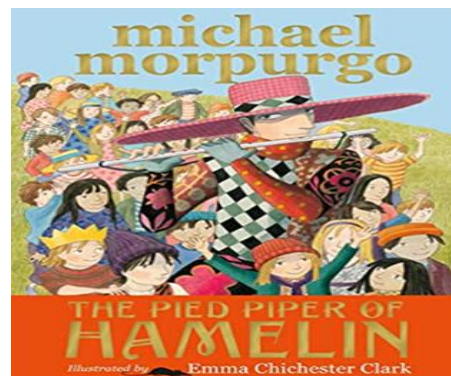
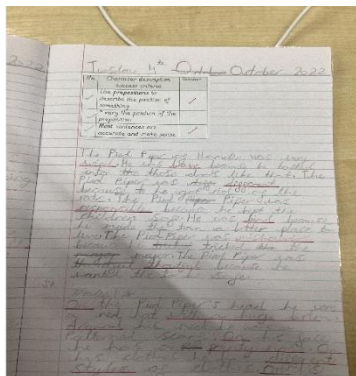


Year 3

We began the year by exploring our school vision 'Excellence in who we are, Excellence in all we do and Excellence in our service with others' and have added some beautiful pieces of work to our brand-new citizen books. The children have enjoyed the addition of our weekly mile as well and our opportunities for mindfulness.



In our English this term, we have been busy learning the story The Pied Piper of Hamelin by Michael Morpurgo. We have been thinking carefully about expanding our nouns for character and setting descriptions and learning how to use preposition for place and time.



In art, we have been focussing on Maggi Hambling and her work on seascapes. The children have spent some time creating different tints and shades as well as exploring different techniques to add texture to paintings.



Year 4

As part of our work on *'Excellence in our service with others'*, Year 4 led the Harvest service at St Peter's Church this term. We collected and donated a large amount of essential items to support our local community who use the Clevedon District Food Bank.



In our geography this term, we have been learning all about rivers and finding out where they are located and how they shape the land around them. We have learnt to use some expert vocabulary in our explanations and can now tell you where a river starts and where it ends – ask us all about sediment and how it is transported and deposited!



In maths, we have worked hard on our place value knowledge and understanding how numbers change as we add or subtract 1, 10, 100 or 1000. We have enjoyed using place value counters to support our learning and show our thinking.





Year 5

This term, Year 5 were lucky enough to go on a trip to London and visit the Houses of Parliament. We had a tour, which included a visit to the House of Commons and the House of Lords. We saw some beautiful architecture and lots of historical paintings.

In the education centre, we had a workshop to teach us about how democracy works in the UK. This brought our legacy learning to life and we learnt about the power that citizens have to vote and make decisions about how the country is run.

We even had time for a game of tag and some drawing outside the building. It's not every day we get to have play time outside the Houses of Parliament!



Year 6

We had an amazing time at Mill on the Brue. The children learnt a great deal about sustainability and how to take better care of the planet as they completed their Geography Fieldwork surveys on site. Throughout the week, children tried new foods and strived to become 'Zero Heroes' who wasted no cooked food. Two groups in particular, Kingfishers and Swallows, didn't waste a single gram of food all week!



Mill on the Brue was also an amazing opportunity for children to step outside of comfort zones and try new activities. Raft building, assault courses and the survival game were opportunities for teamwork to flourish. Children also enjoyed wearing harnesses for some especially exhilarating activities: leap of faith, climbing and tower jump.



The teachers were particularly impressed by the Talent Show and couldn't believe the different skills on show. Gymnastics, magic, jokes and singing were a few of the highlights.

Playleaders

At the end of last year, two children were chosen from each of the year 2 classes to take on the play leader role. These children are going to continue this responsibility this year, now that they are in year 3. On our Democracy day, children in year 5 were able to apply for the role of play leader as well. It was lovely to see some wonderful applications which showed great eagerness in supporting and enhancing our playtimes.

A big, warm welcome to our play leaders!

Year 3 – Rose, Isaac, Lulu, Ben, Fearne and Lucas

Year 5 – Toby, Alex, Zach, Henry, Robyn and Louie

We have been very fortunate this term to now have some additional support from PH Sports during our morning play times. This has meant that now children are able to access the equipment from our play shed during these times in addition to lunch times.

Over the year, we will look to develop the roles of our play leaders. We aim that they will support our sports coaches to run lunch clubs and activities as well as help organise our bigger sporting events like Olympic Day and Sports Day.

House Captains

Following our amazing Democracy Day, we were excited to announce the names of our new houses: Donaldson, Coehlo, Jeffers and Rauf. Miss Napier then had the challenging job of choosing two representatives from each house to act as House Captains for the year.

Children applied by letter, explaining how their qualities made them right for the job. We are pleased to introduce you to our new House Captains for 2022-23!

They will be taking on many different responsibilities across the school, from taking visitors on tours of the school to helping with the organisation of sports days.



St Peters Church

St Peter's Church held their annual pet service on Saturday 8th October, and it was lovely to see lots of St Peter's school children and their pets there !

Here is one of our Year 4 pupils with her dog Millie and bunnies Nuzzle and Wuzzle (safely in their basket!)



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And Finally .. A note from our PSA reminding us of a brilliant idea for recycling and raising funds for school !



CHRISTMAS CLOTHING SWAP

1 in 4 Christmas jumpers are thrown away or never worn again.

If your child has outgrown their festives clothes, please consider donating them to St. Peter's School PSA. A donation point will be announced shortly.

Donated Christmas clothing will be sold at the Christmas Fair on Saturday 3rd December for £2.50 each, so why not come along and purchase some new festive wear for your child in preparation for Christmas jumper day on Friday 10th December.

**FESTIVE JUMPERS, TSHIRTS, SHIRTS AND DRESSES ALL WELCOME
CLEAN AND WEARABLE ITEMS ONLY PLEASE!**

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