

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of an extremely busy, exciting and joy-filled term, it is really hard to know how to begin to pick out just a few of the highlights! Term 4 started with a visit from Ofsted, and we were so incredibly proud of our **whole school community**: children, staff, governors and parents who shone over the 2 days. We are still waiting for the final version of the report to be issued but we are hopeful that this will be published at the start of next term, and I very much look forward to sharing this with you.

As you read through this newsletter you will see that children across the school have had a fantastic term of engaging learning activities; the breadth of experiences that they encounter, and knowledge they acquire, in such a short amount of time never ceases to amaze me. It has been wonderful to see a range of 'Wow Days' being enjoyed and children developing their expertise as historians and scientists. We have been lucky to have visiting experts including an Egyptologist and our very own 'Space Dome' in the Pier Hall. These visits really enhance the learning that happens in the classrooms, and I know that they inspire our future historians and scientists.

We have been so pleased to be able to offer you continued opportunities to see your child's work and celebrate their progress. In addition to parents' evenings, and share sessions this term, I hope you will agree that the 'Easter Exhibition' has showcased an impressive breadth of learning across the curriculum. It was with enormous pride that I walked around the school to see the wonderful journey of learning for a child at St Peter's. I must extend a huge thank you to our very committed team of staff who work tirelessly with such passion, and expertise, to ensure that children get the very best school experience. Thank you to everyone who attended this event and for the wonderful feedback that you shared with us. The scavenger hunt was a huge success too and it was good to hear that lots of children (and grown-ups) had great fun learning new facts!



You will see, in our 'Play Leader' section of this newsletter, that we have some exciting new playground markings to further enhance playtimes. These additions have been made possible by funding from the PSA. You may not be aware that the PSA committee, and regular volunteer group, is very small and represents about 1% of our parent community so we can't thank them enough for their drive and energy in working to improve our school community for all pupils. Large scale events such as fairs and discos take huge amounts of planning (including having to plan extensively for adherence to health and safety and safeguarding requirements) and would not be possible at all without the support of parent and staff volunteers; so, a massive thank you to all those involved. If you are interested in taking more of an active role in supporting the work of the PSA, please let us know.

It was another amazing event yesterday at the Easter fair, led by our Year 6 team of teachers, pupils and parents. We have been absolutely blown away by the efforts of everyone this year and it would not have been possible without such hard work. Thank you to parents for helping to set up and braving the rain on the food and drink stall; to the children for their preparation, organisation and, importantly, cleaning up afterwards; and a huge thanks to

the teachers for everything that they have done, including getting sponged in the stocks in the hilariously named stall 'soapy vengeance'. After an absence of 4 years, it has been wonderful to see this event return, giving the entrepreneurial pupils in year 6 the chance to raise much needed funds for their leavers' events – thank you to everyone for your amazing support.



Finally, it has been a joy to go to St Peter's Church this morning for our Easter service. Our reception children visited the church for a lovely morning of activities, last week, and today it was the turn of our KS1 and KS2 children. Again. It has been a long time since we were all able to go to church together at Easter time and it felt very special. Our year 6 children read beautifully to tell us the story of Palm Sunday and of Holy Week, and also wrote their own prayers. Our worship leaders also played an important role by collecting palm crosses for their classroom reflection areas and processed, with these, around the church as everyone sang together. A big thank you to Reverend Tonya and the team at St Peter's for welcoming us and making this such a special visit.

And, of course, Easter wouldn't be Easter without our traditional rendition of 'Spring Chicken'! We certainly raised the roof!

Wishing you all a lovely break, a Happy Easter and I look forward to seeing you back for the start of the 'summer' term on Monday 17th April.

Kind Regards,

Catrin Battista

Reception

It has been another term full of learning and development in Reception at St Peter's. In phonics, we have been mastering our Phase 3 sounds and 'Common Exception Words', as well as developing our fluency when reading. We have also introduced 'independent writing' books this term which have been a great success! In maths, we have continued to build upon our already strong understanding of number – particularly with the recent introduction of doubles.



Developing finger strength to help with our writing continues to be a focus here in Reception. This has either been whilst during independent learning (e.g., with our new woodworking tools) or through adult-led activities like making hedgehog bread. In addition to developing finger strength, the children have frequently shown their ability to problem solve, work as a team and successfully follow instructions. We think they are doing an amazing job!



Our buddies in year 5 also visited this term and we were able to share, and combine, our knowledge of space – a topic recently covered in both year groups. We were able to talk about our Space Wow Day and show pictures of what we got up to. Year 5 had also created their very own Solar Systems which were very inspiring! Thank you, year 5!

Throughout the Spring Term, every child in Reception has also had the opportunity to look after either Bob Butterfly, Hortus Honeybee or Len Ladybird. Children then wrote about their experience in a diary, whilst also discussing what they got up to with the whole class. It was lovely to see the joy and conversations that resulted from this!

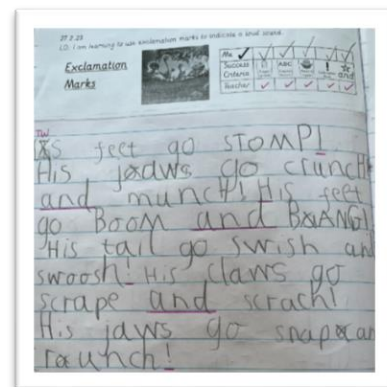
In R.E, we have been learning the Easter story and what this means to Christians. We were also very lucky to have an Easter visit to St. Peter's Church, where we were able to explore the church properly and have a chance to sketch some of the things we found. We even had an egg and spoon race! We would like to take this opportunity to thank St Peter's Church and Reverend Mark for such a wonderful morning and to Miss Marsden for organising such an incredible trip. Finally, a huge thank you to all our wonderful parent volunteers, who make trips like this possible.



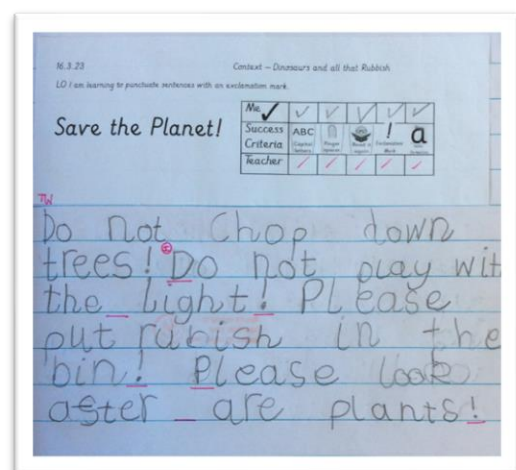
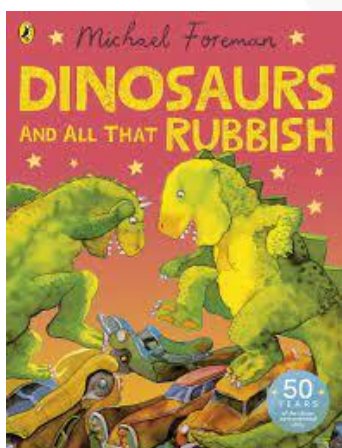
From all the staff in Reception, we hope you have a lovely Easter holiday.

Year 1

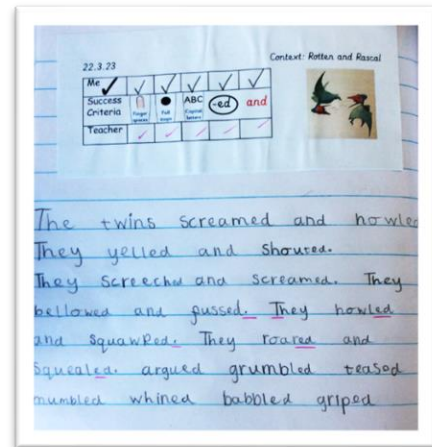
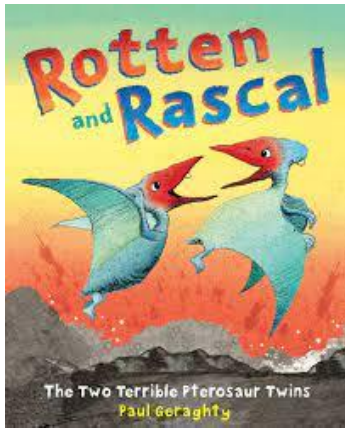
This term in English, we have been reading lots of texts based around dinosaurs. We started term 4 reading 'Giganotosaurus' by Jonny Duddle, looking closely at the use of exclamation marks to indicate a loud sound.



We then continued our reading journey with 'Dinosaurs and All That Rubbish' by Michael Forman. This story is based on a man ruining the Earth and wanting to find new place to live, only to return to Earth to find the dinosaurs looking after the world and making it beautiful once again. As an Eco school we strongly believe that looking after our planet is very important, so we wrote some commands using exclamation marks to tell people how to look after the Earth.



In the penultimate week of term, we then had a very curious sighting of two large, winged birds on the school's CCTV camera. Luckily the Year 1 teachers found a book in the library called 'Rotten and Rascal' by Paul Geraghty. This book helped us to write questions about the strange sight, in the hope it would provide some answers. Have you seen anything unusual happening around St Peter's Primary School lately?



Science

In Science, we have been learning about animals, including humans. We started the term by learning the main parts of the body and how those body parts help us to use our senses. We had a selection of items to smell, taste, touch, hear and see. It was lots of fun!



We then focused our learning on animals, identifying and classifying the different animals we would typically see in school and which animals we would not, the different types of foods animals eat and the different bodies and body parts they have. What expert scientists we are becoming!

Year 2

Computing Experts

This term in year 2, we have been learning about programming a floor robot using Beebots. We have learned lots of expert vocabulary such as command, programme and algorithm. We have also been making predictions about where the Beebot will end up and how to debug an algorithm if the Beebot ends up in an unexpected position. The teachers have been really proud of how we have shown 'excellence in who we are' through working effectively together in a group, taking turns and discussing ideas.



We are scientists!

To celebrate our learning in science and our historical knowledge about significant people, year 2 have enjoyed a wonderful science wow day! We had a fantastic day doing lots of experiments including making gruesome gloop, destiny jars and discovering what liquids are best for making popping candy pop!

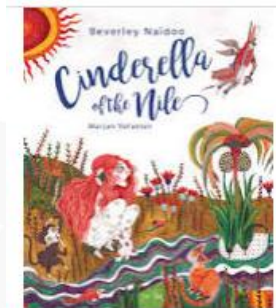


Year 3

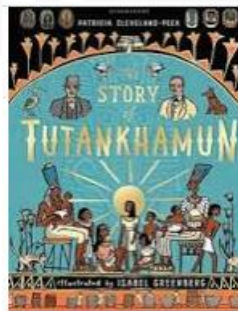
Wow, it is amazing how much year 3 have fit into term 4!

English

To start our term, we read the story of Cinderella of the Nile by Beverley Naidoo and Marjan Vafaeian linked to our Egyptians topic in history. This was the first version of Cinderella and the children loved making links to the more recent fairy tale. Our story telling and diary writing was based on the story.

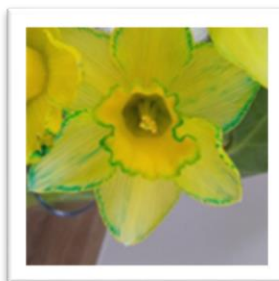


The second book we have been using to inspire our learning is The Story of Tutankhamun by Patricia Cleveland-Peck. We learned about Howard Carter and his discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb. The children have loved writing a biography all about Howard Carter and his extraordinary life!



Plants, plants and more plants

In science, we have been learning about flowering plants, their parts and what they need to grow. We created a special investigation with coloured water to see how water is transported in plants. Look at the photos to see how the blue colouring has been transported to the petals – wow!



In order to enrich our curriculum, our children wrote a special, handwritten letter to try to help us get seeds and soil to grow some plants and learn all about what different plants need to grow. Homebase were incredibly generous and have donated some seeds, compost, seed trays and a small greenhouse. We can't wait to find out what plants grow, especially the vegetables and Red Nose Day seed ball!



In our amazing history, we have been learning all about the Egyptians. We had a wonderful WOW day finding out about hieroglyphics, Egyptian number bingo and a range of artefacts. We also learned the story of the dead too and what the Egyptians believed about what happened when you died.

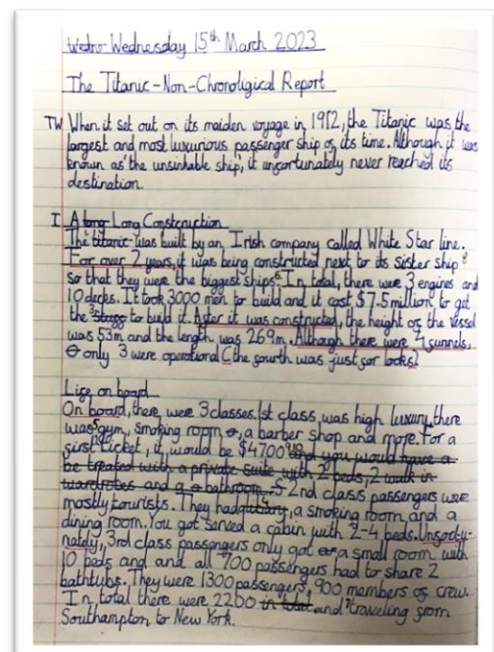
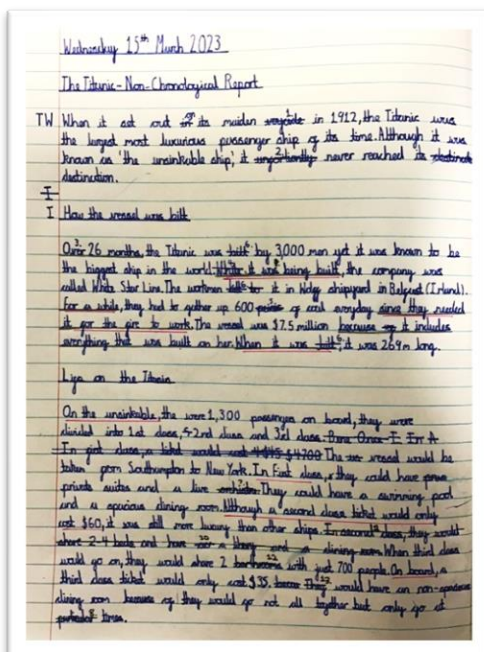


Year 4

This term, in year 4, we have been building on our knowledge of artists and focusing on the work of the famous artist David Hockney. We have learnt all about the different types of lines and shapes we can use as well as thinking about our colour choices. We have learnt that shapes can be geometric or organic and that our colour choices can be contrasting or harmonious. Ready for our Easter exhibition, we will be producing a final piece inspired by David Hockney's landscapes.

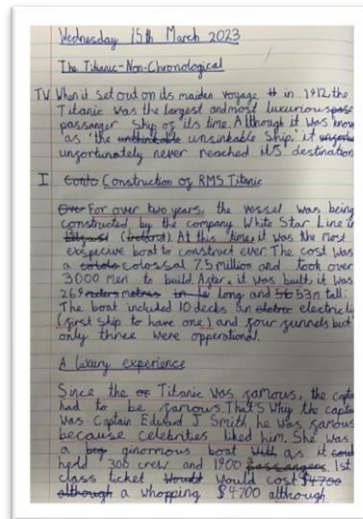


As you have probably heard, we have been very enthusiastic learning about the Titanic! We started learning some facts in our reading comprehension lessons and were so excited by it that we've used it as a topic for our writing, too. So far, we have produced some informative non-chronological reports, which tell our readers all about how the ship was built, what the experience was like on board and the disastrous events that happened on the day it collided with an iceberg.

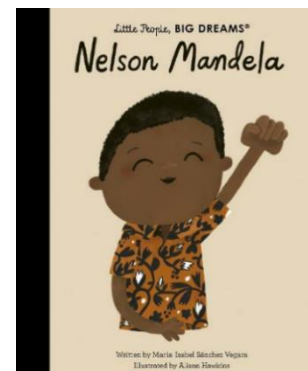
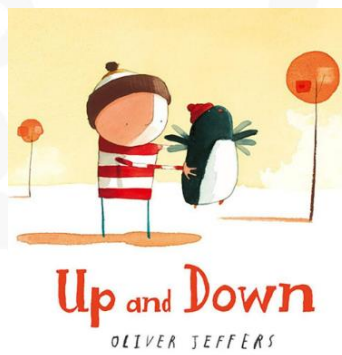




End of Term 4 Updates 31st March 2023



Finally, these are just some of the books we've enjoyed reading in our classes this term.

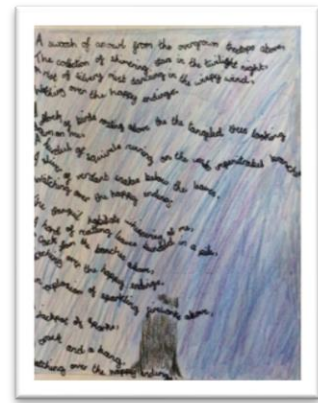
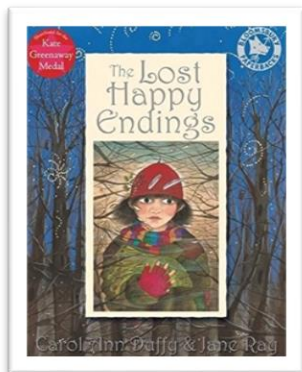


Year 5

Year 5 have had an amazing term and we have managed to pack in lots of amazing learning!

English

Our English learning this term has been based around the story 'The Lost Happy Endings' by Carol Ann Duffy. We enjoyed writing character descriptions of the wicked witch and we have written some stunning poetry based on the story. We will be publishing these into our own book and sending them off as entries into a competition!



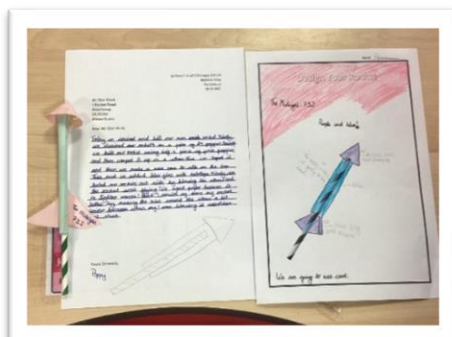
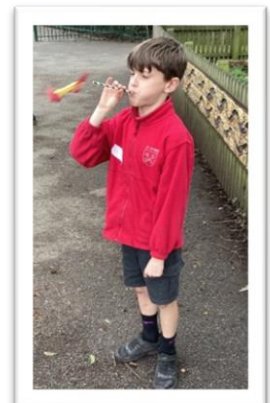
Trumpets

Year 5's trumpet playing is continuing to improve every week. We have been learning more music theory and we have learnt to play new songs, including the Jaws theme and Shout by Tears for Fears. We look forward to showing you our filmed performances during the Easter Exhibition!



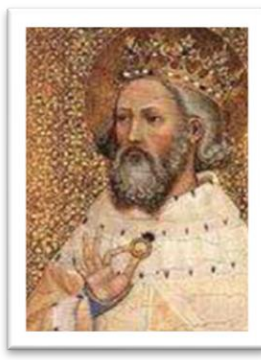
Engineering Day

This week, we welcomed student engineers from UWE who ran a brilliant day with us. We designed and built our own rockets and investigated how we could alter the rockets' trajectories. We tested our prototype rockets to see whose would travel the furthest.



History

Our history learning this term has been all about medieval monarchs. We have learnt about some key kings and queens during this time period, and we learnt about the problems that can occur when there is no clear heir to the throne! We have learnt about the changes Henry VIII made to the country and all about his 6 wives. We also learnt about Elizabeth I and what a great leader she was. This linked brilliantly with our work on Tudor portraits last term, when we painted our own portraits of Elizabeth.



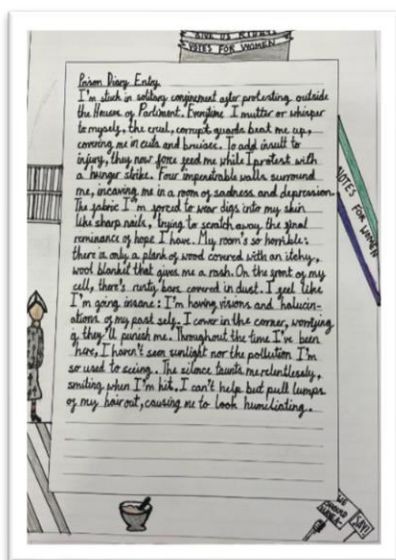


End of Term 4 Updates

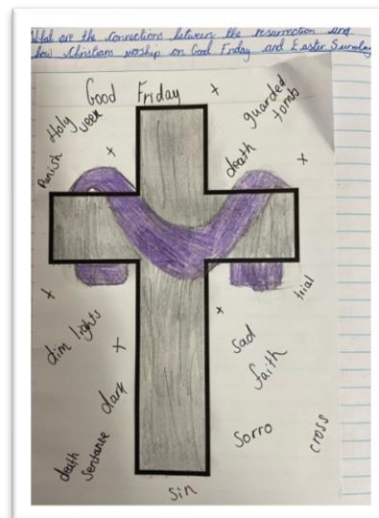
31st March 2023

Year 6

This term, year 6 have been really getting into the non-fiction book *'Suffragettes: The Battle For Equality'* by David Roberts. We particularly enjoyed the stories about the most daring suffragettes who went on hunger strike, interrupted MP meetings and had secret meetings! Inspired by these events, we have since written some fantastic speeches and diary entries!



Our topic in RE has been on salvation and we have been learning about Good Friday and Easter Sunday. We were given the task of decorating and annotating two crosses to represent the two different days. You will notice that the Good Friday cross is darker to represent mourning and the Easter Sunday cross has bright colours and flowers to represent the day of celebration for Jesus' resurrection!



Playleaders

This term we have invested more money into our play equipment. After a sorting and reorganising of our play shed the children have been exploring the new equipment. The giant Connect 4 has been extremely popular! The play leaders have continued to support other children in their play and ensure that the equipment is being looked after. We have also had more markings put onto the playground including a giant snakes and ladders! Huge thank you to the PSA for their support in funding these as we know that these additions will continue to make play times creative and exciting for all children.

We have also had a few sporting events this term! 28 children from St Peter's entered the Swimathon at Parish Wharf last weekend and swam an incredible number of lengths to raise money for charity. A team of year 5 & 6 also took part in a tag rugby event at Gordano; they were brilliant! It's been great to return to these types of events and we look forward to Olympic Day in term 5!



House Captains

Our House Captains took on the role of journalists during our recent World Book Day. They were given the responsibility of taking photos and getting quotes from a range of children during the morning before using laptops to independently publish documents that captured the experiences of each house.

RAUF HOUSE FAMILY DAY!



"I like going to the library on family day." – I Year 2



Even the teachers dress up!



THE OOMPA LUMPA'S CAME TO VISIT!!!



Question:
"What are your favourite Rauf books?"
Answer:
"Boy at the back of the class and The star outside my window."
E Year 6



Jeffers House World Book Day!!



"My favourite thing about World Book Day is reading books!!"




"The best thing about family day is....."

- Seeing my buddy!!
- Seeing lots of people!
- Dressing up!





FAMILY DAY
DONALDSON STYLE




WORLD BOOK DAY!!!




"I love today's activities"
"My favourite part was dressing up"
"I like Runaway Robot"


Coelho House
WORLD BOOK DAY!!!




"I enjoy reading Coelho books because they are very fun and colourful!"
"It is really good having a library in school to look at new books that we have not read before!"
"I love it as I really like the tiger who came to see me and I brought tiger books on top of the aisle!"
"I like at the end of the day the teacher and our books that we have not found out!"



"Read the world war books very interesting, we were fun looking at some in class!"
"My favourite author is David Walliams because his books are very funny!"
"I think Coelho is the most funny!"



"My favourite books are Tom Gates books because I love the drawings in them! I like reading mystery books because they are exciting!"



These are this year's world book day books which will be sold in book shops. This morning, all the children had the opportunity to read some of these books.

Reading at St Peter's

Access to books for free <https://www.borrowbox.com/>

As well as accessing the local library in person, there are hundreds of eBooks and audiobooks available on the Borrow Box app. Borrow Box is completely free and just requires a library card number to log in. It works brilliantly on tablets/ iPads.

Buying books online <https://www.lovereadings4kids.co.uk/>

As a school, St Peter's are able to receive funds for new books through the LoveReading4Kids website. When buying a book from LoveReading4Kids, they will donate 25% of the book's price to St Peter's if you select the school when paying for your purchase. You will also receive 10% off the RRP. We would be hugely grateful for any funds to further enhance our book collection!

Happy reading! Best wishes,

Miss Jones



Last week, we enjoyed sharing some Shakespeare stories as part of Shakespeare week. There are some fantastic resources on the BBC website, which include animated versions of The Tempest, A Midsummer Night's Dream and other short versions of his plays.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/english-ks2-the-tempest-home/zfskxyc>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/english-a-midsummer-nights-dream-index/z6rcgwx>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/english-ks2--ks3-shakespeare-in-shorts/zjyhrj6>

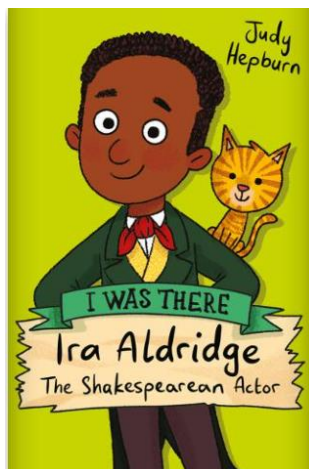
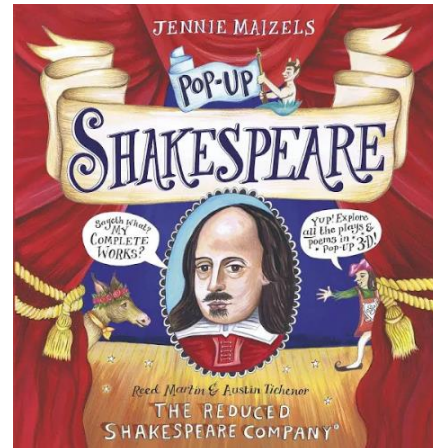
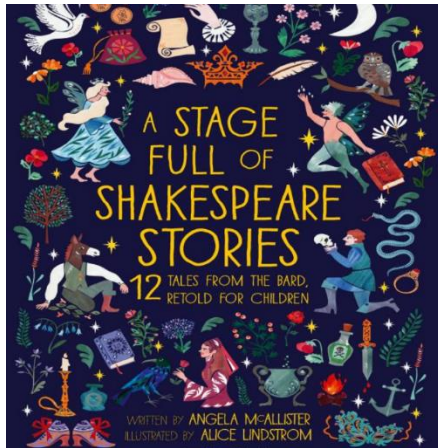
St Peter's



Church of England
Primary School

End of Term 4 Updates

31st March 2023



Eco update

ECO TEAM NEWS

SPRING 2023



ECO TEAM: Working together for a better future

Our Mission - we want to...

- **raise awareness** about how we can be more eco friendly as individuals, as part of the St Peter's community and as a global citizen
- **increase knowledge and education** about the impact we have on our environment, what we can do to help and what small changes we can make to be more eco conscious
- **improve our environment** for our St Peter's community, for everyone to enjoy it

Eco Team News and Updates

Recycling: ILTs more bags of used pens have been sent to Terra-Cycle thanks to everyone across the school doing their bit to recycle! Eco leaders have been great at collecting them and sorting. A special mention to Oliver for his initiative to recycle glue sticks and action Mrs Russell to take them to the plastics recycling at the Portishead recycling centre.

Litter picking: After our eco leaders wrote a letter to ask for more litter pickers, the PSA very generously donated some to our litter picking mission. Our eco leaders are now trained and have been busy working to make our school a cleaner place. We tasked them with the Keep Britain Tidy challenge and they have achieved their target and more!

Community: Look out for our posters on the Portishead Community Fridge shed on Avon Way outside Co-Op to support their project to reduce food waste in our community.



EXCELLENCE IN ALL WE DO AND WHO WE ARE

ECO LEADERS

Every class in Year 1-6 has an eco leader who is a passionate eco warrior for their class. Ask your eco leader about what you can do to help.

ECO CLUB

Our Friday lunchtime eco club is a great opportunity for our eco team to develop their project including the Switch Off campaign and litter picking.

ECO COMMUNITY

Our pupils, staff, governors, parents, PSA and local community are all important when it comes to supporting our mission. If you would like to help and be part of our eco team, please let us know.

EXCELLENCE IN OUR SERVICE WITH OTHERS

We work with Turn the Tide Portishead with different eco projects. Some of our legacy learning projects in school link to our eco mission and eco school topics too.

Eco-Schools



ECO TEAM SPRING 2023

St Peter's Switch It Off

As part of our action plan to reduce our carbon footprint, we have joined forces with Energy Sparks to learn all about how we use our energy. We now have a dashboard to help us learn where we can save energy and money at school. We are looking forward to their visit in May for an assembly and workshop.

Our eco leaders have been monitoring classrooms and checking if lights and interactive whiteboards have been turned OFF. They have really helped our teacher to remember to SWITCH OFF.

<https://energysparks.uk/>

Can you help at home with trying to SWITCH OFF and save energy?



Working with our community

We were delighted to welcome the 'Eco 6' club from Portishead Primary school to meet and work with the St Peter's eco club members on some cross-school agenda items. Both schools have been sharing some of the incredible work that they have been doing to look after our environment.

A big thank you to the pupils from Portishead Primary for speaking so well and sharing your expertise with us.

We are looking forward to our trip to visit them next term.



**TURN
THE TIDE**

<https://www.facebook.com/TTTPortishead/>

The Portishead
Big Clean

Last weekend
of every month



Wellbeing update

Please refer to the Wellbeing poster that was attached along with this newsletter.

PSA updates

A quick hello

Welcome to our section here in the newsletter. We are keen to use this space to pop in updates and give you a heads up on what is coming up and what key social dates to pop in your calendars.

Save the Date

After the Easter holidays the summer fair will be fast approaching on the 14th July. Please consider whether you might be able to contribute your time to this event.

Can you help?

We are always looking for help with the PSA and people power is even more essential when large events take place. If you would like to sign up to help please contact us at psa@sppschoool.uk.

Your PSA team