

St Peter's



Church of England  
Primary School

October 23

# Autumn Newsletter

from St Peter's  
Primary School

## Dear Parents and Carers

This term, as with the start of every school year, we have been working hard with children and their families to build relationships within their new year group teams. Community togetherness is at the centre of all that we value most at St Peter's and we know that the start of a school year is a crucial time to ensure that these relationships remain the foundation of our partnership, both in class and on the gates with families. Teachers have spent this term investing in that foundation, getting to know children and building those relationships of trust, love and support. It has been joyous to see so many of you on site this week at our parents' evenings and I will never tire of opening our doors to the parent community and sharing, with pride, all that we do and all that our children achieve.

A welcome and congratulations to our reception children and families who have joined St Peter's this September for their first ever term of school. I know that for many of you it will feel like the years fly by so I hope you have all been able to take a chance to step back and enjoy that special moment of your children going to school for the first time and joining our St Peter's family. We were also delighted to welcome so many of you to the Reception harvest festival. It was wonderful to hear the children singing together so beautifully – already showing excellence in all they do! The highlight of the term for many of our senior leaders has been when we have been invited to read a book at story time – these moments are precious for us, and them, and we are always delighted to share our love of reading with our newest additions!

Throughout the school, I have seen stunning learning taking shape. At St Peter's we know that a mistake can be 'marvellous' if you can learn from it, and we celebrate these marvellous mistakes as an essential part of our daily learning. We have spent time learning about how our brains grow, even when we get things wrong, as part of our 'week of inspirational maths' at the start of term. Already, new knowledge is overflowing across our year groups. Amongst many things, I have seen children enthused by their new learning as they become scientists, artists, musicians, geographers, writers and more... and you will see just a snapshot of this in the class pages that follow in this newsletter.

This term, children have been voting on their pupil leadership responsibilities and Mr Eustace & Mrs Hunt have already enjoyed working closely alongside our newly elected School Council and House Captains. We were pleased that they had the chance to meet with our governing body and share ideas about how we want to further improve our school. Next term, we will be looking to recruit some new parent governors to our board, so please do keep an eye out for information that will come out in early November.

Year 6 continue to make us proud every day and that was no exception when they represented the school with pride at their week-long residential at Mill on the Brue. I am sure that, by now, you will have heard all about the many exciting activities that they enjoyed - a jam-packed and memorable week. I feel very proud of the children who displayed all the values of excellent St Peter's citizens, including kindness, courage, resilience and respect. I know that for every child, they will have challenged themselves in some way last week - whether this was a physical challenge, trying new food or simply managing the challenge of being away from home for the whole week.

Finally, I know that you will join me in thanking the staff across our school community who work so hard every day to make all of these things possible. We say a final goodbye to Miss Ovington and Mrs Rodrick

St Peter's



Church of England  
Primary School

St Peter's Church of England Primary School,  
Hallett's Way, Portishead, Bristol, BS20 6BT

01275 843142

[enquiries@sppschoool.uk](mailto:enquiries@sppschoool.uk)

today and wish them well in their next adventures. I know that you will join me in welcoming Mr Corns (year 5) and Miss Fellows (year 2) to the St Peter's school family.

Whatever you are doing next week, have a wonderful half term and we look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 30th October.

Kind regards,

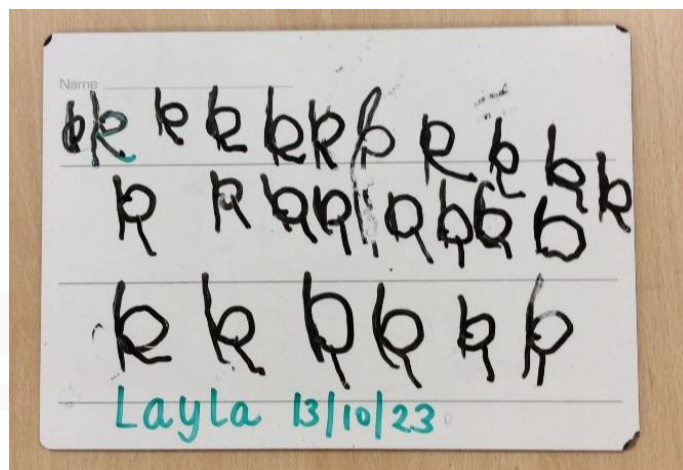
*Catrin Battista*



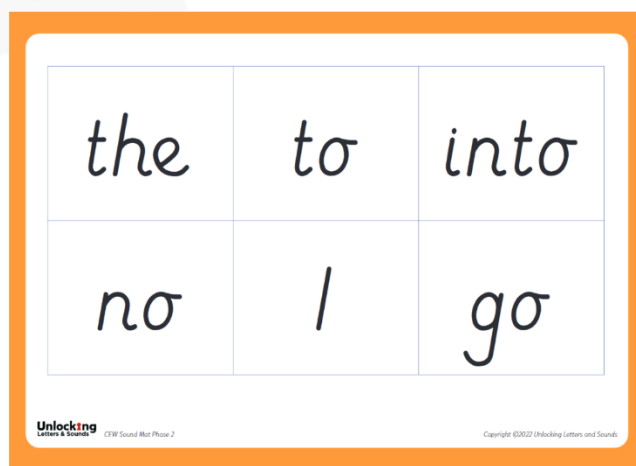
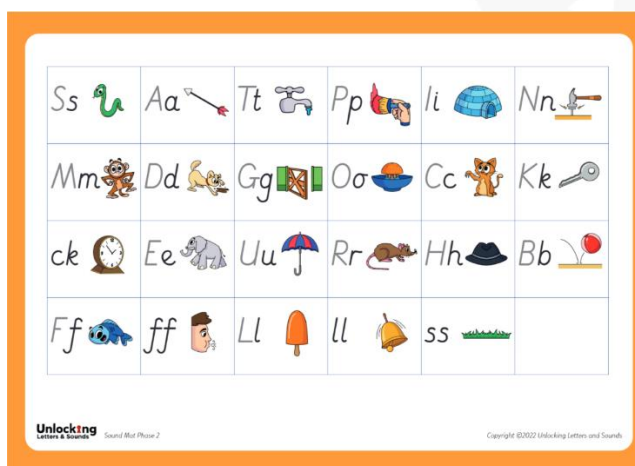


## Reception

What an incredible start to the year! The children in Reception have settled so well into school life at St. Peter's and it has been lovely to see so many walking in with great big smiles on their faces. We have all been very impressed with the children and can't wait to see what Term 2 will bring.



In Phonics, the children have now been taught the first 16 sounds of Phase 2. The children have become such experts already and have fully embraced the challenges that come with reading and writing.







We have also explored all things 'Harvest' related this term. The children brought in crops that have been harvested. These were then peeled and chopped by the children and turned into soup. They then tasted this the next day and it was a great success – some even had seconds!



During our Harvest service, we performed three Harvest songs that we have been learning in Music. It was lovely to welcome so many Reception parents and carers 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 Mark for leading the Harvest Service.



We have also been exploring the artwork of Wassily Kandinsky in Art this term. We learnt about who Wassily Kandinsky was, what an artist is and the different shapes and patterns he used. The children then had a go at painting their own fish in the style of Wassily Kandinsky. We think we may have some future artists!



Our value for the first two terms in Reception is 'Belonging' and we were very excited to meet our Year 5 buddies. Students in Year 5 popped down during the last week of term to introduce themselves and read us a story. We are looking forward to meeting up with them more throughout the school year.

We hope you all have a restful half-term break!

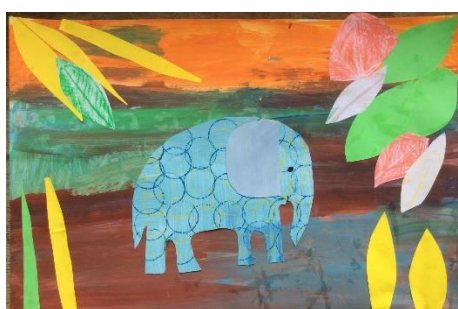
Reception team



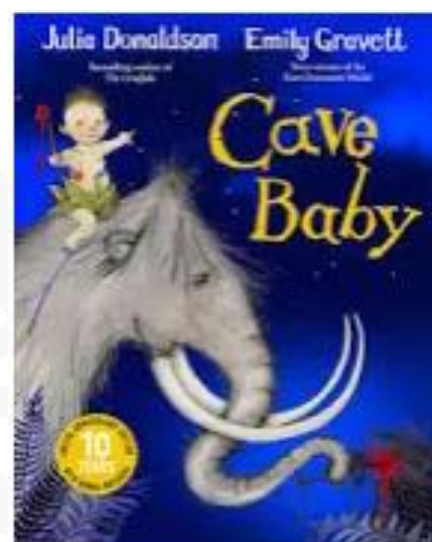
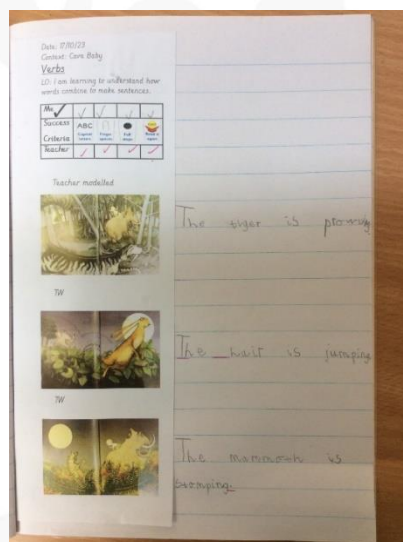
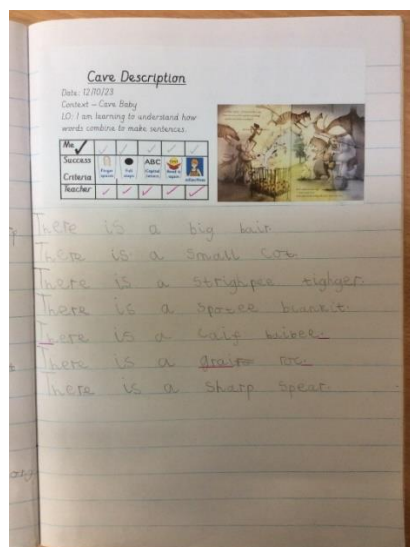


## Year 1

This term we have been learning about the artist Henri Rousseau, focusing on his painting 'Tiger surprise.' As expert artists, we unpicked his work and developed key skills to create our own masterpiece. These skills included line work, colour mixing, pattern and printing. We are enormously proud of our finished artwork and have created our own art gallery in the year 1 area.



In our English this term, we have been busy learning the story Cave Baby by Julia Donaldson. We have been thinking carefully about how we can compose our own sentences whilst ensuring we remember to include a capital letter, finger space and full stop. We have learnt all about nouns, verbs and adjectives and were extremely excited to put our learning into our cave description writing.








## Year 2

Year 2 have made a fabulous start to the school year. They have settled brilliantly into their new classes and have been showing what amazing St Peter's Citizens they are through how well they have grasped and are respectfully following the new structures and routines. Well done year 2, you should feel very proud of your strong start to the year!



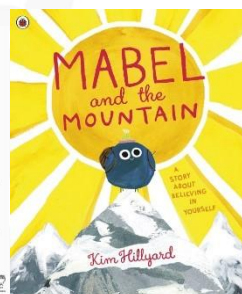
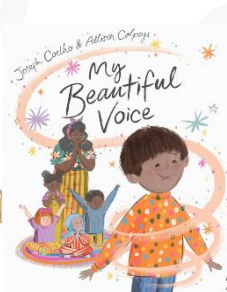
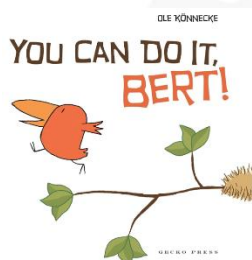
In maths, we have been exploring place value and addition and are working on quick fire recall of basic number facts such as doubles, number bonds and counting in 2s, 3s, 5s and 10s to help us solve near calculations more efficiently. Don't forget to try out the online game of 'Hit the Button' – a great way to practice your fast recall!

doubles and near doubles		
$1 + 1 = 2$		$1 + 2 = 3$
$2 + 2 = 4$		$2 + 3 = 5$
$3 + 3 = 6$		$3 + 4 = 7$
$4 + 4 = 8$		$4 + 5 = 9$
$5 + 5 = 10$		$5 + 6 = 11$

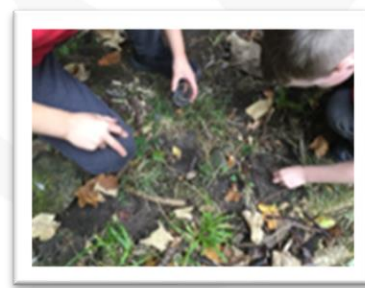
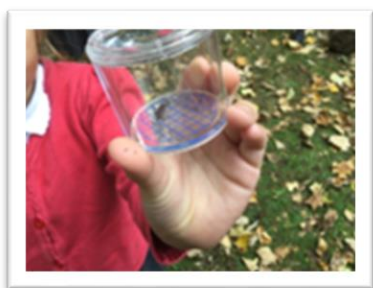


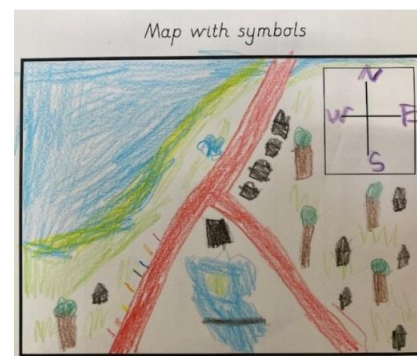
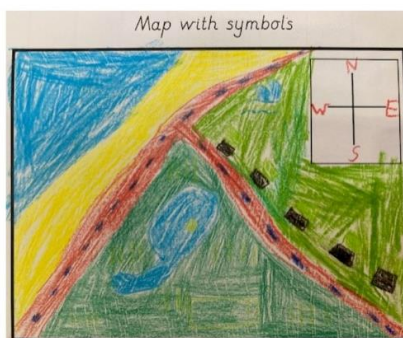
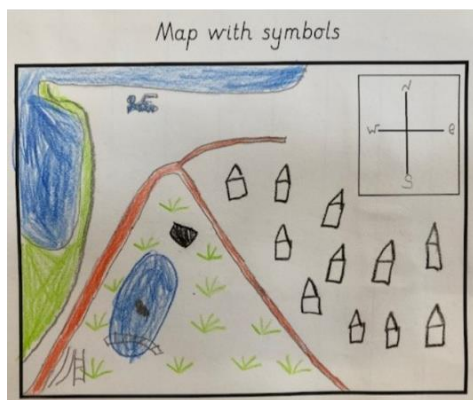


This term's value in year 2 is 'encouragement'. During Class Worship times, we have been exploring this through stories and discussion and have generated a bank of encouraging phrases that we can use to give confidence and support to each other.



As part of our learning in science, we have been finding out about animals and their habitats and have been working scientifically to investigate habitats and microhabitats in the school grounds. We undertook an investigation to find out where woodlice like to live. We asked simple questions, observed closely, used simple equipment and recorded our findings. Our results revealed that woodlice like a habitat that is damp and dark



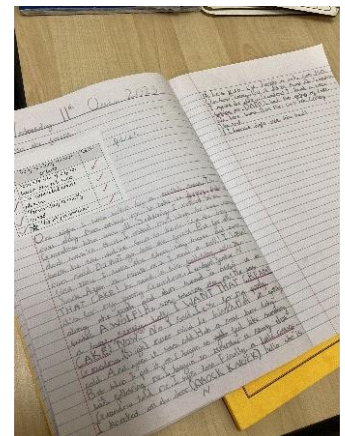
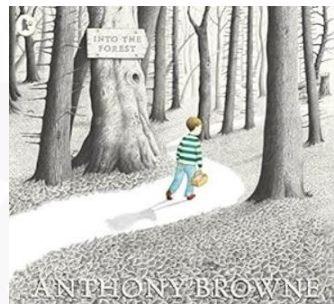
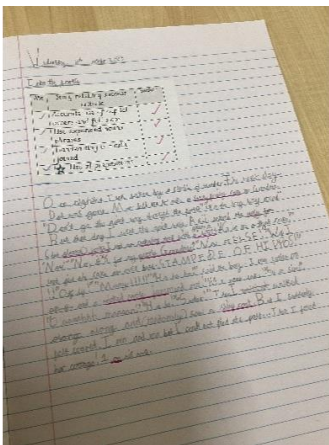


In geography we have been developing our fieldwork and mapping skills through studying the human and physical features of our school and local area. Look at the sketch maps we have drawn from aerial photos of Portishead. #we are geographers.

## Year 3

In 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 class 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 Into the Forest by Anthony Browne. We have been thinking carefully about expanding our nouns for character descriptions and wrote our own version of the story with different characters.



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.



In science, we have been exploring light. We have discovered different light sources and what objects reflect light. We loved making our own shadow puppets!



St Peter's

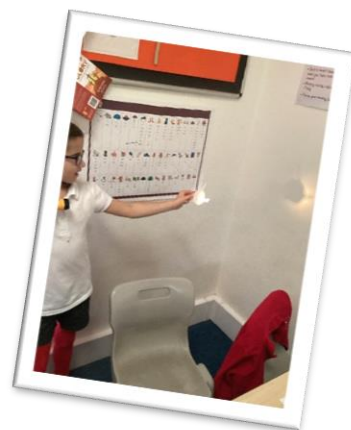
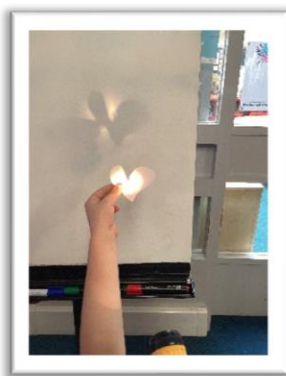


Church of England  
Primary School

St Peter's Church of England Primary School,  
Hallett's Way, Portishead, Bristol, BS20 6BT

01275 843142

[enquiries@sppschoo.uk](mailto:enquiries@sppschoo.uk)



## Year 4

### Legacy learning

This year, our legacy learning is focussed on foodbanks. During our first couple of weeks we discussed how foodbanks help people who are struggling to buy the things they need. We read the story 'It's a No Money Day', and thought about how the characters might feel about having to use a foodbank. We also watched some interesting videos showing the work Marcus Rashford has done to support similar causes.

At the start of October, we had the opportunity to tell the rest of the school about our legacy learning at our Harvest festival at St Peter's church. We displayed posters (designed by the children) around the school to encourage families to donate food and essential supplies. We were overwhelmed by the generous donations received and Clevedon Foodbank were extremely grateful!

### English [Book cover picture attached]

In English this term, we spent lots of time looking at the book Cinnamon by Neil Gaiman. Children were immersed in the setting of the story through taking a virtual tour of a palace in India. They built up their knowledge of year 4 writing techniques across the term, culminating in writing their own narrative linked to the story. It was lovely to see the children so proud of their first piece of writing, with lots of them volunteering to read their work to the rest of the class.

### Maths

The children have made a great start to the year revisiting some of the key concepts they secured in year 3 such as place value. We have started to spend time on our times tables practice too, and the children have loved testing themselves on Timestables Rockstars. Please do keep encouraging children to practice their times tables via Timestables rockstars at home – they really are the foundation of lots of what we do in year 4.

### Geography

In Geography we have been learning about rivers. Children have become experts at using our new vocabulary such as 'meander', 'ox bow lake' and 'tributary'. We have used google earth to explore some of the world's largest rivers, and thought about why these are so important to people living in different parts of the world. The children even had the opportunity to get hands on with some sand, stones and water to create and observe their own mini river!

### RE

This term we have focussed our learning on the Gospel, specifically focussed on the Parable of the Good Samaritan. Children have considered how each of the people would have felt, and what the Parable teaches us. We linked this to thinking about charities and why Jesus views being charitable as important. We spent some time designing our own charities linked to things we are passionate about.

### Music

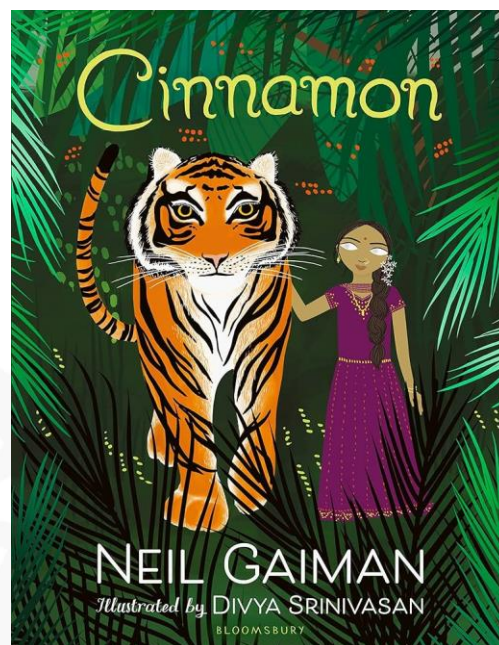
The children have loved listening to the music of ABBA during our music lessons this term. We've been using interactive games and a variety of instruments to find the pulse of some of their most famous songs.



Each week we have finished the lesson by learning to sing Mamma Mia, which I'm sure many of the children have been sharing with you on a Wednesday evening!



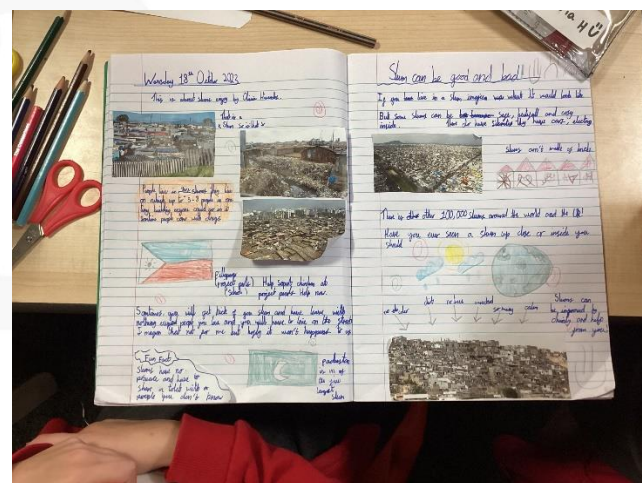
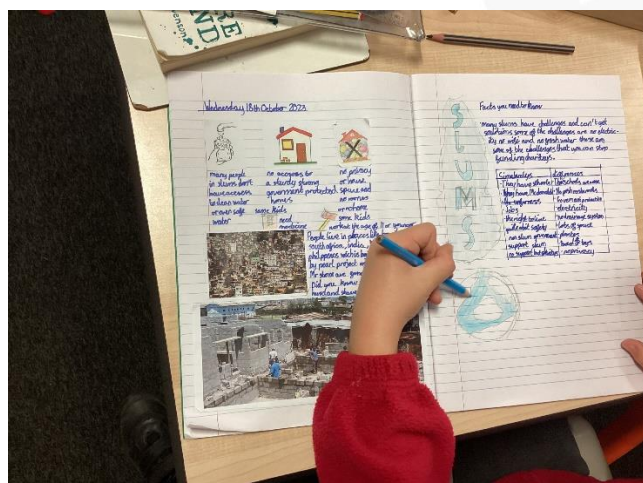
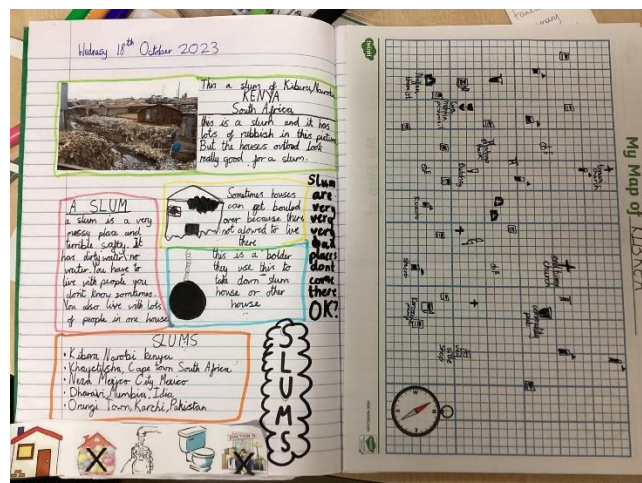
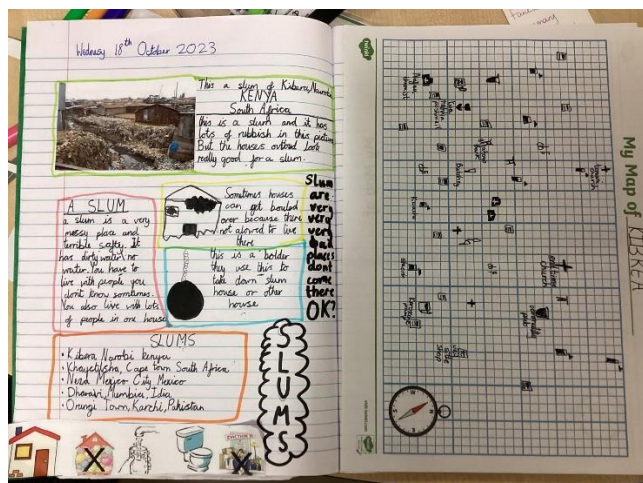
Collections for the Clevedon food bank.





Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2023

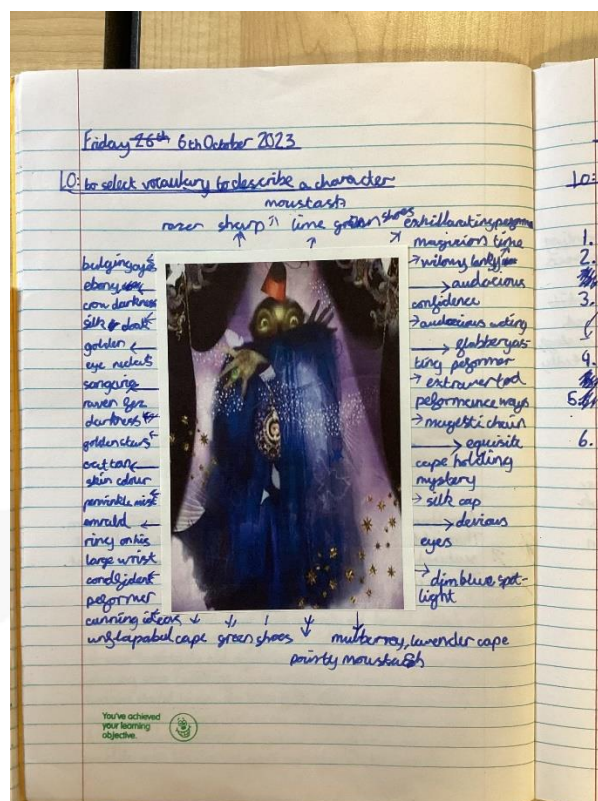
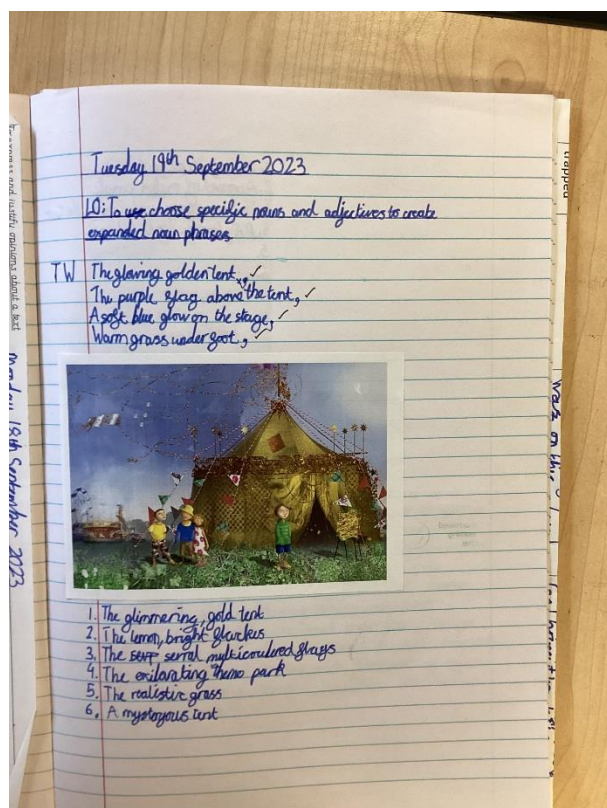




We are very excited to have started our whole class trumpet lessons, which the children are really enjoying. We are really lucky to have the expertise of Dr Humphries from Gordano school and with lots of practice, we can't wait to hear the fantastic tunes the children will be playing as the weeks go on.

In English, year 5 have been learning through the text, Leon and the Place Between. Using ambitious vocabulary, the children have brought characters and settings to life and this week are using their knowledge of the structure of the story to innovate their own version – we can't wait to read these.





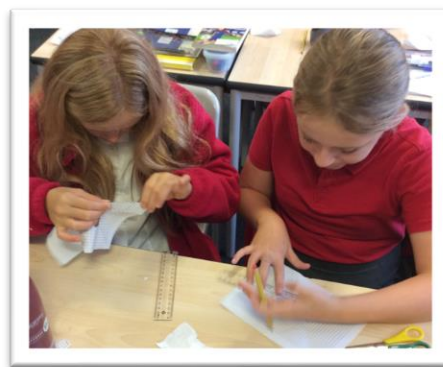
The children were inspired by the stories from One Tree Refugee project, which included music and messages from refugees who have sought asylum in the UK. Year 5 asked some really thoughtful questions and reflected on the journeys that the visitors spoke of.



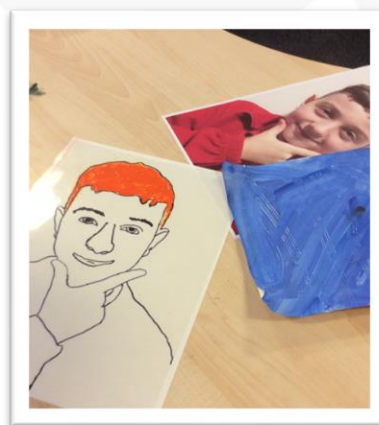


## Year 6

We started the term with our week of inspirational maths, reminding ourselves that mistakes are powerful in our learning. As part of this learning, we explored how we could cut a range of shapes from the centre of a page – using only one straight cut! It required us to think carefully about the folds we used and to test new ideas when our strategies didn't quite work the first time.



In art this term, we have been studying the work of Yinka Shonibare in order to produce our own self-portraits inspired by his work. We each chose a pose that represented our personalities and thought about the colours we were using (harmonious or contrasting) to make artistic decisions about our work.



As part of our science work, we have been consolidating our knowledge of electricity by producing electrical circuits and drawing scientific diagrams to represent them. We tested out a range of objects that needed to be powered by electricity, such as buzzers and lightbulbs.

St Peter's

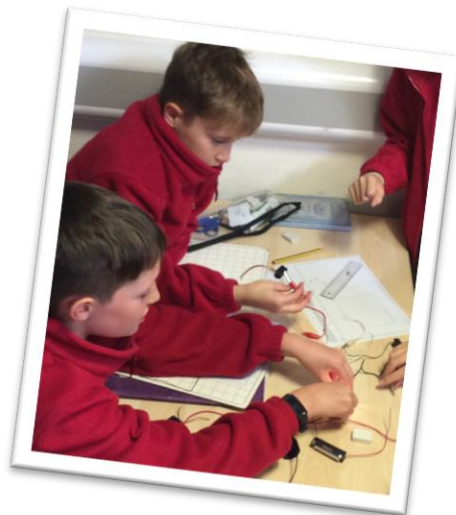


Church of England  
Primary School

St Peter's Church of England Primary School,  
Hallett's Way, Portishead, Bristol, BS20 6BT

01275 843142

[enquiries@sppschoool.uk](mailto:enquiries@sppschoool.uk)



## Playleaders

Being a play leader is a vital role for fun and safe play times at St Peter's. Play leaders are responsible for putting out equipment during our break and lunch times. They help set up games, look after the equipment and help to tidy away at the end. Last year we invested money in markings on the playground as well as lots of new play equipment like scoops and even a giant connect 4!

During Democracy day, children in year 3 and 5 were able to apply for the role of play leader. It was lovely to see some wonderful applications which showed great eagerness in supporting and enhancing our playtimes.

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.

A big, warm welcome to our play leaders! Here are just a few of them.





## House Captains

Earlier this term I had the challenging job of choosing two year 6 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. I am pleased to introduce you to our new House Captains for 2023-24!

**Donaldson: Poppy and Shay**

**Coehlo: Abigail and Jacob**

**Jeffers: Ella and Billy**

**Rauf: Alanna and Rudy**

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. This term, they did a great job of introducing themselves to all the children in their house on our first family day and are also helping me to create a special 'House' display board in the Harbour hall.

Miss Napier

## Wellbeing

Our wellbeing newsletter is attached to this ParentMail message please feel free to read if for our wellbeing updates.

## PSA updates

We're gearing up to all things Christmasy; cards are being printed as you read this, planning for the Christmas fair on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December is in full swing, including coordinating diaries with the big man in red and Reception's tea towels are on sale.

Before then we have our beat the teacher quiz night on 2<sup>th</sup> November and the Year 2 and 3 disco on 9<sup>th</sup> November.

After half term, tickets for the disco and the fair will go on sale. We'll also publish the sign up sheet for helpers at the Christmas Fair. Please help where you can, be it prep before the event, running a stall or behind the scenes.

Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Beat the teacher Quiz night
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 2 and Year 3 Disco
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Christmas Fair

Your PSA team

St Peter's



Church of England  
Primary School

St Peter's Church of England Primary School,  
Hallett's Way, Portishead, Bristol, BS20 6BT

01275 843142

enquiries@spps.school.uk

## Other news

A massive thank you to last year's Year 6 children from 'The Grand Appeal'. You may remember that our children decided to split some of their fundraising money across 3 different charities, chosen by them. This letter of thanks shows the impact and legacy that this has left behind, long after they are gone.

#ExcellenceInOurServiceWithOthers







# Remembrance 2023



**Saturday 11 November**  
**Waitrose Plaza**  
**10.45am**

A short interdenominational  
service and two minutes silence.

**Sunday 12 November**  
**St Peter's Church**  
**11.30am**

Remembrance Day Parade  
and Church Service

This years' Remembrance Day schedule is below:

**10:15am** – Parade assembles at the High Street

**10:45am** – The Act of Remembrance will begin

**11:00am** – Two minutes silence will begin

**11:05am** – Parade moves off via the High Street

Residents and visitors are welcome to watch the parade as it travels along the High Street.

**Please avoid parking in the High Street and all along the parade route.**

**ROAD CLOSURES will be in place between 9:45am-12:15pm.**

Any vehicles not moved before 9:45am will not be permitted legally to move until the roads are re-opened at 12:15pm.

Roads affected will be Portishead High Street between Church Road South and Combe Road, Stoke Road, Church Road South with restricted access to the High Street at Brampton Way and Church Road North. Diversions will be via St Peters Road, Slade Road and Combe Avenue.

North Somerset Council have given authority for closure of the two parking bays directly in front of Coffi Lab. They will be barriered off from Thursday 9 November evening until Monday 13 November.