

St Peter's



Church of England
Primary School

October 24

Autumn Newsletter

from St Peter's
Primary School



Dear Parents and Carers

There is a saying that 'time flies when you are having fun' and, like I do, you might also feel that the longest term of the year has just whizzed by! It has certainly been jam-packed with a whole range of learning and enrichment activities and I am sure you will enjoy reading about lots of these in this newsletter.

We started the term with a real focus on being the very best St Peter's citizens through showing respect, resilience and responsibility. There has been a wonderful buzz around the school, with everything from 'good mornings' on the gate in the mornings to children holding doors for each other and saying an abundance of thank yous, making for a really lovely atmosphere. Everyone in KS1 & KS2 really enjoyed our first family day of the year when we focused on getting to know new friends, and different staff, through a fun morning of engagement and connection activities. It is great to see children mixing in different circles and being part of their 'house' community. As part of the morning, each child contributed their portrait and name to a house tea towel and, if you would like to buy one of these, they are still available to purchase via the PSA Events and tickets page [HERE](#).

I would like to give a special mention to our new Reception children who have settled so brilliantly into our school community showing themselves to be expert St Peter's citizens already. It was lovely to have so many parents attending the Reception Harvest festival last week and for you to be able to see how far they have come in such a short time.

It was also a pleasure to spend time, at the top end of the school, with our year 6 pupils as they embarked on one of the biggest adventures of their time at St Peters: Mill on The Brue! As always, it was a privilege to see children facing and overcoming all sorts of challenges, encouraging each other, and needing to really draw on their resilience and courage. We are all really proud of everything they achieved last week and hope that, in the future, the memories made will remind them that anything is possible when you step out of your comfort zone and believe in yourself! Later in this newsletter, you will see lots of photos of just a snapshot of some of the amazing things that they did!

If everything that you read in this newsletter makes you wish you were back in the classroom, then please join us for an evening of 'Back to School' fun and games at the annual 'Beat the Teacher Quiz Night' on Thursday 7th November. We can promise lots of fun rounds including new and exciting 'design and make challenges' and a whole lot more! Bar and refreshments will be available throughout the evening, and it promises to be a great evening. Tables of 4 or 8 are available so please click on the link below to book your space:

[PSA Beat The Teacher Quiz Night](#)

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 Mrs. Kivell today who has been such a wonderful member of our year 1 team for the last few years. We will miss her but do wish her well

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

in her new role in the fire service. We will be welcoming Mrs. Laughlan to the year 1 team after the half term break.

And the very last word, we are delighted to say that Mrs. Gomes is now officially back with us at St Peter's after a very long year of treatment. We are so delighted that she is now fully recovered, and I know that she can't wait to be working with the children in year 6 again and being part of our school community. I know that when you see her, you will give her the warmest welcome!

Kind regards,

Catrin Battista



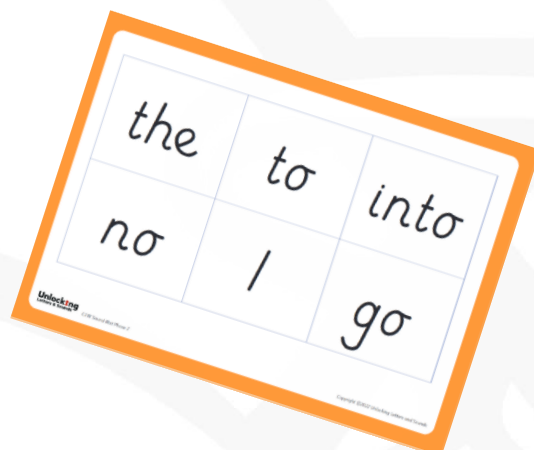


Reception

It has been an incredible start to the year down in reception – we can't quite believe it is already the end of the first term. The children have settled so well into school life at St. Peter's and it has been a delight to see so many walking in with massive smiles on their faces. The children have done and achieved so much this term! From touring the school to learning the school rules – we have been so proud of all their hard work. We are very much looking forward to Term 2 and the delights of Nativity and Christingle.



In Phonics, the children have now been taught all of the sounds and Common Exception Words (CEW) in Phase 2. We have been amazed at how quickly the children have become phonics experts and have fully embraced the challenges that come with reading and writing. If you are able to, please go through these to make sure they are securely stored in your child's long-term memory!



We have focussed on all things 'Harvest' related this term. The children learnt all about what crops can be harvested and how this happens. After this, the children harvested some fruit and vegetables from our



conservation area. The vegetables were then chopped by the children and turned into soup by Miss Slaney!



During our Harvest service, the children performed three Harvest songs that we have been learning in Music – Thank you God for the Harvest, Autumn Leaves, and Big Red Combine Harvester. It was lovely to see and welcome so many parents and carers into school, and we look forward to seeing you again during the Christmas season. We would like to take this time to say a huge thank you to Reverend Mark for leading such a magical Harvest Service,

In Art, the children have been exploring the artwork of Wassily Kandinsky. They learnt about who he was, what an artist is and the different shapes and patterns he used. The children then had a go at creating their own artwork in the style of Kandinsky. It was a joy to see them all take part and try their best!



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

Our value for the first couple terms is centred around 'Belonging' and we were very excited to meet our Year 5 buddies. Students in Year 5 popped down to introduce themselves and even had time to read us a story. We'd like to thank the Year 5 students for helping the reception children feel so welcome.

We hope you all have a restful half-term break and look forward to seeing you in Term 2!

Reception team





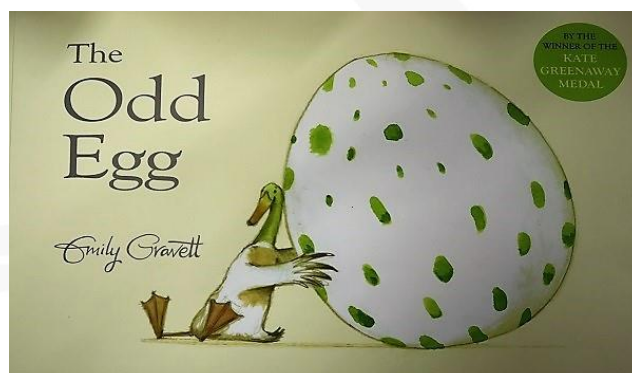
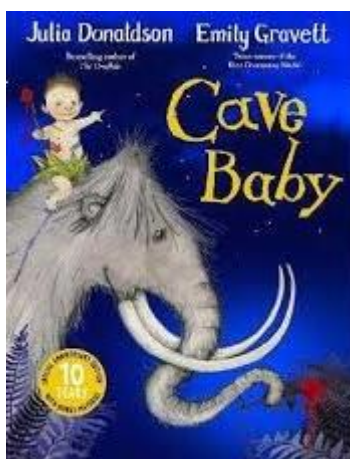
Year 1

Year 1 have made a fantastic start to the year!

This term, we've been exploring the work of artist Henri Rousseau, with a special focus on his painting *Tiger in a Tropical Storm (Surprised)*. Our budding artists have been developing key skills such as line work, colour mixing, pattern creation and printing to create their own masterpieces. We are incredibly proud of their efforts and have set up a beautiful art gallery in the Year 1 area to showcase their work.



In English, we have been busy reading and writing about *Cave Baby* by Julia Donaldson and *The Odd Egg* by Emily Gravett. The children have worked hard on composing their own sentences, focusing on using capital letters, finger spaces and full stops. We have also enjoyed learning about nouns, verbs and adjectives and were thrilled to apply this new knowledge in our writing.



This term, we've enjoyed growing into confident readers by strengthening our phonics skills. We've reviewed our Phase 2 and Phase 3 phonemes while working through Phase 4. The children are excited to start learning Phase 5 in their phonics in Term 2.



To help support their progress, please continue to read at home at least four times a week and record this in their reading records. It's also a great idea to go over the common exception words and sound mats with your child regularly to help store this important learning in their long-term memory. These resources can also be found in their reading records.



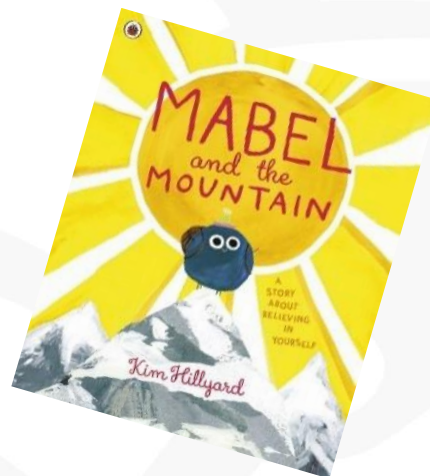


Year 2

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

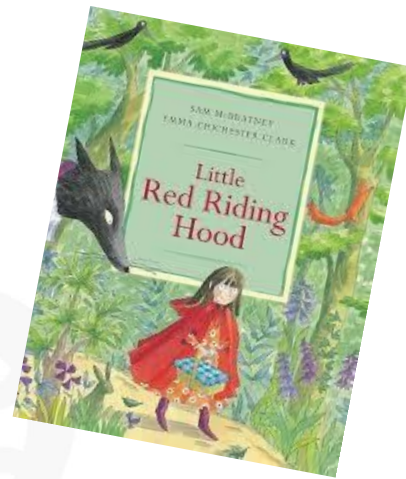


This term's value in year 2 is 'encouragement'. During Class Worship times, we have been exploring this through stories and discussion and have generated a bank of encouraging phrases that we can use to give confidence and support to each other.





In English this term we have read 'Little Red Riding Hood' by Emma Chichester Clark and 'Little Red' retold by Lynn Roberts. The children have written a character description and written sections of both of these stories.



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.





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!

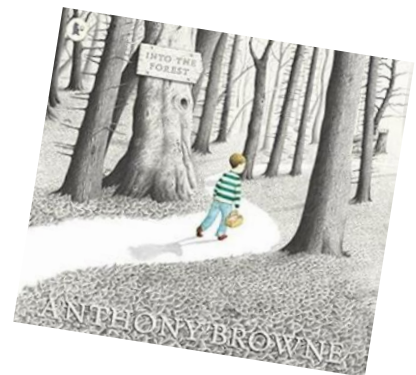
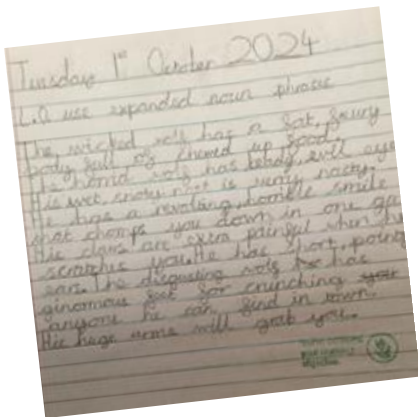




Year 3

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. We have also unpicked what 'active listening' looks like and how we can apply this when working with our learning partner.

In our English this term, we have been busy learning the story 'Into the Forest' by Anthony Browne. We had great fun spotting all the clues for different fairy tales. We have been thinking carefully about expanding our nouns for character descriptions and wrote our own version of the story.



In art, we have been focussing on Maggi Hambling and her work on seascapes. We 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 and changing the size of the shadow using the distance away from the torch! We also learned the difference between opaque, translucent and transparent.



Year 4

What a brilliant start to the new school year we have had in year 4! As teachers, we have loved getting to know our new classes and have enjoyed revisiting our school values through various activities in term 1.

In **Geography**, we have been looking at Rivers and children have had the opportunity to explore how they shape the land through creating a model using sand and stones. They demonstrated excellent teamwork and observed the way fast flowing rivers carry and deposit sediment, changing the shape of our landscape.



Children have also had the opportunity to try both computing and music as part of a learning carousel on Wednesday afternoons. In Music, Mrs Soper has been teaching the children about rhythm using glockenspiels and in computing Mr Kilcoyne has taught classes about forming letters using coding. We have also learnt lots of new and ambitious vocabulary with Mrs Baskerville through Mrs Wordsmith.



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

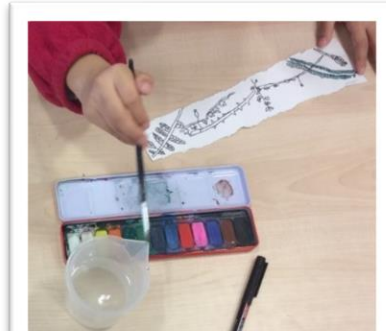
enquiries@spps.school.uk

We have made a brilliant start to our legacy learning this year which is linked to food banks. Clevedon foodbank were extremely grateful for all the donations we received for our harvest festival, so thank you! A small group of children read in church, giving information to the rest of our school about why harvest festival is important and what we can do to help. We were so proud of their confidence and demonstration of excellent reading prosody. We have also made links to our legacy learning through looking at the book 'It's a No-Money Day' where we wrote diary entries as though we had experienced using a foodbank for ourselves.





In art, we have been exploring the life and work of Vincent van Gogh. We learnt about his life and what inspired him as well as experimenting with different mediums to imitate pieces of his work. We have even had a go at doing some observational drawings which we will use in our final piece of artwork.



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 the music teacher Mr Sansom and with lots of practice, we can't wait to hear the fantastic tunes the children will be playing as the weeks go on. We hope you are enjoying listening to the children practise at home.





Year 6

Year 6 had an amazing time at Mill on the Brue. The children had opportunities to try obstacle courses, crate stack, climbing walls. Birthday's were celebrated

It is so wonderful to see the children's resilience, confidence and team skills flourish in these types of trips.

We have provided a collage of images in the next couple of pages giving a few highlights of the weeks event.

Well done Year 6!



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





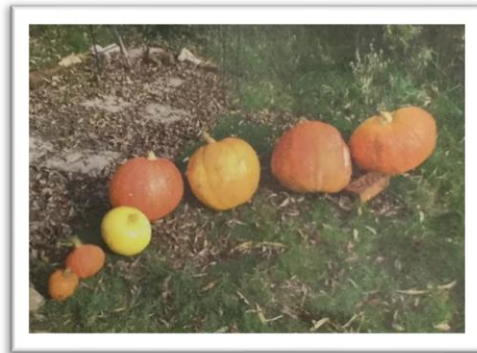
Playleaders

Play leaders have been selected for this coming academic year with children from years 3 and 5 taking on the responsibility. They have had their first meeting as play leaders and are excited to support play at break and lunchtimes. They will assist sports coaches with setting up and packing away equipment and will also help lead 'game of the week' for those children who may be stuck on what to play. They are very excited about their role, and they are easily visible on the playground thanks to their badges and bibs!

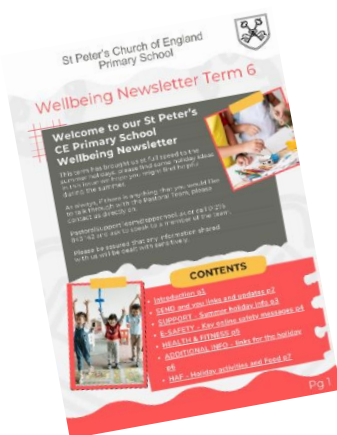
Eco Update

We have been busy clearing the school allotment ready for planting in the spring. There is always lots to do at this time of the year.

We have been very fortunate this year to have grown some wonderful pumpkins, you may have seen some of our largest by the running track. The pumpkins have now found a new homes for Halloween through a school raffle. Thank you for your support on this.



Wellbeing



This terms Wellbeing Newsletter brings a focus to topics such as online safety and Dyslexia please see below from the content.

Contents:

- [Introduction p1](#)
- [SEND and you links and updates p2](#)
- [A day of SEND - North Somerset PWTC p3](#)
- [SUPPORT - Summer holiday info p4](#)
- [E-SAFETY - Key online safety messages p5](#)
- [ADDITIONAL INFO - device advice and half term adventures p6](#)
- [Marthas Kitchen - p7](#)

You will find the Newsletter as an attachment to the Parentmail this newsletter has been attached to.