



St. Peter's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter 16 Friday 23rd May

www.st-peters-pri.gloucs.sch.uk
 admin@st-peters-pri.gloucs.sch.uk

Local Parish Mass Times	St Peter's	English Martyrs	St Augustine's
Saturday	6pm		6.30pm
Sunday	9am 10.30am 5.30pm	9am	11am

RE CURRICULUM

EYFS	I know that the Parish Church is a special place
Y1	Pentecost
Y2	Pentecost
Y3	To know that Christians have always celebrated the Eucharist and to know there are different types of writing in the Bible
Y4	Reflect on how the Pope and Bishops are servants to others. Study an example of how the Catholic Church in England carries on the work of Jesus
Y5	Reflect on how the Pope and Bishops are servants to others. Study an example of how the Catholic Church in England carries on the work of Jesus
Y6	Reflect on how the Pope and Bishops are servants to others. Study an example of how the Catholic Church in England carries on the work of Jesus

Dear parents and carers,

I am writing to you at the end of a really positive, albeit short, school term. Much great learning has been achieved over the past four weeks and the behaviour and attitudes of our children has been excellent. A special well done to our Year 6 children on finishing their Key Stage 2 SATs. They have worked tremendously hard all year and were focused yet measured throughout the testing week.

Thank you for your feedback following the news that we plan to mix the classes for September 2025. Most of the feedback has been positive. I also understand, and have responded to, a number of parents who are anxious about this change. Hopefully my response has reassured those who may have concerns. It is important that I reiterate that this decision to be taken to benefit our pupils. This is not, nor will it ever be, taken as an opportunity to separate positive relationships between children and our approach to setting classes is not random. On the contrary, we will be speaking with all children and they will have an opportunity to share their thoughts and provide a short list of children they believe they will work well with in the classroom. The happiness, wellbeing and learning of all our children is always our primary consideration. We will spend some more time speaking with children on our return after half term and provide updates as we work through this change.

Thank you to the PFA who continue to make a really positive difference to our school community. I am sure you have already received hundreds of reminders, but there is a school disco this afternoon/ evening after school. If you would like your child to attend you can come along and pay at the door this afternoon.

As you may already know, we have been working hard to develop and improve our curriculum. We have made some changes to our writing curriculum, which now places a greater emphasis on grammar and provides children with more opportunities to revisit and build on their knowledge. Curriculum objectives have been sequenced and broken down so that small step learning can be more easily made. Many children initially found the new expectations a challenge however their perseverance has been excellent. In recent monitoring, leaders can see a significant increase in the quality of written work children are producing.

We have also made some changes to the mathematics curriculum. This is to prioritise the mathematical knowledge children need the most. There is a much greater focus on place value and number work with a much greater percentage of learning time spent exploring and unpicking embellished and contextualised problem solving and reasoning questions. Much like the changes in writing, some children have initially found this tricky. However, progress has been very positive and this is reflected in early monitoring. Our strategy in the aforementioned areas is to prioritise key areas and important concepts. We will also revisit content on a more cyclical basis so that we can better address misconceptions and gaps in learning in a more focused and prompt manner. These changes are in an early phase however we are encouraged by the progress children are making. We will continue to review them and adapt them as we develop the curriculum to better suit the needs of our children.

There has also been much great work in developing our history curriculum and teachers and children are now working from more cohesive and precise planning which systematically builds on key concepts (e.g. democracy, power, wealth, religion) across year groups and through periods of time. We are currently re-writing the geography, art, and design and technology curriculums and these will be published in the summer term, ahead of the next academic year. We will share detailed year group overviews with parents at the end of the year so you are better informed of the content your children will learn ahead of time.

As part of our work to further improve our school, leaders have visited a number of outstanding schools across the country. It was a pleasure to visit the University of Cambridge Primary School, yesterday. This is widely seen as one of the best primary schools in the country and works closely with the latest educational research. It was a wonderful opportunity to compare our curriculum and teaching developments to theirs and to share practice. There was also a lovely opportunity to visit King's College at the University of Cambridge in the evening. This is where Dr Ewan Johnson (our Inclusion Lead) completed his undergraduate studies and doctorate.

We have been visiting other outstanding primary schools throughout the year, specifically schools which are cited as being amongst the best in the country. This list includes Beacon Rise Community Primary School in Bristol and St. Frances De Sales Catholic Primary School in Liverpool. These visits provide leaders with opportunities to compare practice and to identify areas where we can further strengthen our good school. It continues to be our ambition that we strive to provide outstanding education and pastoral care for each of our amazing children. We are encouraged by what we have observed in these schools and how this compares to our current position and the work we are currently doing to improve St. Peter's Catholic Primary School.

As part of our ongoing work to update the presentation of the building we have commissioned an artist to produce feature walls in the school entrance and extended services room. This work will be in the style of Christian artist Hannah Dunnet. It will be child friendly, inclusive and welcoming. The artist will also be producing a colour cross feature piece for the spiritual space. We are launching a design competition for children over the coming weeks. We will select a small number of designs and the artist will use these as inspiration for the final version of our new colourful cross. Please encourage and support your child/ren to submit a design.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents and carers for your ongoing support this term. We recognise that we do not always get things right but we are ardent in our desire to provide the very best experience for each of our amazing children. The incredible team here is working exceptionally hard and are highly committed to the children we serve. We thank you for your support and look forward to continuing to work positively with you.

I hope you all have a positive and restful half term break and I look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 3rd June.

Kind regards,

Mr. Doyle
Headteacher

Eco Council

Following the RSPB schools' big bird watch, Eco Council children, Mrs Daniell and Mrs Sysum have researched and purchased bird feeders and feed that will suit the species of birds that currently visit us and ones that we hope to attract.

Eco Council have enjoyed hanging the bird feeders in various locations around the school site and now have the responsibility of topping them up during OPAL. Hopefully we will have lots of visitors! The children have reminded their classes that the bird feeders are to look at but not to touch.

Mr Sysum has also worked with us to choose areas of the school site to grow "wild" as part of No Mow May so that we can create food and habitats for the pollinators!

We're looking forward to doing more lovely eco activities in our Eco Council lunchtime club which starts on Friday 6th June.



Y2 WESTON-SUPER-MARE TRIP

Year 2 had a fabulous trip to Weston-Super-Mare on Tuesday. The weather was lovely and warm and we all enjoyed ice creams on the Pier. During the day we looked at examples of human and physical geography focusing on the coastline and what we could see around us. We could see lots on the Pier!

We also had a wonderful time playing on the beach, playing football and making compasses in the sand. Some of us were even buried in sand! At the end of the day we all walked to the sea to paddle our feet. We were surprised at how warm the sea was!





Reception Places *Available For September*



For Info: 01452 524792 or admin@st-peters-pri.gloucs.sch.uk



DATES FOR THE DIARY

Friday, 23rd May		FINISH FOR HALF TERM	Normal time
Monday, 2nd June		INSET	
Tuesday, 3rd June		Start of the New Term	8.45am
Thursday 19th June	Y1	Cotswold Wildlife Park	9.00am—3.00pm
Thursday, 19th June	Y6	Clifton Cathedral	9.30am—1.00pm
Sunday, 22nd June—25th June	Y6	Residential Trip	
Friday, 27th June	Whole School	Sports Day	During the school day
Monday, 30th June-4th June	Whole School	Book Fair	During the school day
Tuesday, 1st July	Y4	Roman Walking Tour of Gloucester	During the school day
Wednesday, 2nd July	Y6	Gloucester Ski Slope	10.30am—2.15pm
Thursday, 3rd July	EYFS	Multi Skills	During the school day
Friday 4th July	Whole School	Summer Fair	During the school day
Wednesday, 9th July	Whole School	Reserve Sports Day	During the school day
Thursday 10th July	Whole School	Move up Day	
Friday, 18th July		FINISH FOR THE SUMMER HOLIDAY	1.00pm

DINNER MENU – w/c 2nd June

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
INSET	Hot Dog	Roast Chicken	Chicken Korma	Battered Fish & Chips
	Macaroni Cheese	Vegetable Roast	Vegan Hot Dog	Mexican Bean Roll
	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato

DINNER MENU – w/c 9th June

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Bean Burger in a Bun	Green Thai Chicken Curry	Roast Gammon	Greek Chicken Pitta	Battered Fish
Creamy Curry	Vegan Bolognaise	Roast Quorn	Vegan Meatballs	Spinach & Cheese Pin-wheel
Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato	Jacket Potato