

St Mary & St Peter Primary School Newsletter

Set Sail for Success

Newsletter Friday 28th February 2020

Executive Headteacher: Mrs. Priscilla Crane

Head of School: Mrs. Jade Block



Our Mission Statement

Through nurturing trust and strong relationships, our learning adventure will see each and every one of us thrive in God's love.

Values

*Believe
Respect
Love
Trust*

If you have any questions about what your child is learning or how you can help your child at home, please arrange an appointment with the class teacher.

Headteacher's News

Stars of the Week

Our Stars of the week enjoying chocolate cake at our Golden Table!

February's Stars:



Attendance

Half term attendance figures:

6th Jan - 14th February Year 2

achieved the best attendance overall with 98%. The class won the attendance trophy and have celebrated by sharing an exciting breakfast together and extra play. Well done year 2!

Reading Record

Although the weekly class percentages of all the children reading for five nights each week is slowly improving, we still need to have a big push on continuing to improve this. Please can I ask parents to set aside a short time to hear your child read (if in KS1 and lower KS2) or to see them read (if upper KS2) and sign their school diaries to log this.

Follow these links to find out more about how you can support your child with reading:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/making-time-for-books-at-home>

<https://education.gov.scot/parentzone/learning-at-home/supporting-literacy-at-home/>

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Fruit and vegetables are always the best choice, but if you're shopping for packaged snacks for your children, use this helpful tip: look for 100 calorie snacks, two a day max!



10 Benefits of Reading

1. Children who read often and widely get better at it.

After all, practice makes perfect in almost everything humans do, and reading is no different.

2. Reading exercises our brain.

Reading is a much more complex task for the human brain rather than watching TV, for example. Reading strengthens brains connections and builds NEW connections.

3. Reading improves concentration.

Children have to sit still and quietly so that they can focus on the story when they are reading. If they read often, they will develop the skill to do this for longer.

4. Reading teaches children about the world around them.

Through reading a variety of books children learn about people, places, and events outside of their own experience.

5. Reading improves vocabulary and language skills.

Children learn new words as they read. Subconsciously, they absorb information on how to structure sentences and how to use words and other language features effectively in their writing and speaking.

6. Reading develops a child's imagination.

As we read our brains translate the descriptions we read of people, places and things into pictures. While we are engaged in a story we are also imagining how a character is feeling. Young children then bring this knowledge into their everyday play.

7. Reading helps children to develop empathy.

As children develop they begin to imagine how they would feel in that situation.

8. Reading is fun.

A book doesn't take up much space and is light to carry, so you take it anywhere so you can never be bored if you have a book in your bag.

9. Reading is a great way to spend time together.

Reading together on the sofa, bedtimes stories and visiting the library are just some ways of spending time together.

10. Children who read achieve better in school.

Reading promotes achievement in all subjects, not just English. Children who are good readers tend to achieve better across the curriculum.

RSE Meeting

Advanced date warning - we will be holding an RSE meeting for year 5 and 6 parents on Tuesday 31st March 2020 at 2:30. More information will follow.

Uniform

Please can I remind parents that ALL children must be wearing black school shoes. NOT boots or trainers.

Please ensure hair accessories are sensible and are RED to match school colours. Ribbons and bobbles should be simple. No Jo-Jo bows please.

Uniform Shop - items needed!

We would like to start up a second hand uniform shop at school, which will be open on selected days - details to come. If anyone has any good quality clothing that they no longer need, please donate to the school.

PE kit

Please make sure that your children have a change of clothes as their PE kit. We have started to see children arrive in school in leggings and then just take off their jumpers to do PE. They need to have their own separate PE kit. Thanks.

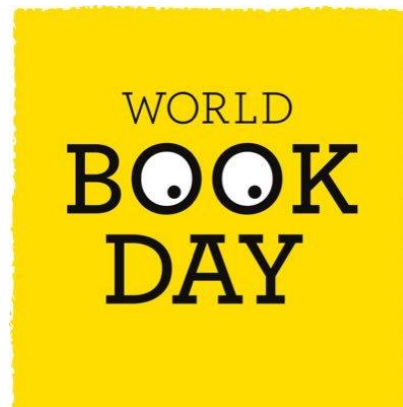
Absence from school

When calling in to report your child's absence please indicate the exact issue, rather than just unwell or ill.

World Book Day and Extreme Reading

Dress up on World Book Day
We would like to encourage children and staff to come into school dressed up as their favourite book character on world book day on Thursday 5th March 2020. We welcome all costumes and efforts and look forward to seeing children celebrating their favourite character.

A £10 book voucher will be given to the best dressed on the day.

**Extreme Reading Reminder**

Please send in a photograph of your child doing some Extreme Reading by Monday 2nd March.

A £10 book voucher will be given to the most original Extreme Reading Photograph.

Year 2

This month in maths we have been exploring fractions including $\frac{1}{2}$ s, $\frac{1}{4}$'s and $\frac{1}{3}$'s

You can help your child at home by asking them to find fractions of numbers or simple shapes.

In English we are using the short film 'Zahra' to write descriptive sentences and short stories.

You can help your child at home by practicing writing sentences using interesting descriptive words.

Our topic this half term is explorers and we will be investigating the lives and achievements of Amelia Earhart and Christopher Columbus.

You can help your child at home by asking them to tell you about the lives of these people.

Mr Rebecca

Year 3

In Year 3 we are currently continuing our fractions unit. We will be learning how to find fractions of amounts. You can help your child at home by encouraging them to use SumDog to practice their arithmetic regularly and by ensuring that they are fluent in their times tables. Learning their multiplication and division facts is vital to their success in our fractions unit.

In English we have just begun reading 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes. We are currently in the process of writing a character description of the Iron Man. You can help your child at home by continuing to read everyday and asking your child to use adjectives to describe the characters in the book they are reading.

In our Geography lessons we are focusing on Italy and in Science we have just started our plants unit.

Miss Nobes

Year 5

In Year 5 we're focusing on North America in the 1900s. We will be focusing on race and gender which will also be our writing inspiration in English.

In maths, we're looking at fractions, decimals and percentages.

In RE we're looking at Reconciliation and forgiveness.

To help your child at home:

Please read with them regularly.

Support them with their English homework and check spelling and punctuation in their writing.

Continue with times table practice and general calculation work.

Miss Melton

Year 6

This week Year 6 have been getting really enthused by the book 'The Viewer' by Shaun Tan. We will be working on writing our own stories based on the theme of objects with hidden mysteries! In Maths we have been exploring ratio and proportion through lots of problem solving activities. In Science we have been learning about the movement of the planets and the solar system which has included making our own model orrery. We have also had a go at some printing and in RE we have been learning about Jesus as the son of God.

Miss Cullum

The Marina

We are looking really closely at Punctuation in the Hub. We are looking at when we need to use full stops, capital letters, commas, question and exclamation marks, speech marks and apostrophes. We are encouraging children to use correct punctuation in their writing and also to be aware of punctuation when they are reading out loud.

You can help with raising your child's awareness of punctuation by drawing their attention to it as they read to you and pointing it out in newspapers, magazines, adverts and other reading matter.

If you have any questions about this or any aspect of life in The Hub please either pop in before school in the morning to see me or telephone the Office to make an appointment.

SEND

A large number of pupils who go on to struggle at school from Year 4 and above do not have Special Educational Needs. They simply have missed out on learning in their most important years. They have GAPS.

Reading with your child each day is absolutely essential to the development of their:

- Speech
- Vocabulary
- Reading
- Ability to put spoken & written sentences together
- Being confident enough to stand up for themselves
- Writing

These gaps can be easily avoided and filled by reading each day with your child for 10 minutes.

Give your child the best chance in life!

Parent Tips for Reading:

1. **Make books a part of family life** - Always have books around at home. That way you and your children are ready to get reading, even if it's only for ten minutes.
2. **Join your local library** - Get your child a library card. They'll be able to get their hands on hundreds of fantastic books, as well as the latest video games, blu-rays and DVDs. Let them choose what they want to read to help them develop their own interests.
3. **Read about something they're interested in** - Help your child find the right book for them. It doesn't matter if it's fiction, poetry, comic books or non-fiction.
4. **All reading is good** - Don't rule out non-fiction, comics, graphic novels, magazines or leaflets. Reading is reading and it's all worthwhile.
5. **Get comfortable!** - Snuggle up together somewhere warm and cosy, whether it's in bed, on a beanbag or on the sofa. And make sure your child has somewhere comfy to read on their own too.
6. **Ask questions** - To keep them interested in the story, ask your child questions as you read. Start with 'Where did we get to last time?', 'Can you remember what's happened so far?' and 'What do you think will happen next?'.
7. **Read whenever you get the chance** - Have a book or magazine with you for any time your child has to wait, like at the doctor's or the dentist.
8. **Read favourites again and again** - Encourage your child to re-read the books and poems they love. Re-reading helps to build fluency and confidence.
9. **Enjoy bedtime stories** - Read with your kids at bedtime as often as you can. It's a great way to end the day and to spend valuable time with them.
10. **Make the most of rhyme and repetition** - Books and poems with rhymes and repeated words or phrases are great for getting your kids to join in and remember the words.

Remember! Your child gets a house point for every day they read at home!

Friends News

This half term we have lots planned! An Easter egg raffle, Easter Disco and Mother's Day wrap.

Easter Egg Raffle

We need you help starting Monday 3rd March, we are asking if you could please donate an Easter egg for us to raffle at the end of term. We are trying to get as many eggs as possible so we can have many prizes for the children to win. If you can help please can you drop your donation in to the office. More info on how the children can win these eggs to follow.

Mother's Day Wrap

This Mother's day we are reviving Mother's day wrap. Basically we buy lots of great presents for your children to buy and they can visit our pop up shop and pick the present they want for that special person. They will bring it home wrapped and ready for Mother's day! This year we will be selling presents on Friday 20th March more info regarding cost of presents to follow.

Easter Disco

We will be having an end of term disco on Tuesday 31st March. We will let you know when tickets are ready to purchase on wise pay.

Once again if you have any free time and could help at any of the above events please email us, you are not required to attend every meeting or even get involved with every event but anytime you can spare is a great help.

friendsofsmsp@gmail.com

The Friends

This Week's Prayer



*St Mary and St
Peter, Pray for
us.*

We have now entered the season of Lent. Traditionally we give up something for Lent, but sometimes we forget the reason we are doing so we are trying to get closer to God. For example, if we have given up chocolate for Lent, when we want some, we remember that we have given it up so we can pray instead. We can give anything up for Lent - it doesn't have to be food, and it doesn't necessarily have to be a "bad" thing or an "indulgent" thing. But it does need to be something that we will miss, and is important to us.

So for children a favourite T.V. cartoon or a computer game might be a difficult (and good!) thing to give up.

Read more at:

https://www.lords-prayer-words.com/times/meaning_of_lent_prayers.html

Lord, please show me what I should give up for Lent and when I've given it up, remind me to pray to you instead to thank you to, love You, to hear from you each and every day in Lent. Amen

A possible big question you could discuss at home is:

What are we going to do to get closer to God this Lent as a family?

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 31 st March	RSE Parent Consultation 2:30pm Easter School Disco 3:15 - 5pm
Friday 6 th March	Year 5 Mass 10am
Monday 16 th March	Year 4 visit to Norwich Castle
Friday 20 th March	Year 2 and 3 Mass
Thursday 2 nd April	End of term
Monday 20 th April	Start of term - pupils and staff return
Friday 8 th May	May Bank Holiday/VE Day
Friday 22 nd May	Half term
Monday 1 st June	Pupils and staff return
Friday 17 th July	End of Summer Term

Dates in bold are newly added dates

Dates for
the Diary: