

# NEWS

## from the Primary Phase



Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February

### Dear Parents and Carers

I cannot believe that we have already reached the end of another half-term! There has been much to celebrate from around the school.

Our spring term began with Mass, celebrated by Father John, for the Feast of the Epiphany. It was wonderful to see children from Year 2 up to Year 6 gather together for the occasion – their behaviour and reverence was exemplary throughout. A special thanks go out to our Worship Council who read beautifully conveying the messages of the Mass.

Later in the half-term, Year 6 gathered together in our hall for a Mass, celebrated by Father Daryl, in which they focussed on how we come closer to God through prayer. They considered how we should pray to God and how we thank God that he is always there to listen to us when we talk to him.

This term, we welcomed our new Worship Council members: Emilia G, Esther, Isla, Sophie S, Josie, Diya, Sophia P, Eva Luna, Maisie D, Jacob, Kirill, Madi, Herbie, Alannah, Violet, Jesse, and Maisy K (4 of these are returning to the position to continue for another year). Each of these members wrote a letter of application to Miss Henwood explaining why they were suited to the role.

The council are splitting into teams so that they can take on different roles that link closely to our Lasallian Values:

- Faith in the presence of God. We believe in the living presence of God within each individual.
- Respect for all people. We believe that every human being deserves dignity and respect.
- Quality education.
- Inclusive community.
- Concern for the poor and social justice.



Those who are working on increasing our understanding of God being with us at all times (Faith in the presence of God) have been working hard to create images and wording that brings the Gospel of the week to life - these are being shared in each classroom. Whereas our children who are promoting our faith in action, which links to Catholic Social Teaching, are focusing on charitable giving (Concern for the poor and social justice).

Pupil voice is an area we are continuing to grow in the Primary Phase. Our School Council have worked as a team to compose questions to gauge each classes' love of reading - thankfully, 100% of our children enjoy reading at school! The information that the School Council have gathered has proven extremely useful and fed into the development of our reading provision. The children have asked for more non-fiction texts to be included in their book corners along with a broader range of authors. In response to this, we have been able to order some wonderful, high quality recommended reads for each year group!

This half term, our Year 2 and Year 4 children have accessed swimming lessons at Littledown. The swimming instructors have been so impressed with the effort, determination and enjoyment that both year groups have demonstrated throughout their lessons. Well done also to our catch-up swimmers from Years 5 and 6 who are working towards their

25m goal! A huge thank you to those parents who have supported us with the walk to and from the Littledown Centre – this really is greatly appreciated!

With guidance from 'Steps', and the help of some lovely parent volunteers, our Year 1 children have been busy learning how to keep themselves safe as they walk to and from school. The children have looked for signs of danger, using their ears to listen and their eyes to see. They have found safe places to cross the road (moving away from junctions), and have also thought carefully about safety when walking on the pavement. Every time they encountered a drive, they stopped and looked to see if the cars had their engines or reverse lights on and they also checked to see if cars moving along the road had their indicators on to turn. The children also thought about how they can help their parents to keep safe by staying off their mobile phones when walking around. Thank you to all our parent volunteers, these events cannot happen without your support!

The final week of half-term provided us with a number of wonderful end-of-topic celebrations. Our Year 2 children invited their parents in to school to taste-test and evaluate their veggie burgers – the conclusion was that they were delicious!



Next, was the turn of Year 4 who hosted their very own 'Water World' festival which showcased the incredible work they have produced whilst studying the water cycle this half term. Our Year 4 children acted as fantastic tour guides showcasing their poetry, scientific research as well as a wealth of knowledge about the water cycle!



Finally, the Year 3 Stone-Age Museum, was a fantastic display of the learning that has taken place in our Year 3 classrooms this half-term. Our Year 3 children showcased their incredible Stone age fact files, cave paintings, 3D models of stone-age dwellings and also a pair of trousers made for Ug – the main character of their Power of Reading text.





The half term concluded with our Ash Wednesday liturgies where we gathered in our key stages, to prepare ourselves for the upcoming liturgical season of Lent. This year, Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday fall within the half term holidays, so today, Juliette our school Chaplain, alongside members of the Worship Council, led us in thinking about the Lenten promises we may make. The children were reminded that we are asked to Give, Fast and Pray during the season of Lent. To help us understand the reading from Matthew, Chapter 6, Juliette played a trumpet – a reminder that we should not ‘trumpet out’ all our good deeds, but instead, do things silently, only for God. This is something we will hold with us through the season.



I do hope that you enjoy reading about the children's accomplishments and stand-out moments from across the spring term so far! Have a lovely half-term break.

*AMalone*

Mrs Malone

[ame@st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk](mailto:ame@st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk)

### Important Information

#### Use of the staff car park:

I am sure that those of you who currently pick up from an after-school club are aware of how busy our staff car park has become at this time. With multiple clubs running each evening (and plans for more after school opportunities for our children!), there is no longer enough space to facilitate all those who drive onto site. There are not enough parking bays to accommodate everyone and the build-up of cars means that there is very limited turning space. It is only a matter of time before an accident occurs. With the safety of everyone in mind, we have made the decision to **close the staff carpark to all parents and carers** who are collecting children from an afterschool club.

**Please note that this change will be effective from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.** I apologise in advance for any inconvenience that this causes to your daily routine. However, the safety of all members of our community is of paramount importance.

The barrier will open daily after 4pm to allow those collecting from St. Claire's After School Club to drive onto site for the remainder of the evening.

In addition to this, the blue gates at the end of our driveway now remain closed throughout the hours of the school day. If you do have permission to drive onto site, please ensure that the gates are closed behind you as you drive through them.

#### A message from Mr Motte – a plea for support:

This coming **Friday** morning during Half Term (**16<sup>th</sup> February**) we will be holding a **tree planting session** in our school field between **10:00 and 12:00**.

All parents and children are invited to come along and help plant trees that will help make a hedgerow on the far side of the field to attract even more wildlife to our school.

This is part of a large project to connect nature from the River Stour and King's Park to our school – the aim is for use to work collaboratively to create a wildlife corridor stretching from the Stour valley to king's park and beyond. As part of this project, we would like to create "the great greenway hedge", a hedgerow spanning the grounds of St. Peter's. This native hedgerow will blossom through spring and summer before producing abundant nuts and seeds in autumn, all vital for our wildlife!

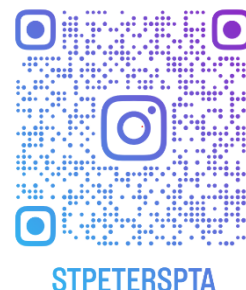
Refreshments will be provided for our happy workers! Unfortunately, the school building will be closed so there is no toilet access during these 2 hours so please make sure little ones are toileted before coming!

#### PTA:

Our PTA are in the process of organising a **Quiz Night** on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April** for our parent community. For further updates, including how to purchase tickets for this event, please follow our PTA social media accounts – your support will be greatly appreciated!

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/stpetersbmthpta](https://facebook.com/stpetersbmthpta)

**Instagram:** [instagram.com/stpeterspta](https://instagram.com/stpeterspta)



STPETERSPTA

## Primary Phase Diary Dates

<b>Monday 12<sup>th</sup> - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Tree Planting with Mr Motte – school field 10:00am-12:00pm</b>
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Spring 2 Commences
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Reception trip to Beaulieu
W/C 26 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 5 Bikeability Commences
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> February	QDOS Clothing Sale – 2:30pm in the school hall
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Big Lent Sponsored Walk
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	The Book Fair will arrive in school for a week
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	5AB Class Mass and Reconciliation – 10:45am
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Mother's Day Celebrations - classrooms <b>Reception and Year 1:</b> 8:30am <b>Year 2:</b> 1:30pm <b>Year 3:</b> 1:45pm <b>Year 4:</b> 2:00pm <b>Year 5:</b> 2:15pm <b>Year 6:</b> 2:30pm
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Sustrans: Big Walk and Wheel
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening 3:15pm - 6:30pm (Virtual)
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Musical Soiree – more information to follow from Mrs Byles
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	5CB Class Mass and Reconciliation – 10:45am
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening 3:15pm - 6:30pm (Virtual)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening 5:00pm - 7:00pm (Virtual)
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 6 Reconciliation
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	New Milton Music Festival - more information to follow from Mrs Byles
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Life Education Visits
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	4JR Class Mass and Reconciliation – 10:45am
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Reception and Year 5 Fire Safety Session
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	4HW Class Mass and Reconciliation – 10:45am
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Last day of Spring 2
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>STAFF TRAINING DAY - SCHOOL CLOSED FOR CHILDREN</b>
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>BANK HOLIDAY - GOOD FRIDAY</b>
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>EASTER HOLIDAYS</b>
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer Term Commences

## Reception News

It has been another lovely and busy half term where lots of progress has been made!

In RE, we have been looking at the topic 'Revelation'. In this unit, we have been working towards answering the 'Big Question,' How can we be like Jesus and be a shepherd to others? We have been looking at Jesus' Parable of The Lost Sheep and have understood how Jesus taught us through stories and that in this story, we were in fact the sheep and the shepherd was Jesus. He cares about each and every one of us. We loved to role play this story too! We have thought about how Jesus came to show us how we should be living. All our children decided they would like to care, share and be kind!

Our new topic started with mysterious footprints appearing over the floor and walls - they didn't look like human ones though! This got us to conjuring up ideas of what may have made the prints. Once we decided it was a monster, we introduced our new Power of Reading text: 'Bedtime for Monsters' by Ed Vere. The illustrations are exciting and enticing and have ignited a real creativity in the children.

They have created their own monsters with paint, card, playdough and clay, created our own monster cafe and even made wonderful monster traps. We have been dispelling any fears of monsters and laughing about characters people create in their minds. Our writing has been focused on what our monsters look like, where they live and what they eat. Our focus has been on 'talking' our sentences and being really clear what we are going to write. We have made up lots of funny and disgusting things to write about in this topic! We have even had children making their own monster maps!



Our 'Marvellous Monsters' topic finished with a wonderful Monster's ball. Each child came in to school wearing a monster hat made at home and colourful clothing to be the monster of our choice. We enjoyed a wonderful Monster catwalk and all danced the Monster Mash. We hope we didn't frighten anyone!

In maths, we have been focusing on growing 6, 7 and 8. This has really challenged our thinking as we have had to use our subitising to see groups within these bigger numbers. We are working on understanding that a number is made up of lots of parts and are beginning to articulate this through making observations such as:

6 is a 3 and a 3



6 is a 1 and a 1 and a 1 and a 1 and a 1 and a 1

6 is a 2 and a 2 and a 2 and a 2 etc...

We would like to say a big thank you to all our parents at the end of the half term and your continued support.

Have a wonderful half term break.

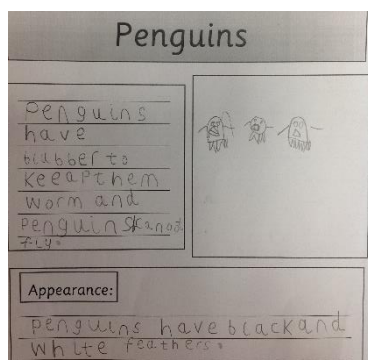
The Reception Team x



## Year 1 News

This half term, we have become immersed in our exciting 'Frozen Planet' topic. I'm sure the children will agree that it has been one of the 'coolest' themes yet! Kick-starting our BBBRRRilliant 'Frozen Planet' topic, the children had a wonderful day watching the film 'Frozen' and having their faces painted.

Our writing journey began by revisiting instructional writing and producing a text to instruct, 'How to build a snowman.' Following this, we were introduced to our Power of Reading text, 'The Princess and the White Bear King'. In this fictional tale, a king demands his people to forge his daughter a radiant crown made from gold. Not wanting to miss out on this competition, Year 1 created exquisite crowns and formulated their own letters convincing the king to pick their designs. The sheer amount of glitter that covered our classrooms afterwards showed just how much fun Year 1 had making them!



In the latter part of this half term, we moved on to learning all about the life of a penguin. The children completed detailed fact files about the appearance, habitat and diet of Emperor Penguins. Seizing the opportunity to impress during their 'Big Write', they completed some outstanding writing, in which they demonstrated their ability to correctly punctuate a sentence, use co-ordinating conjunctions and apply the phonics they have been taught to aid their spelling. All children in Year 1 did a superb job and we were so proud of them.

This half term, in Maths, Year 1 have been focusing on addition and subtraction within 20. We have been building on our knowledge of number bonds to 20 which is a fundamental skill, laying the foundation for addition and subtraction. As we move in to working predominantly with 2-digit numbers next half-term, we are confident that our Year 1 pupils have a solid understanding of numbers to 20. The resilience and hard-work they are putting in to their learning is fantastic!

In RE, we have recently finished our 'Revelation' unit. During this topic, we have been considering the big question, 'How does Jesus teach us?' We have been able to retell parables such as 'The Good Samaritan' through role play. We have discussed miracles such as 'The blind man' and thought about what Jesus was teaching us when he told these stories.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope you enjoy the half-term break when it arrives.

The Year 1 Team

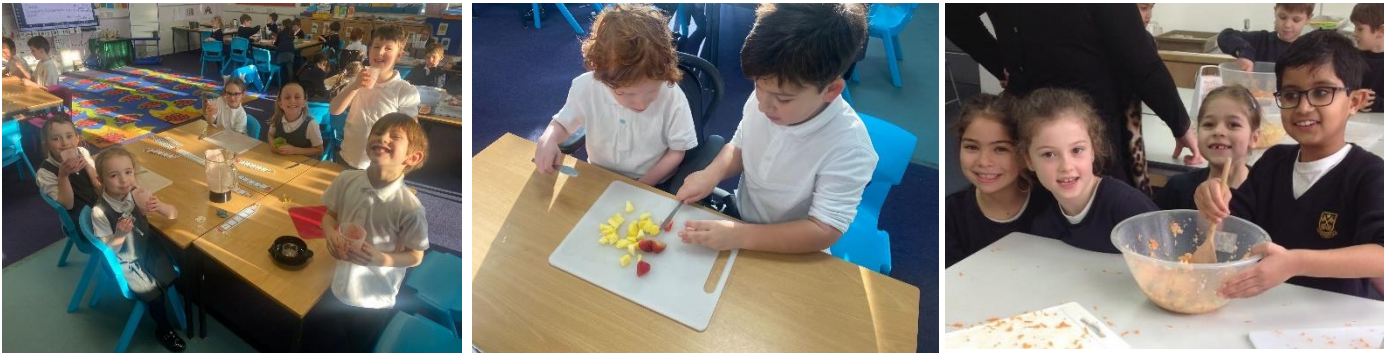




## Year 2 News

We began our new topic, 'Mini Masterchefs' by reading our Power of Reading text '*Burger Boy*' by Alan Durant. Year 2 have enjoyed reading our shared text and have retold the original story using expanded noun phrases and conjunctions. They also innovated the story by choosing their own character, who then turned into an unhealthy food, just like Benny did!

The children have learnt about poetry and created their own shape poems linking to healthy eating. In the last couple of weeks, Year 2 have been learning about instructions and what we use them for. They made healthy fruit smoothies and veggie burgers in their Design and Technology lessons. They completed a 'Big Write', in which they wrote a set of instructions on how to make their veggie burgers. We are extremely proud of how hard they have worked this term on these independent writes. They are continuing to show us what amazing writers they are!



In History, the children have been comparing changes in activity levels and eating habits over recent decades. To enrich our topic, we had the opportunity to look at some toys from the past decades from the Museum of East Dorset. The children then brought in their own toys to compare and were amazed to see how different they were.



During our Science and RHE lessons, we have been learning about the importance of looking after our bodies and having a balanced diet. We were lucky to have AFC Bournemouth join us for a workshop all about how the football players look after themselves before and after matches. The children were very inspired and are now thinking of lots of different ways to be healthy.

In RE, we have been learning about Revelation. The children have learnt about different parables, such as the prodigal son, parable of the sower and parable of the talents, and have discussed what they teach us. The children thought about the teachings in these stories and how they can share Jesus' teachings to others.

This half term has seen the start of swimming lessons for our Year 2s. We are very proud of the way the children have behaved on the way to and from swimming as well as in the pool. It has been lovely to hear all about their achievements each week!

Have a fantastic half term!

Year 2 Team

## Year 3 News

Year 3 have enjoyed learning about the Savage Stone Age throughout this half term. The term started with cave paintings where the children immersed themselves within a 'cave' in the classroom. In Literacy, the children learnt how to write direct speech within a narrative, and went on to develop their own sequel-story about Ug. More recently, we have returned to non-chronological reports, and the children have used their knowledge of the Stone Age to write a report on it.



A huge thankyou must be said to all of you completing the home-learning project. We have been absolutely astounded at the quality of the children's Stone Age shelters and homes. Hopefully, the children have been able to amaze you with their knowledge of this historical period as you've worked together on them! Creating our Prehistoric museum and showing children and adults around it, was a very special moment, and allowed the children to share all that they have learnt about this period in history.



Within history, at the start of the topic, we examined Stone Age artefacts predicting how each of them would be used and asking questions about what we would like to know more about. Later on in the term, we created Stone Age villages while looking at hillforts learning how the people traded and defended themselves.

In Maths, children have continued to learn their times tables through the use of games and computer programmes. The children have learnt to use a variety of methods to solve multiplication and division calculations, and are now being encouraged to refine their preferred method. There are a few children who have done incredibly well on Times Table Rockstars and they are rocketing up the status chart. Currently, we have been looking at measurement and the different units used to measure a variety of equipment around the classroom.



Edible metamorphic rock profiles were the highlight of the rocks topic in Science. After exploring the three main types of natural rocks, and investigating their physical properties and conducting an experiment on the permeability of them. We were also lucky enough to have some sessions with a guest speaker looking at impact we have on our environment and even using microscopes to examine lichen around the school.

As part of our Revelations unit, children have studied the story of Samuel which has helped them to think about how we can listen and respond to God.



In computing, we have explored how digital devices are controlled with inputs and how these then relate to specific processes and outputs. Children have been using songs and games to learn about colours, days of the week and months of the year in Spanish lessons. They have used this knowledge to ask each other short questions about their favourite colour and the month of their birthday.

We hope that you all have a lovely half term break!

The Year 3 Team



## Year 4 News

What an amazing half term we have had to kick start 2024. In the first few days of January, we began our new 'Water World' topic by looking in depth at The Water Cycle. We followed this with a recap on information texts before writing our own information texts on The Water Cycle.

In Geography, we have been looking at rainfall. To study this more closely, we made our own rain gauges out of used plastic bottles and used them to measure the rainfall over the playground each morning over the course of a week. We then compared the rainfall in Bournemouth to rainfall in Mawsynram, India (the wettest place on Earth) and the Atacama Desert, Chile (the driest place on Earth). This lead nicely into our Maths where we turned this data in bar charts!

A couple of weeks ago, we were fortunate enough to have had a special visitor from Wessex Water to come in to talk to them about the importance of water and explain how water purification occurs. They became scientists, actively participating in purifying their own water, running it through sand and activated carbon. Our visitor also talked to us about the importance of saving water and how we can do our bit. From this, the children wrote some passionate persuasive speeches in preparation of our Water World Eco-Warriors event!

All our fabulous work in Year 4 this half term reached its climax with our Eco-Warriors Water World event which was a resounding success! The children were delighted to showcase all their hard work and the knowledge they have gained throughout this topic in some very creative ways. We would like to wish a huge thanks to everyone who attended the event, without your support the event would not have been successful.



This half term has also seen the beginning of swimming lessons in school. We are so proud of the way the children have maturely listened and pushed themselves in their swimming lessons. Their enthusiasm and determination to improve week on week has been clear to see and all done with huge smiles on their faces.

We have had another wonderful half term in Year 4 and we are already looking forward to what the next half term will bring.

Thank you for all you do to support us.

The Year 4 Team

## Year 5 News

This half term, Year 5 have been busy learning all about the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings in our history-based topic, 'Invaders and Settlers.'

We started our topic by reading our power of reading text 'East O' The Sun, West O' The Moon' which is a Norwegian tale about a young girl who goes on an adventure with a white Bear. Having unpicked the structure of this text, we compared it to a story that the children read in Year 1, 'The Princess and the White Bear King'. We then innovated the quest in the story and the children were excited to share their work with the Year 1 children. Following this, we wrote information texts using our knowledge of the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. Our main focus was thinking of ways to



address and engage the reader in our information text. We did this through carefully considering the layout and speaking directly to the reader through quiz's and challenges.

We started our topic in 410AD, the year often associated with the first wave of Anglo-Saxon invasions. Through a geographical lens, we were able to identify where the three invading tribes – the Jutes, Angles and Saxons – originated and where they chose to settle.

Our enquiry question this half term was 'What impact did the Anglo Saxons have on Great Britain?' As part of their learning to answer this question, the children explored Anglo-Saxon kingdoms and settlements to make comparisons between Britain in the past and the modern day. We were amazed at the variety and creativity of Anglo-Saxon houses which were completed as part of home learning. These were used to recreate an Anglo-Saxon settlement in the classroom. Our attention switched to the role of an archaeologist, as we explored the artefacts found at the excavation of the Sutton Hoo burial site which was first uncovered in 1939. We used the artefacts we discovered to make inferences and predictions about who might have been buried there. The children were particularly enthusiastic to discover the methods of crime and punishment in Anglo-Saxon Britain.



This half-term has been an excellent opportunity to develop our historical as well as our artistic skills. The children have enjoyed recreating their own piece of artwork in the style of the Bayeux Tapestry. They created story sequences using texture and, working in groups, the children worked on hessian weaving their own decorative patterns on the border, just as the Anglo-Saxon's would have done.



Whilst learning about plant life-cycles in Science, children have explored the different ways that plants reproduce. Children have compared the different life-cycles of insects, amphibians, birds and mammals.

In Maths, we have been refining our arithmetic skills and learning the formal written methods for Long Multiplication and Short Division. We also revisited fractions, particularly focusing on multiplying fractions and integers.

In RE, our theme has been Revelation. We have explored the role John the Baptist played in the revelation of Jesus as the Son of God. This allowed us to look at our own Baptism's where the children were enthusiastic to share their own baptism stories. We have also been looking at the significance of parables and what they teach us about God's Kingdom.

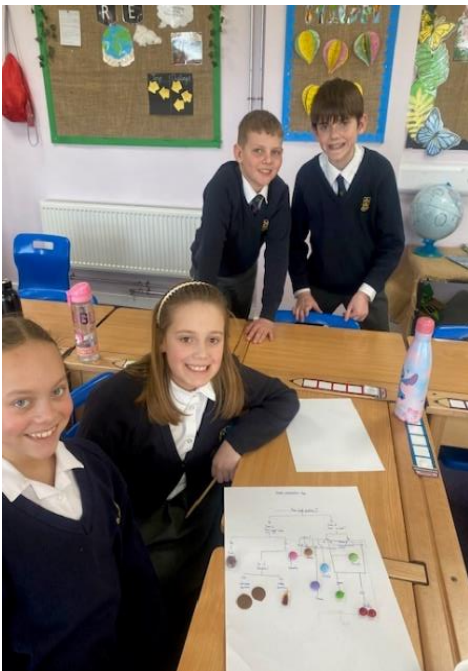
Thank you for your continued support,

The Year 5 team



## Year 6 News

Year 6 have had another busy half term learning all about the Amazon as part of our class topic. We have particularly enjoyed reading our Power of Reading text, *Journey to the River Sea* which is rich in vocabulary and imagery. In the story, Maia, a young orphan, is sent to live with distant relatives in Manaus where she eagerly documents all the wonderful sights she encounters along the way. However, the beauty of the Amazon directly contrasts the house of Maia's relatives who seek to remove all traces of wildlife and Brazilian culture from their home. These two locations provided us with inspiration to write our own setting descriptions. In particular, we analysed language choices from the text and considered how we could develop mood and atmosphere within our own writing through the use of sentence structures and figurative language features. In Literacy, we have also been considering the tone of our writing and the differences between formal and informal language. Using the text as inspiration, Year 6 wrote a range of formal letters to different characters in the story. In particular, we considered what Maia would say to her former boarding school headmistress about her time in the Amazon so far. To do this, we learnt about the subjunctive form as a way of expressing a wish, hope, demand or of conveying a hypothetical situation.



The Amazon rainforest is home to thousands of plant and animal species as Maia discovers when visiting a local museum, showcasing a range of exhibits curated by botanists and zoologists over time. In Science, Year 6 have been learning about the famous botanist Carl Linnaeus and his seven-levelled classification system which has been widely used to identify and classify organisms. Using this taxonomy system, Year 6 practised classifying birds, cats and buttercups by creating their own classification keys. We considered how the use of closed questions could help to distinguish one species from another based on their observable characteristics. Year 6 then worked practically to classify a range of given sweets and chocolates using a similar process of classification.

In Geography, Year 6 have been exploring their key enquiry question: *what is the geographical significance of the Amazon?* Year 6 began their enquiry by exploring the continent of South America, locating countries and capital cities before focusing on Brazil and its different geographical regions. As part of this, we researched the Amazon biome in detail, focusing upon both the rainforest and river. We learnt about the journey a river takes, from source to mouth, representing our knowledge in the form of a 3D model. Finally, we considered the causes and consequences of deforestation and the impact this has upon the wider world, using all of this knowledge to answer our enquiry question at the end of the unit.



In Art, Year 6 have been studying the works of Henri Rousseau, an artist who was greatly inspired by the rainforest and jungle scenery. In particular, we focused on his famous painting, 'Surprised', which depicts a tiger lurking in and amongst a range of tropical plants. Year 6 used this as inspiration in order to create their own drawing of a tiger. In DT, Year 6 have been creating their own animation of their class story, using images found online to represent different characters and settings.

Year 6 have had a wonderful half term and we are extremely proud of all of their hard work and efforts.

We hope you have an enjoyable half term holiday.

The Year 6 Team.



## Music News

What an incredibly musical half term we have had! We have continued to meet with Year 5 and 6 choir each week, and Year 5 and 6 orchestra on a Thursday after school – new members welcome after Easter! Year 3 and 4 choir was paused this half term, due to extra Young Voices rehearsals, but will resume after Easter on a Friday lunchtime.



The Year 5 and 6 (along with Year 7) choir members have been exceptionally busy this half term. We held a concert at Iford on 23<sup>rd</sup> January, to perform to parents and carers the many songs that we had been learning, leading up to our visit to the O2 Arena in London on 31<sup>st</sup> January. The concert at school was great, followed by our visit to the O2 which was AMAZING! 60 children and 22 adults travelled to London, to take part in the Young Voices concert with 17 other schools from BCP, and many other schools from around the UK. The massed choir in the O2 numbered around 9,000 singers! The children sang their hearts out to the audience – many of which were our parents who had made the long journey to support us – a huge well done and thank you to them! It was a truly amazing day (and night – we did not return to Iford until 2:30am!) Well done to all of the children in the choir, you really were an absolute credit to St Peter's School!

We had a fantastic "Live and Inspired" visit from Opera Magic on 8<sup>th</sup> Feb, to introduce children to the wonderful world of opera! Children from years 3, 5 and 6 got to listen to four professional opera singers, see their amazing costumes, and learn more about what it means to be in an opera. It was a thoroughly enjoyable and educational afternoon.

Please remember that we require half a term's notice if your child wishes to stop their instrumental/singing lessons – therefore, please email Mrs Byles ASAP if your child wishes to stop at Easter for any reason.



### Musical dates for your diaries:

#### **Tues 12<sup>th</sup> March: Spring Soiree – 6:00pm, Iford School Hall**

All are welcome to hear selected soloists and small groups, along with the Year 5 and 6 orchestra

#### **Sat 16<sup>th</sup> March: New Milton Music Festival – am, Arnewood School**

Year 5 and 6 orchestra will be playing at the festival – more details to follow

#### **Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> May: Year 4 visit to Poole Lighthouse to see the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra**

#### **Fri 21<sup>st</sup> June: Bournemouth Music Festival – am, Christchurch Priory**

Year 3 and 4 choir members will all be singing at the festival – more details to follow

## **Sporting News**

### **Year 6 Invitation Cup**

The Invitation Cup is a yearly tournament that provides opportunities for children in Year 6 to represent the school and take part in competitive football matches against other schools in BCP. We were placed into a group with Corpus Christi, Bethany, St Michael's and Kingsleigh and started strongly with an impressive 2-0 win against Corpus thanks to goals from Ryan and Fionn (who scored direct from a goal kick!). Our second match was a much tougher affair against a very good Bethany team that saw us fall to a 0-3 defeat. The boys were determined to put things right against St Michael's and responded brilliantly to record a 3-0 win with two goals from Jack and a solo effort from JK. Our final group game ended in a defeat to Kingsleigh, but we managed to finish third overall. We were re-grouped for the second half of the tournament, and played matches against St Walburgas, Jewell and Epiphany. The boys were really impressive in these remaining matches, recording a 2-0 win (Jack & Ryan), a 2-2 draw (Jack & Oskar) and ending the competition with a comprehensive 4-0 win (Jack, JK x2 & Ryan). All of the boys represented St Peter's fantastically and they should be proud of the effort and attitude they displayed. Well done to Fionn, Theo, Jack, JK, Ryan, Oskar, James, Bobby and Luche.



### **Year 5 Football Matches**

The Year 5 football team played two matches throughout January and have more to come throughout the remainder of the school year. They recorded a 2-2 draw against Bethany and a difficult 1-4 defeat against Avonwood. These two results don't necessarily reflect how both games were played, and we were particularly unlucky not to win the first game where we produced the better football. The team, consisting of Emrys, Daniel, Henry, Oliver, Jacob T, Jacob S, Jacob B, Josh, Sammy, Michael and James showed excellent spirit and team work, and I know Mr Richardson was very impressed with the way they continued trying to play good football even when finding themselves in a difficult position. I have no doubt that they will begin to see more positive results if their effort and attitude continues to be so impressive. A big thank you to Mr Richardson for taking charge and refereeing these fixtures whilst Mr Lane was with the Year 6 team.

### **Year 6 Football Matches**

The year 6 football team have taken part in the Bournemouth School League throughout January and have excelled in all their fixtures! Schools in BCP are organised into four separate leagues, and St Peter's were placed in a league against Bethany, St Michael's, Avonwood and Park. The boys produced a fantastic three wins and 1 draw from their fixtures, recording wins against Bethany (3-0), St Michael's (10-0) and Park (4-1) and a draw against Avonwood (2-2). It was a pleasure to see the team gain confidence throughout the month and they produced some particularly impressive attacking play, especially against St Michael's. These results saw us win our league which is a fantastic achievement, and they become the first St Peter's football team to do so! See below the final table from our league;

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals Scored	Goals Conceded	Goal Difference	Points
St Peter's	4	3	1	0	19	3	16	10
Avonwood	4	3	1	0	14	4	10	10
Bethany	4	2	0	2	11	6	5	6
Park	4	1	0	3	5	11	-6	3
St Michael's	4	0	0	4	2	27	-25	0

As a result, we were invited to take part in the Bournemouth Football Finals at Littledown on Tuesday, where we firstly played a semi-final against Christ The King. The boys played excellently in this game and came away with a very comfortable 4-1 win, putting us into the final where we would face St Katherines and try to become champions!

This was a very close game and both teams played well throughout. St Peter's hit the crossbar and missed a couple of chances, and despite largely dominating the game, couldn't find a goal. The match ended 0-0, and we faced the dreaded penalty shoot-out. Unfortunately, St Katherines won the shoot-out and claimed victory, leaving us as runners-up. Despite obvious upset and disappointment for the boys, I hope they are proud of their amazing achievement in finishing second overall across every Bournemouth primary school.



Well done to all the boys – Fionn, Thomas G, Theo, Oskar, Kasper, Liam, Olly, Jacob and Thomas L.

### **Bournemouth Indoor Athletics Competition**

This event is always a highlight of the competition calendar and St Peter's usually perform impressively, recording a second-place finish last year. Hoping to go one better this year, Mr Lane and Mr Richardson spent several weeks preparing a very talented group of children to perform in a wide range of track and field events. Just some of the events included sprint replays, longer distance running, obstacle relays, speed bounce, indoor javelin and triple/long jumps. Joining us in the competition were children from St James, Epiphany, Elm and Muscliff, ensuring an incredibly exciting and competitive event. The joy of Indoor Athletics is that we are able to take up to 30 children from Year 5 and Year 6 combined, meaning lots of children have the opportunity to represent the school and it's always lovely to see year groups mixing so well. Despite another heroic effort from our St Peter's athletes, we could only finish second once again, missing out on victory by just two points to St James! Despite this frustrating result, both Mr Richardson and I couldn't have been prouder with the way the children conducted themselves and with the ability that they possessed. I am always amazed at the wonderful talent we have, so a massive well done to everyone involved! The final scores were as follows;

<b>School</b>	<b>Boys Points</b>	<b>Girls Points</b>	<b>Overall Points</b>
St James	84	98	182
St Peter's	98	82	180
Elm	70	74	144
Epiphany	58	56	114
Muscliff	54	54	108

### **PE Focus – Year 6 Tag Rugby**

The Year 6 children have been enjoying their tag rugby sessions this term and have benefited from the expert assistance of Bournemouth Rugby Club coaches alongside Mr Lane. The primary focus of these lessons is to introduce and develop fundamental rugby skills, enhance teamwork, and foster a positive attitude towards physical activity and sportsmanship.

The tag rugby lessons were designed to achieve the following key objectives:

#### **Skill Development:**

- Introduction to basic rugby skills such as passing, catching, and tagging.
- Progression to more advanced skills like evasion, strategic positioning, and effective communication on the field.

#### **Teamwork and Cooperation:**

- Emphasis on the importance of working together as a team.
- Development of effective communication skills during gameplay.



## Rules and Understanding:

- Introduction to the basic rules of tag rugby.
- Understanding the importance of fair play and good sportsmanship.

The children showed commitment and resilience to their learning in often very cold and challenging conditions outside, and this resulted in some fantastic Rugby being played. Many of the children are now looking forward to representing St Peter's at the upcoming tournament in March. See some pictures below of the children in action!

## News from Forest School

Greetings from Forest School!

This half term is always the chilliest! All our children from RBW, 1RM and 2LM came wrapped up in multiple layers with coats, hats, gloves and scarves to stave off January's frosty fingers!

Our opening week saw the children hunting around the Forest School area for various nature items to tick off on their checklists. They also enjoyed searching for some wild animal teddies hiding in bushes and trees!

We also enjoyed our special Big Schools' Birdwatch week, with our special guest Ollie from Year 8 in the Secondary Phase sharing his in-depth knowledge of birds as well as his feather and egg collection to all of the amazed children. We then recorded our sightings of the birds in and around our field on our special RSPB sheets. As well as our many crow, magpie and seagull friends who are regulars on the field we saw a large group of rooks, 2 song thrushes, robins, pied wagtails and a group of 10 goldfinches! In total, 17 different species were spotted on the day! The results have been submitted to the RSPB's nationwide project and all the children will be receiving a certificate for taking part.

Our RBW group have also enjoyed making clay goblins, building animal homes, constructing den, and balancing on the slack line. At one point we got the whole group balancing at the same time! Wow!

Years 1 and 2 spent a very windy and soggy Tuesday making their own Forest School 'cookie pendants' with their own animal choice design on the front. They have also balanced on the slack line, built dens, been bug hunting, carried out litter picking and made some fabulous clay creations! In the penultimate week, they made Forest School chocolate chip cookies which went down a treat, and then they were able to have a go at setting alight cotton wool using our 'flint and steel' firelighters. They will all be campfire experts on their next family camping trips!

As I write this, we are all looking forward to our final session where we will be roasting marshmallows, as well as choosing from a variety of activities and having fun games with our giant parachute!

Enjoy the half term whatever the weather. Try a nature walk and see which birds you can spot!

