

ST. PETER'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL, HESWALL

NEWS UPDATE – November 2016

Staffing News

This half term, we welcome Miss Lara Jones back to St. Peter's and the Year 1/2 team, following her maternity leave and it's an opportunity to thank Mrs Sally Monks for covering the Y1/2 class during this period. Mrs Monks has now taken up a new post as class teacher for 3/4CW working a job share with Mrs Claire Woolley. This is to cover Mrs Cookson, who is currently on maternity leave until later in the new year.

Miss Kate Ball will be stepping up to the role of Acting Deputy Headteacher during Mrs Cookson's absence.

Governor Appointments

Thank you to everyone who took the time to vote in our recent Parent Governor election. I would especially like to thank the candidates who put themselves forward for election. Following the count, I can confirm that Mr Jason Laws has been elected as our new Parent Governor. Jason will join Mrs Helen Clough as one of two parent governors on our Governing Body.

I can also confirm that Dr Fiona Cox, who is also a parent of the school, has been elected to the vacancy of foundation governor. Both governors will serve a four year term. I am sure you will join me in congratulating Fiona and Jason, and we look forward to welcoming them onto the Governing Body.

Bonfire & Firework Display

This year's Bonfire and Firework Display takes place on Saturday 5th November with gates opening at 4.30pm. There will be a range of food and drinks available, as well as glow items and treats for the children to buy. Thank you to Mrs Buckle's class (F2Bu) for making this year's Guy Fawkes for the bonfire. We hope you are able to join us with family and friends for what is always a great night and a key fundraising event for the Friends of St Peter's.

Parent Workshop – Singapore Maths

As previously highlighted, we are running a workshop for parents on Singapore Maths – 'a new approach to maths' on Wednesday 23rd November from 6pm. The format of the evening will consist of three thirty minutes sessions that will include a presentation in the hall providing a general overview of the Singapore Maths approach, as well as age group specific workshops in each of the respective year bands. It is intended that these will be very much 'hands-on' sessions.

Parents will be invited to sign up for the year group sessions they wish to attend. There will be an opportunity to see some of the learning resources and samples of activities relevant to your child/children's age group(s). A sign up letter will be sent out shortly, in the meantime, please note the date in your diary. We hope that as many parents as possible are able to attend what we hope will be both an informative and enlightening workshop.

Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy

There is currently a vacancy in our team supervising pupils during the lunchtime. The job involves supporting the children in the dining room whilst they are eating their lunch and also supervising their play outside on the playground. If you are interested in the post, or know someone who might be interested, please contact the school office for more information.

Food Hygiene Rating

The school has recently been awarded a food hygiene rating of '5 – Very Good' from Environmental Health at Wirral Council, following an inspection of the school kitchen before half term. This is the highest score that can be awarded and reflects the high standard of cleanliness and hygiene in the school kitchen. During the summer holidays, the kitchen underwent a significant refurbishment that enabled the school to act upon the recommendations from a previous visit by the team in July.

Flu Programme for Y1, Y2, Y3 & Y4 Pupils

The Flu Programme is being rolled out across the country for children in Years 1&2 and has been extended to pupils in Years 3 and 4 this year. The vaccinations, which are in the form of a nasal spray, will be administered by Health Professionals in school on Tuesday 8th November. Parents will have received information on this and have been asked to give their consent.

Class Assemblies

This month one of our classes will be leading Collective Worship. Parents and family from Miss Rowlands class are welcome to join us at 9.15am.

Wednesday 16th November – Miss Rowlands's Class 5/6R

Reading Blog Project

As a way of promoting reading for pleasure and encouraging a love of reading, we have set up a series of blogs for each year group. These will have a different focus each half term and it is hoped that the children will visit the site to read other children's blogs, leave a post themselves and be encouraged to widen their reading material whilst also reading more regularly. The links can be found on the school website and a letter has been emailed to parents with further information and the password to access the site. This venture is part of a series of initiatives that we will be running during the course of the year to promote reading.

Keeping our Children Safe

As we move closer to the winter months, the mornings and late afternoons will be darker and so it is a good opportunity for us to remind the children about road safety both walking to and from school.

Please can I also ask for your help with this by:-

- Avoiding parking in the school car park (except by prior arrangement) at any time, including when collecting or dropping off from before or after school activities.

- Using the pedestrian crossing point at the top of the school car park and avoid crossing through the car park or at the main entrance at the school gates.
- Leaving the school grounds promptly at the end of the day and discouraging pupils from playing on the playground, play equipment or in the garden area at the top gate.

These arrangements help us to ensure all pupils have been collected and avoid unnecessary accidents from occurring. Thank you for your help in enforcing these requests.

Friends AGM

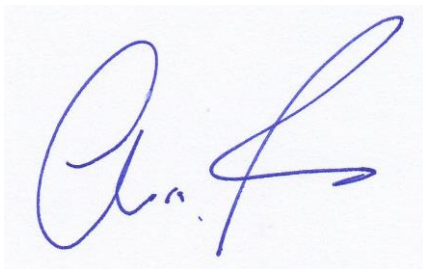
The Friends of St Peter's Annual General Meeting takes place at 7.30pm on Monday 28th November in the Meeting Room at the St. Peter's Centre. All parents are welcome to attend and it's an opportunity to find out more about the work the Friends do and how the money raised throughout the year has been used to support the purchase of key resources for the benefit of our children.

Children in Need

Once again we will be supporting the BBC Children in Need charity. There will be a series of cake sales during the week, any donations will be gratefully received, and pupils are invited to come to school dressed in yellow, spots, pyjamas, onesies or fancy dress on Friday 18th November. Pupils will be invited to bake cakes and donate them on a given date during the week. The recommended donation on the Friday is £2 per pupil, with half of the money raised going towards Children in Need and the other half to our school charity the Rock of Joy Trust, our partner school in Uganda. Further information about this will be sent out in a separate letter.

Looking Ahead to December

The dates for all of our Christmas services can be found on the calendar on the school website.



Chris Penn
HEADTEACHER