



St. Peter's Church of England Primary School, Heswall

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Headteacher: Mr D Jones
www.stpeters-heswall.wirral.sch.uk
firm foundations, shining bright



19th December 2022

Dear Parents / Carers,

Well done to all our children, staff and families on making it to Christmas! We have had a fantastic end to our term, including our Y5/6 carol service in church, a lesson in Christingle from Y3/4 and three fabulous nativity performances from F1, EYFS and Year 1/2! As well as this, we have been able to send a huge number of presents to the Charles Thompson Mission's Christmas toy appeal. From all of the staff at Charles Thompson's Mission, and from the families who will benefit from the generosity of our community, I would like to extend my thanks to all for the donations we have received. If you would like to see the impact of the donations, or find out more about the charity and their work, please follow or visit the Charles Thompson Mission web page. <https://charlesthompsonsmision.org.uk/>

Communication

Regular communication between home and school is one of the most positive ways in which children can be supported through their school years, and we seek to encourage this dialogue wherever possible. We very much value your support and interest in your child's education. Parents and carers will continue to receive a variety of letters and daily email messages to keep you informed about events in school. We also have our school website and social media feed showing the latest information about school events. All parents and carers are welcome to attend school social and community events and invitations to these events will come via newsletter, daily email, social media messages or correspondence from *Friends of St. Peter's*. Parents can contact their child's class teacher via Seesaw. Ideally, we would ask parents when using Seesaw to message staff no later than 5.00pm. If this is not possible, then any messages sent after 5.00pm via Seesaw will not be actioned by the class teacher until the next working day. Teachers will use Seesaw to communicate class or pupil specific messages with regard to school work or class-based events. Parents are invited to use Seesaw to keep us informed of any special events or achievements, however small, which happen outside school. This enables us to share in your child's interests and to assess progress in a broader context. All pupil absences / appointments should be directed to the school office. Those parents who wish to offer any kind of help during the school day are very welcome to contact the school office in the first instance. It should be stressed that such help does not allow a parent to have contact with their own child, as this would seem both unfair to other pupils and possibly distract the individual child from the necessary level of interaction with the class teacher.

Please see below the school's social media pages.

Website: <http://www.stpeters-heswall.wirral.sch.uk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/heswallstpeters>

Twitter: @heswallstpeters

Instagram: @heswallstpeters

A quick tour of our school this term!



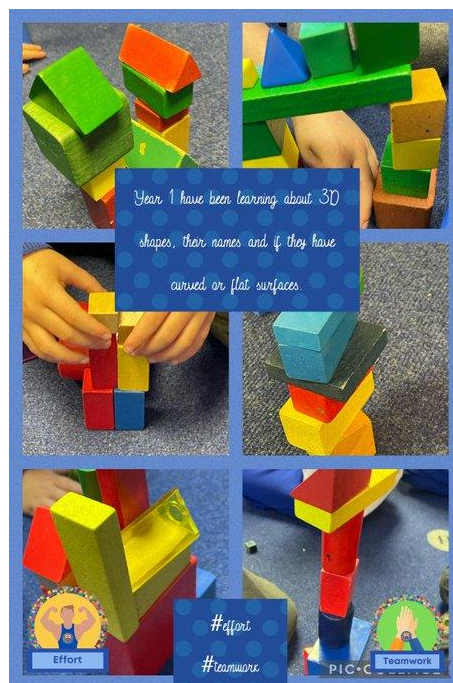
Early Years F1 and F2

Early Years are always having fun with their learning. They have been constructing toys and junk modelling! They have also been looking at our PETERS value of Effort, which has been our value this half term.



Key Stage One

Key Stage One have been having a wonderful time in their maths lessons, and here's a quick snippet of their learning all about shape! They have also been developing their ICT skills – a key skill in our modern world!



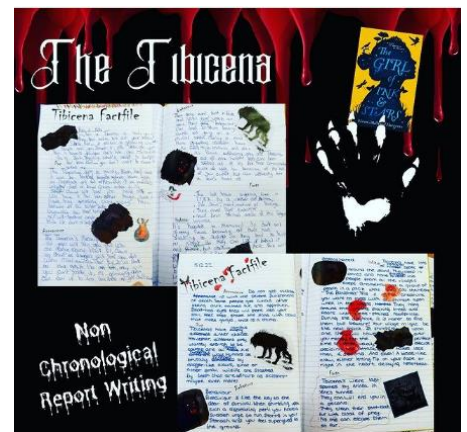
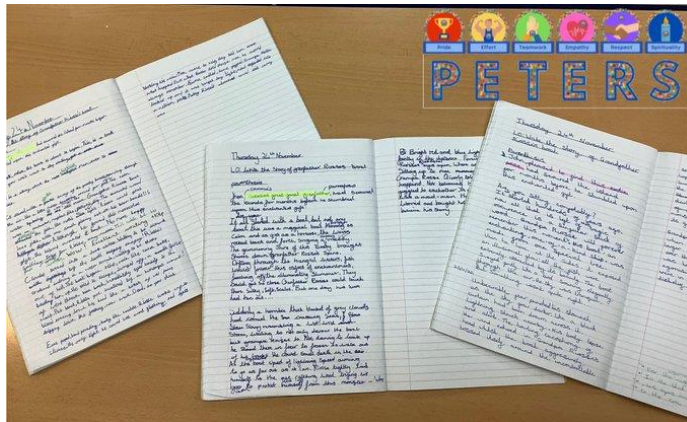
Year 3/4

Year 3/4 really enjoyed their trip to Weaver Hall. They learned all about stone age tools and had the opportunity to really develop their historical enquiry skills! In Science, Y3/4 have been investigating shadows and developing their skills as scientists!



Year 5/6

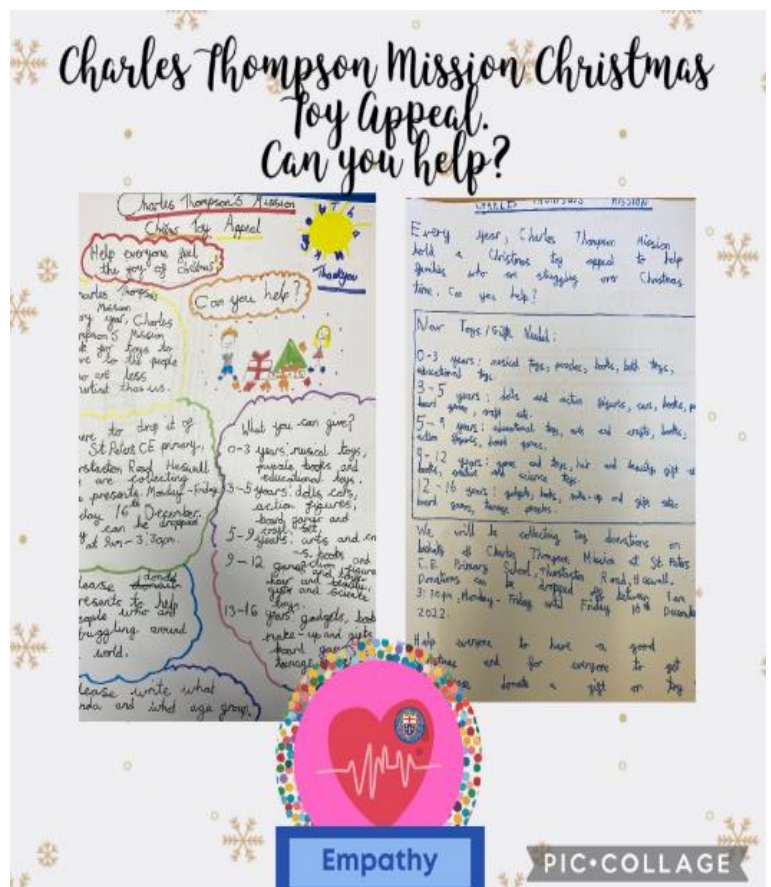
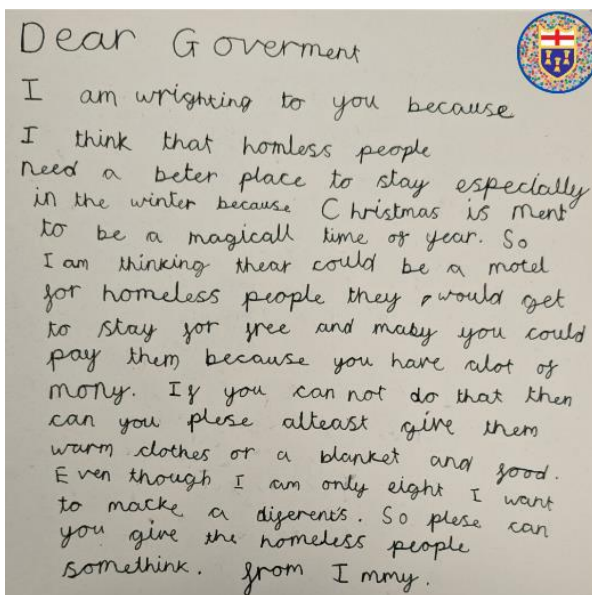
Year 5/6 have really been working hard on their writing, linked to their text *The Girl of Ink and Stars*. Y5/6 have had opportunity to write in a range of styles, genres and purposes, culminating in some absolutely fantastic written work!



Courageous Advocacy

This year we have been focussing on developing the children's understanding of Courageous Advocacy. Courageous Advocacy is being proactive in a cause we care about, and we began the launch of our initiative with our Ethos Team hosting a collective worship for the school and parents. (Well done, Ethos Team, you were amazing!)

Since the launch, we have had some wonderful examples of children being proactive in helping causes they care about and it has been truly wonderful to see this develop. We have had Immy in Y3/4 write a letter to the government asking for help and raising awareness of homelessness, and we have had our Y5/6 children waiting to local businesses to ask for support in the Charles Thompson Mission's cause. We are so proud of our children's empathy and care, and we are looking forward to supporting our children in more valued causes across the rest of the year!

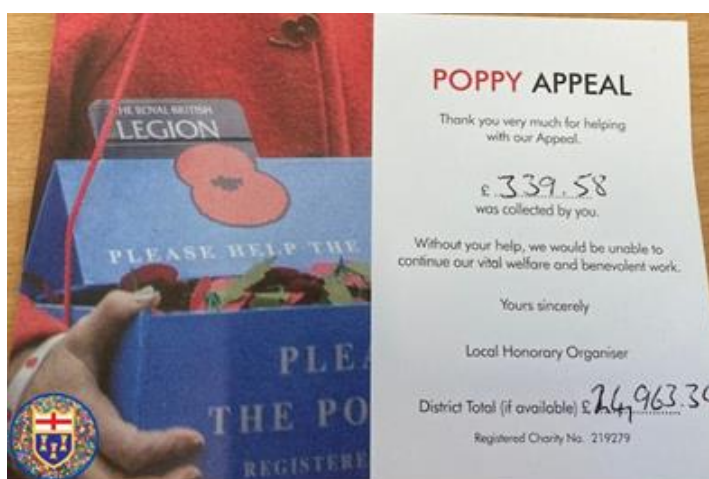


Fundraising and community events

Thank you to Mrs Muspratt for organising anti-bullying week, which focussed on celebrating our differences and the importance of kindness and respect for all. Our week culminated in an Odd Sock Day photo competition, which was won by our wonderful F1 class. Well done everybody!



This term we also had huge success with our Poppy Appeal in the first weeks of November. Thank you to all the children (and parents who funded the children!) in supporting the Poppy Appeal. We are really pleased to share that we managed to raise over £300 for this wonderful, meaningful and fantastic cause. Well done everyone!



We would also like to say thank you to our wonderful Heswall Parish church and community for hosting our Christmas carol service. We had a wonderful evening singing a variety of Christmas Carols and modern classics, as well as sharing the story of Jesus' birth. We would also like to share the Christmas services that will be taking place during the holidays.

Parish of Heswall
We offer a warm welcome to our Christmas services celebrating Jesus' birth.

Heswall Hall
Thursday 15th December
7.00pm Carol Service

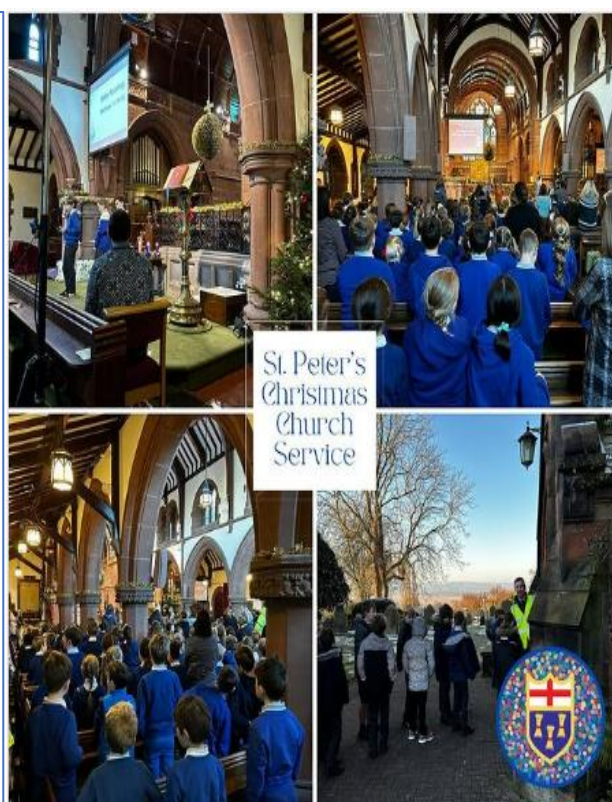
St. Peter's Church
Sunday, 18th December
10.45am Nativity Service
(young children are invited to come in nativity costume)
6.30pm Carols by Candlelight Service
(traditional carols and readings)

Wednesday, 21st December
10.30am Christmas Communion
(BCP service with carols; easier access in St. Peter's Centre)

Christmas Eve
3.00pm & 5.00pm Family Carol Service
(for children and the whole family)
11.00pm Christmas Night Communion

Christmas Day
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am All Age Communion Service

Sunday, 1st January 2023
8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00am All Age New Year Service



Keeping Safe

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

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

- Avoiding parking in the school car park except by prior arrangement
- Using the pedestrian crossing point at the top of the school car park and avoid crossing directly through the car park
- Leaving the school grounds promptly at the end of the day
- Avoid parking on the zig-zag lines outside the main school entrance

Hopefully, following these simple steps will help avoid any unnecessary accidents to children and adults.

Reminder – Parking Around School

I would once again like to take this opportunity to remind parents of the importance of parking safely and with care. Please avoid parking on zig-zag lines, the single and double yellow lines and on kerbs. Also, when parking around school at the beginning and the end of the day, can we please be mindful of our neighbours. Our careful parking will help to keep all of our children and families safe.

Online Safety

I would like to draw to your attention the internet safety information on the school's website. This can be found under the 'Remote Learning – Online Safety' tab and contains guidance that is designed to help parents and carers keep their children as safe as possible when online. Our best piece of advice is to be curious about what your children are doing when online, take an interest in their activities and regularly check what they are doing.

Pupil Attendance

As we are at the end of the first term, we are able to analyse our attendance rates more clearly. As a school, we set a target for our children to have an attendance rate of at least 97%. Good attendance is a vital element in helping children to achieve their educational outcomes. Therefore, we politely ask families to plan their holidays around school breaks and avoid asking permission to take their children out of school during term time. Also, if possible, we ask that medical appointments for children are made after school hours or late in the day.

INSET Days

Please see below the three remaining INSET Days that have been allocated for this academic school year

- Wednesday 4th January 2023
- Thursday 20th July 2023

Just to remind parents that school will reopen to children on **Thursday 5th January 2023**.

Finally, on behalf of all the staff at St Peter's, I would like to wish all of our families a happy, healthy and restful holiday. We hope you have chance to spend that quality time with your loved ones, enjoy one-another's company and celebrate the birth of the baby Jesus amongst your nearest and dearest.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Parry

Deputy Headteacher

And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God.
"And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus.

"He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His father David,
"and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

Luke 1:46-47 (NKJV)



Love Came

Love came, held safely within a gentle womb
All the truth, majesty, and creativity of a living God
Poured into a tiny heart
Making a quiet entrance in a dark and uninviting shack
Just one star shone anew as a handful of people were brought
Led by angelic voices, and open hearts
A young mother
A faith-filled father
Men of wisdom who searched for truth
And a group of humble herdsmen
They came to bow before a new life
And acknowledge that the rescuer had arrived
That the Word of God had come alive
And that the extraordinary transformation of heaven and earth
Had begun
— Julie Palmer