



St. Peter & St. Paul Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Tracey Peters

Friday 6th December 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have come to end of our first week of Advent if you can believe it. The weeks are flying by. It has been incredibly busy with many exciting trips and Nativity Season in full flow. Have a read about what we have been up to in this week's newsletter.

Prayer Life of the School

In Wednesday's assembly, Miss Peters and Elma from Year 1 lit the first candle on our school advent wreath: The Prophecy Candle -signifying hope. The circular shape of the Advent wreath symbolizes God's infinite love for us – it is never-ending, just like the true Light of the World, Jesus.

Dear God,

Thank you that Christmas is a time of hope. Thank you that you sent Jesus at Christmas to give us the hope that the world can be a better place. Please help us to play our part in bringing hope and peace to the world,
Amen

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Fr. Ivano Fr. Chris and Fr. Bill visited the school on Friday to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. All the children enjoyed their time with our priests and had a beautiful reflective time preparing them for the coming of Jesus.

Reception Nativity

Reception have been working so hard on their big voices and performed magnificently on Thursday. Thank you to parents who provided beautiful angel costumes. Well done to Aran and Phoebe for standing in for Asapha and Anastazja: Joseph and Balthazar and all the children for singing the songs so well. They looked extremely lovely I think you will agree.



Trip to the Postal Museum

Pearl, our two-year old nursery class, had a wonderful time at the Postal Museum on Friday



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Trip to Paddington Experience

Amethyst, our three-year-old nursery class, had a super time at the Paddington Experience on Wednesday. It was a magical, immersive day that got them feeling very Christmassy- a trip they will certainly remember. The adults enjoyed it too!



Trip to Camley Nature Park

This week, Year 5 visited Camley Street Nature Park to support their learning in Science. In the park they hunted for mini beasts, did pond dipping and classified different animals using a classification key. They really enjoyed themselves!



STEAM Workshop in Year 5

Year 5 had their final STEAM session today, focussing on Mathematics. They discussed how important maths is in our daily lives and they learnt about the role of a building engineer.



Trip to Little Angel Theatre

Reception were treated to a magical Christmassy theatre experience on Friday when they watched Rosie Robin and the Christmas Post at Little Angel Theatre.



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Year 3 Trip to the IMAX

Year Three had a very exciting trip to the IMAX. The documentary film was about Antarctica: the most extreme continent on our planet. The children are learning about climate and animals. They saw thousands of purple starfish scuttling to escape being trapped by growing ice and elaborate jellyfish dancing a deadly dance. They also saw the vast penguin colonies that live in the South Pole. All-in all they had a fantastic trip and learnt a lot!



Christmas Toy Appeal Reminder



Thank you to those who have already contributed toys. You can still help us spread the joy of Christmas at St Peter and St Paul to families whose children would otherwise not receive a gift. Please take a tag to indicate who the toy is for. The tags can be found on our beautiful tree in the foyer.

Many thanks for your continuing generosity in supporting all our school appeals.

Family Christmas Wreath Making

Saturday 14th December 2:30-4:30 Vibast Community Centre, 167 Old Street.

Book your place now! Text Juliet 07816 116 639 your name and number of people who will attend or visit adultlearning.islington.gov.uk to enrol.



School Council and New School Councillor

Joaquin was appointed as a new school councillor this week for Year 4. He is sure to do a brilliant job. The school councillors are collecting fundraising ideas, new curriculum

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improvements and ways to improve attendance from children in the school. They have a weekly meeting with Miss Manzone.



Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 10th December - Years 2/3 Christmas Play 9.30am

Wednesday 11th December – Nursery and 2-year-olds Nativity assembly 9.30am

Wednesday 11th December Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch



Thursday 12th December - Year 1 Class assembly 9:30am

Friday 13th December – Christmas Fair 3pm-5pm

Tuesday 17th December - KS2 Carol Service 2pm (Years 4,5 and 6) St. Peter's Italian Catholic Church in Clerkenwell (whole school will be going)

Wednesday 18th December Class Christmas Parties. Own Clothes.

Friday 20th December- last day of term. Half day. Please collect your child/ren at 1:15pm

Class Christmas Parties



At St. Peter and St. Paul, we love our class Christmas parties. In order to make them go off with a bang, we ask for a small contribution of food/drink or cups/napkins/Christmas table coverings from each child. A list will be sent out nearer the time with the contribution you can make to your child's class Christmas party- please watch out for this. Your child/ren may come in mufti/party attire on that day.

Christmas Fair Reminder



Urgent appeal for volunteers. Unfortunately, due to the low number of parents who have volunteered to run the stalls and help with setting up, our Christmas fair is in danger of being cancelled this year. Please see the school office if you are able to help and avoid this catastrophe!

Hot Chocolate

Miss Peters will resume hot chocolate in the new year as the next few weeks are very busy.

Head Teacher Awards

This week's awards for effort in their studies go to:

Pearl Class Arthur and Mary

Amethyst – Teddy and Alexandra

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Coral – Aron and Lyla
Diamond – Natan and Courtney
Emerald – Samara and Frankie
Jet – Craig and Rafael
Moonstone – Oliver and Sarah
Ruby – Sienna and Andria
Sapphire – Conor and Leah

Excellent job all of these children! Keep up the good work.

Attendance and Punctuality

The whole school achieved 91% attendance this week.

Unfortunately, we are still some way off the national target of **96%**. This week Ruby achieved 95%. The winners this week, for the second week in a row, were Diamond Class with a **fantastic 97%**. Well done **Diamond class!**

Sapphire Class (Y6) won the **punctuality cup** with 3 lates before the register closed! It may be Christmas to blame, but punctuality significantly dipped this week with some classes getting over 20 lates. Please try to get your children here between 8:30-9am. It can disrupt their learning when they arrive late.

If in any doubt as to whether you need to keep your child off school see the NHS guidance in the poster below which also has a QR code to scan for further information. These flyers are available in the foyer.

The poster is from the UK Health Security Agency and NHS. It features a young girl in a green dress jumping joyfully. The title is 'Should I keep my child off school?'. It is divided into 'Yes' and 'No' sections. The 'Yes' section lists conditions like Chickenpox, Diarrhoea and Vomiting, etc., with their respective return-to-school criteria. The 'No' section lists conditions like Hand, foot and mouth, Head lice, etc., with a note to let the school know. A QR code and a 'SCAN ME' button are also present.

Condition	Until...
Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

Condition	but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...
Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek

As explained in September regarding new attendance guidelines from the DFE - Please be reminded of our new attendance policy (on the website) for any term time holidays. To improve our attendance, we are following Islington's guidelines and any request for holidays will be unauthorised. Families will be referred to Islington's Access and Engagement officer who will pursue the fines.

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The Wednesday Word

In this Sunday's Gospel we hear about John the Baptist calling people to prepare for Christ's arrival. John reminded people to change some of their ways. This is an important message that highlights the need to prepare ourselves as Christmas approaches. We must look into our hearts and repent.

A word from Pope Francis:

"In this second week of Advent we ask for the grace to prepare ourselves with faith to celebrate Christmas."

Dear God,

As we wait for your plan to unfold, give us the patience we need. Remind us of the peace we can access when we take time to still ourselves before you and remember that you are God.

Amen

Have a good weekend

Kind regards,

Miss T Peters and Miss J Manzone

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