



St. Peter's  
Catholic  
Primary School

# Newsletter 15

20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

[www.stpeterdoncaster.co.uk](http://www.stpeterdoncaster.co.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,

The final week before Christmas is always a busy one, but filled with so much joy.

On Tuesday, we enjoyed our Christmas dinner day. This is always a fabulous day at St. Peter's, with everyone looking festive in their Christmas jumper and creative party hats. Many thanks to Mrs Urazmetova and the kitchen staff who worked so hard to create a memorable day for our children. In the afternoon, our children enjoyed a Christmas movie in class – and a surprise visit from Santa!

On Wednesday afternoon, we enjoyed another fantastic concert from our Rocksteady bands. This has become a bit of an end of term treat for us all here at St. Peter's. Once again, it was an absolute joy to see the fantastic progress that our young musicians have made over the term, supported with such kindness by our bandleader, Alex. Well done everybody – and thank you for the Christmas treat!

On Thursday morning we gathered as a school for our final celebration assembly of the year. This was an opportunity to recognise those children who have stood out for their teacher in some special way over the year. We also acknowledged those children who have had 100% attendance this term – not easy at this time of year, so well done to you all. On Thursday afternoon, the children enjoyed a small party in class. Thanks to the staff for organising this and to you parents for your food donations.

Finally, this morning, we gathered as a school for our Advent Liturgy. This was a lovely way to mark the end of term, and remind ourselves of the true meaning of Christmas, as we begin the Christmas holiday.

Despite all the Christmas preparations, I have seen some amazing learning taking place across school this week. It is always a privilege to go into classes and see the rich learning experiences that our children are provided with.

School re-opens to pupils on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 8.45am

## **SITE SUPERVISOR**

Today we say goodbye to Mr Bell-Weaver, who is leaving his post here at St. Peter's in order to pursue new opportunities. We thank him for his service over the last few months and wish him well for the future.

We are therefore currently advertising for a site supervisor role. Full details can be found in the vacancies section on the school website, but please come and enquire at the school office if you are interested in discussing this further. The closing date is Friday 3rd January 2025.

## **RECEPTION CLASS APPLICATIONS 2024**

Applications are also open for any parents with children who will be eligible to start the new Reception class in September 2025. The closing date for this is 15th January 2025.

<https://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/schools/primary-admissions>

## UNIFORM

We have seen some uniform variances creeping in over the last couple of weeks. Please ensure your child has all the correct uniform requirements before returning in January. Trainers are not permitted with school uniform and PE kits should be plain navy with a white t-shirt. Thank you for your support with this.

## ARBOR

**REPORTING ABSENCES:** From January 2025 all pupil absence must be reported through the Arbor app.

[Parent Guide - Reporting Absence on Arbor](#)

**IN-APP MESSAGES:** In App notifications are now the first line of communication from school to home. Please note if you have not logged in to your child's Arbor account you will not receive the in-app messages, the communication will default to email.

**You will need to *enable push notifications on your device to receive timely alerts about important school announcements***

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance over the past few weeks has been impacted by all the coughs, colds and bugs doing the rounds. As ever, please adhere to the NHS guidance 'Is my child too ill for school' <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/> for advice. We have been in the top 10% of school nationally for our fantastic attendance recently so it is important we avoid any unnecessary absences.

★ Well done to Y6 winners of this term's attendance award with 97.77% ★

★ Well done Rocco and Lilly-Mae recipients of the attendance gold badge award ★

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

The KS2 badminton and boxercise club begins on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January. You will have received an email if your child has been allocated a place. Details of further clubs running in the Spring term will be advertised after the Christmas break.

## PHONICS COURSE

Book now for the phonics course for parents of Rec and Year 1 pupils which is running in January. The course will introduce what phonics is, how to say the letters of the alphabet correctly, blending and segmenting - all in a fun and interactive way. The course will link with the phonics scheme used in school and will help parents to support their children continue their progress at home. The course runs for 6 weeks - 1 week for an introduction session (Fri 10.01) and then 5 subsequent weeks for the course 9 – 11am. Children are invited to the end of each session to join their parents in a craft activity. To register your interest please contact the school office on [admin3@stpeter.doncaster.sch.uk](mailto:admin3@stpeter.doncaster.sch.uk)

## SEND COFFEE MORNING

Mrs Fitzsimons has organised a coffee morning in school on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January at 8.45am for families of pupils who access SEND support. In attendance will be some professionals from the Local Authority and 'With me in Mind', who will help to provide additional information and answer any questions you may have about the support available. All families welcome.

## DATES FOR THE DIARY:

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024: School re-opens 8.45am

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January: Swimming starts for Y5

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January 1pm School Nurse Y3 Sleep and Y5 Recognising Emotions sessions

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February: Young Voices Concert, Sheffield

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February: School closes for half term

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February: School re-opens at 8.45am

## BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday this week to Mia, Lucy, Rose, Elijah, Suzy, Annabella, Evie S, Victoria, Israel, Royem, Mrs Peters and Mrs Sunderland. We hope you have a lovely time with your friends and families.

## HEADTEACHER AWARDS

The Head teacher's award this week is for children who have had an amazing term, and have stood out in some way for their teachers.

- ★ Nicholas & Lily
- ★ Ilinca & Ali
- ★ Patrick & Omar
- ★ Phoebe & Reuben

- ★ Jakub & Alex
- ★ Shay & Annabella
- ★ Logan & Johan

## HOUSE POINTS

979 points have been issued this term. Well done to **Red House - Whitby**

BLUE - Fountains	245	RED - Whitby	281
GREEN - Roche	204	YELLOW - Kirkstall	249

## SAFEGUARDING

The designated safeguarding leads at St. Peter's are myself and Mrs Fitzsimons. Please speak to one of us in confidence if you have any concerns. A confidential e-mail can be sent at any time to [safeguarding@stpeter.doncaster.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stpeter.doncaster.sch.uk)

If you have any urgent safeguarding concerns over the Christmas holidays, these should be directed to the safeguarding team at Doncaster Council, on 01302 737777 or 01302 796000 (evenings and weekends) or online via the following link:

<https://www.doncaster.gov.uk/doitonline/safeguarding-concern-child-at-risk-report-form>

This time of year is always so special. Despite the gloomy weather and dark nights there is so much joy and light to be found, which fills us with hope and joy. It also provides an opportunity for us to reflect and look forward. I continue to feel a deep sense of gratitude to be serving the school as Head teacher, and I want to thank you all for your prayers, good wishes and ongoing support. My thanks go to our wonderful staff team, who constantly go above and beyond, working tirelessly to meet the needs of all our children.

We would like to thank you for all your Christmas cards, gifts and good wishes. Your generosity and kindness is always greatly appreciated. We hope your homes are filled with peace and happiness this Christmas, and we look forward to seeing all our families in 2025.

God Bless,  
Mrs Young

