



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of Michaelmas term. I hope you all had a great break with family and loved ones. It's already been a busy week and the start of several more to come. This is also a special week for those celebrating the Festival of Light. Wishing you a Diwali that brings happiness, prosperity and joy to you and all your family. I hope this update gives you an insight into our busy, but wonderful school. We have sent lots of ParentMail forms this week, please check ParentMail regularly and enable notifications so you don't miss out. Only 70% of parents have downloaded the App; the App makes it much easier to communicate with us.

Nursery News

It's been wonderful to welcome all the children back into Nursery this week and so wonderful that they've been sharing things from home in their treasure boxes. It was amazing to see the variety of objects brought in and the children shared their items to the rest of the class! We have also enjoyed exploring colour and light through various firework and Diwali related activities. We decorated hands and feet with jewels; creating Mehndi patterns, looked at the story of Rama and Sita and decorated firework rockets and Diya lamps. We moved our bodies like fireworks as well as danced to traditional Hindu music.

Poppy Appeal

Our Year 6s have been manning the Poppy Appeal stall every morning this week and they'll continue to do this until Thursday. Can I remind everyone that the merchandise should be taken home and the poppies should only be worn during November. Thank you.

R-Y6 Parent Teacher Consultations

Reception to Year 6 Parent Teacher Consultations are on the 15th and 16th November. Hockey, Orchestra, Dance, Drawing and Lower School Multi Sports will continue on those evenings as normal. Unfortunately, Nature & Wildlife Club and Netball Club won't be able to happen on the to allow the teachers to meet with parents.

The School Office will email out your confirmed slots on Monday and class teachers will be sending you the link to your consultation via your child's Google account if you requested an online meeting. You'll be able to access the consultations via your child's Google Calendar, the link sent to their Gmail account or via Google Meet. If you have any questions or concerns, please get in touch next week. If you requested a phone call instead you won't need the meeting



link and for those joining us in the real world, please be patient and observe social-distancing, especially whilst waiting outside rooms.

Photo Links

They say a photo says a thousand words. We certainly had a lot to say last term. Here is a link to the photos from Michaelmas 1:

<https://www.st-peters.org.uk/gallery/?pid=3&gcatid=1&albumid=24>

Here is a link of the PTA Halloween Disco photos:

<https://www.st-peters.org.uk/gallery/?pid=3&gcatid=1&albumid=23>

ISA Swimming

An elite squad of Upper School swimmers got to experience the buzz of an Olympic diving pool as they competed in the Midlands regional swimming gala. The children were brilliant and all had a great time at a tough competition.

Thinktank Trip

Unfortunately, reduced numbers at the pool this year meant we couldn't take everyone to the swimming so instead we organised a trip to Birmingham's Science Museum to make the most of our coach to the Midlands. The children got to explore the Science Garden, learn about robots and even got to sit back and star gaze in their Planetarium. It was a brilliant day out and a fantastic facility in Birmingham for young scientists to explore!

KSSP Cross Country

It was a cold and blustery afternoon at the regional cross country qualifier at Desborough Park Run. Our hardy runners were super and all 'enjoyed' the run. We're very proud of them all.

Parent Maths Session

Thank you to all of the parents who came along to my maths sessions in the Cedar Hub this week. I hope they were useful. I've uploaded information to Google Classroom including a video link but here are my Top 5 Tips:



1. Don't panic! It's not your homework. Use the 'Maths Guide for Parents' and talk to the class teacher. Homework is not worth falling out over! Remember to look at what level of maths your child should be able to do.
2. Practise timetables every day. Try different ways: Supermovers, Hit the Button, Post-it notes.
3. Never say: "Just add a zero.", "Borrow it from next door.", "I wasn't any good at maths either!"
4. Play Games - Monopoly, Battleships, Cards, Dominoes, Snakes and Ladders, Trainline etc.
5. Make Maths Real - Bake, Geo-cache, measure things, count things. Have squared paper in the house, get some 10-sided dice, use Pinterest to make things e.g. times tables grids. Finally, buy an analogue watch/clock and never tell your child the time again.

Staff Spotlight

In the spotlight this week is one of our amazing Reception Teachers, Mrs Morris.

I qualified as a Primary School teacher in 2001 from Wolverhampton University and I began my career at Thrapston Primary School. I taught there for 11 years before I moved on to teach at Deanshanger Primary in 2012 as Key Stage 1 Leader. I taught there for 5 ½ years until I left to start my family. I have two energetic and wonderful little boys that certainly keep me on my toes! I began working at St P's two years ago on maternity cover and I knew from my first day that I didn't want to leave such a lovely and welcoming school. Fortunately, a permanent position became available and I was delighted to be able to stay and I have thoroughly enjoyed it ever since. Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my family, going to shows and concerts and sharing my love of nature and animals with my children. I love travelling and seeing the world and have been very lucky to visit many fascinating countries and do amazing things such as; walking the Great Wall of China, snorkelling in the Great Barrier Reef and having lunch in the Grand Canyon. I really enjoy doing sports from skiing to swimming. When I was younger, I competed in trampolining competitions and I was very excited to win a place on one of Bobby Charlton's Sports events.

Have a great weekend everyone. Don't forget to sign up for the PTA Quiz in two weeks time!
Have a safe Bonfire Night.

Regards,

Mr Thomas

Headteacher