



## St Peter's Church of England (VC) Primary School

Mount Pleasant, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7BE

### Newsletter

13th November 2017

#### Citizens of the Week!

Congratulations to Harrison, Willow, Scarlett, Riley-Jane, Serah, Aiesha and Amelia who were Citizens of the week last week. I was out of school the Friday they were due their party and hence we had one last Monday afternoon. As you can see from the photograph, a good time was had by all. They assure me that they have all been so good that Father Christmas will be visiting them on December 25th. Well done to all of them for being chosen as Citizens!



#### School News

##### Class Names

I really want to thank the children who submitted suggestions for class names. We had some very good suggestions from those of you who did participate. However, it was a little disappointing that we only had twelve families take part. We not only want to think of good names for our classes, we also want to enthuse our community to take part in school life and we had hoped that more families might participate in this.

Consequently we are also going to ask the church parishioners, and through them our community groups, whether they would like to suggest a theme for the class names. It would be nice to have a greater response to review and select from. Once we have a wider choice of possibilities, we will let you know what names have been selected.

##### Our Christian Values and Vision

In the last newsletter I mentioned that the Church of England's new Vision for Education includes four strands which we should include in our teaching and school life — Community, Dignity, Hope and Wisdom. As I said in the newsletter, we are focussing on Community this year because this is an area of development which is most apt for our school at this time.

We also have six values which we will focus on during the school year. These are Hope, Respect, Faith, Love, Forgiveness and Perseverance. We will take a different value each term and some of our teaching will relate to it and it will also be a basis for some of our daily acts of worship. This term, we are focusing on Respect. So, in the coming weeks,

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Please ask your children about Respect and what we are doing at school to emphasise its importance in our lives. Hopefully you will find that we are able to make the children think about the value of Respect and how it can be included in our day to day interactions with others.

### Parents' Evenings

We are holding two Parents' Evenings later this month. These are on Wednesday 29th November, from 3.15—6.30pm and Thursday 30th November, from 3.15—7.30pm. These meetings will provide you and your child's teacher with the opportunity to discuss your child's progress and what areas they need to focus on in order to improve further. You can sign up for a 10minute appointment at the school office. However, if you aren't concerned by any aspect of your child's progress and don't feel that you need to meet your child's teacher, please do not feel obliged to sign up for an appointment.

In the week prior to the meetings we will also hold a book viewing. On Wednesday 22nd November, you will be able to come into the classrooms, between 3.15—6.30 , to look at your child's work. You are very welcome to do this with your child if you so wish. The teachers will not be available for any consultation during this period. This is merely to provide you with an opportunity to see what work your child has been completing and the standard they are achieving. There is no need to book onto the book viewing but we would ask anyone attending to go into the hall in the first instance, to sign an attendance register for fire safety, and obviously to sign out again when you leave.

### French Club

Le Club Francais commence! Madame Maurez began her lunch time French club last week, with some very eager pupils. I was greeted with an enthusiastic bonjour when I went to see how they had done. The sessions are open to pupils in Years R-3 and use singing and games to develop the children's knowledge of the language. If you wish your child to take part in the sessions, which are held every Monday at 12pm and cost £3, then please contact the school office.

### School Dinners

Fifteen parents from Year R joined their children for lunch last Thursday. It was a pleasure to have them in the hall with us all and it really made for an enjoyable lunchtime. Things do get a little crowded in the hall, but having the parents with us was very exciting for the children involved and I think the parents really enjoyed the session. They all ate their dinners up anyway, and all received a sticker for doing so!

This week, it is the turn of Year 1 parents. If you would like to come to the school gate just before 12 and we will then have you wait right outside the hall, so that you can meet your child and go into lunch with them. I am sure you will enjoy just as much as the Year R parents did. Those parents in Year 2 who wish to come in for their session, should be making contact with the school office to reserve a place. The cost is £2.64 per adult.

A parent asked whether we could change the day from a Thursday. Once we have run through for every year group, we will do so. As our meals are cooked at Ditton Primary, we just have to liaise with the cook there and agree on a day which isn't too busy for her.

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## Information Evenings

You may remember that we offered to run a couple of information evenings for parents, to explain how we teach both mathematics and phonics. Mr Eastwood is going to kick this off and he will deliver an information session on how we teach mastery in mathematics. This will be on Monday 11th December at 6.30pm and he expects it to last for 45 minutes or so.

I would advise you to come along if you can. You will be quite surprised to see just how much mathematics teaching has changed since you were at school. Learning about how the subject is taught nowadays will obviously allow you to support your child far more effectively at home.

## Children in Need Day

Just a reminder that Friday is Children in Need day. Come in your own clothes or dress up according to whatever takes your fancy and donate £1 to a very worthy cause!

## Newsletter / Updates

We will be changing the way we keep parents updated. From next week the office will send out a weekly update to keep you informed of dates and deadlines, I will then send out the newsletter monthly giving detailed information.

## Parish News

There are two events coming up at our church of which you should be aware. On Sunday 19th November at 3pm, there is an organ recital by David Flood, who is organist at Canterbury Cathedral and on Saturday 25th November at 7.30pm, there is a Quiz Night in the Brassey Centre. Details on these events can be obtained from the Parish Office (01622) 719366.

## Thought for the week

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves. Philippians 2:3.