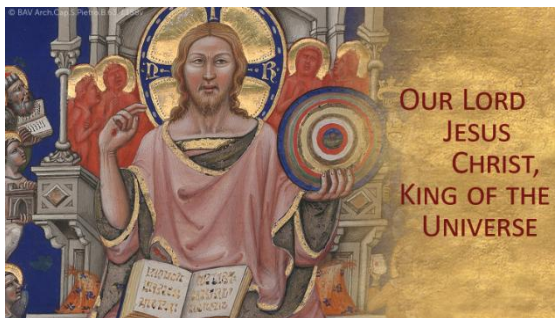




St. Peter's Catholic Primary School

21st November 2025



This Sunday is the wonderful feast of Christ the King
"This is our God; the servant king."

Dear Parents and Carers,

Jubilee Pledge - In this Year of the Jubilee, we have made a pledge as a school. We are going to support Bishop Mark's charity CARITAS; a Catholic charity which helps people locally and internationally. We watched a short video about the work of CARITAS as a whole school on Monday.

Our pledge has a very 'Christmassy' theme!

Each class is going to bake some Christmas biscuits. Our worship leaders (if they are free) are going to sell these straight after school on Friday, 28 November. The biscuits will be on sale in the outdoor haven that day. If the weather is bad, they will be on sale in our Year 6 classroom.



We are also inviting everyone to wear a Christmas jumper to school on the last day of Friday, 19 December, for a kind donation of 50p.

We say a very big thank you to Year 3 today for leading us in a lovely assembly on this day of celebrating our Jubilee pledge.

Attendance: First week of Autumn Term 2 Week beginning 3 November, 2025			Number of Late Marks
1 st place	Nursery	99.4%	0
2 nd place	Year 6	98.6%	4
3 rd place	Year 1	97.3%	2
4 th place	Year 2	96%	0
5 th place	Reception	93.3%	1
6 th place	Year 4	93.2%	3
7 th place	Year 3	93%	9
8 th place	Year 5	90.6%	2
School Target: 98%			Overall School Attendance to Date: 95.6%



Fantastic attendance in Nursery, Year 1 and Year 6 last week!



RE Newsletter Please click the link to our website to view what has been taking place in your child's class in RE last half term. You can also read updates on our Catholic Life and Mission, and on Prayer and Liturgy at St. Peter's: [Religious Education – St Peter's Stalybridge](#)

Wednesday Word - [This week's Wednesday Word](#) The Wednesday Word is an excellent resource that can be used in the class and at home to reflect on the issues and messages present in the liturgies. Wednesday Word is an outreach which shares Sunday's Gospel with **families**, in a unique way. Please visit the [Wednesday Word Website](#)



In the love of God and neighbour

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Maths at St. Peter's

We wanted to take the opportunity to let our families know a little more about the scheme called *Power Maths* which we use to support our teaching of maths at St. Peter's. We very much empathise with the ethos of Power Maths, as it is built on the belief that everyone can learn maths successfully.

The philosophy behind *Power Maths* is that being successful in maths is not just about rote-learning procedures and methods, but is also about problem solving, thinking and discussing. Many people (perhaps those of us who are of a certain age)! feel they were taught maths in a way that was about memorising formulas and calculation methods, then having to apply them without any real understanding of what or how these methods actually work.

Power Maths includes practice questions to help children develop fluent recall and develop their conceptual understanding.

Power Maths uses growth mindset characters to prompt, encourage and question children. They spark curiosity, engage reasoning, secure understanding and deepen learning for all.

Each lesson has a progression, with a central flow that draws the main learning into focus. There are different elements, informed by research into best practice in maths teaching, that bring the lessons to life:

- **Discover** – each lesson begins with a problem to solve, often a real-life example, sometimes a puzzle or a game. These are engaging and fun, and designed to get all children thinking.
- **Share** – the class share their ideas and compare different ways to solve the problem, explaining their reasoning with hands-on resources and drawings to make their ideas clear. Children are able to develop their understanding of the concept with input from the teacher.
- **Think together** – the next part of the lesson is a journey through the concept, digging deeper and deeper so that each child builds on secure foundations while being challenged to apply their understanding in different ways and with increasing independence.
- **Practice** – children then work individually or in small groups, rehearsing and developing their skills to build fluency, understanding of the concept and confidence.
- **Reflect** – finally, children are prompted to reflect on and record their learning from each session and show how they have grasped the concept explored in the lesson.

Power Maths is based on a 'small-steps' approach, sometimes called a mastery approach. This means that the concepts are broken down so that children can master one idea without feeling overwhelmed. There are a range of fluency, reasoning and problem solving questions in each lesson that are designed to support the different needs and confidence levels within a class, while at the same time fostering a spirit of working and learning together. Each lesson includes a challenge question for those children who are ready to delve deeper into a concept.

There is a bright, colourful and informative Powerpoint file attached to this newsletter – do take a look to find out more.

Mrs Barber is our maths lead at St. Peter's, and she would always be happy to answer any queries you may have about maths.



St. Peter's Parish Christmas Fair will be held in school from 11.00am – 3.00pm on Saturday 29th November.

Next Tuesday 25th November we invite the children to come to school in their own clothes and to bring with them a contribution for the tombola at the fair. Next Tuesday will be a usual school day, so please avoid sending your child to school in clothes which are too precious! (Our EYFS children will be accessing paint, glue, sand and water, for example, as they do each day). May we also ask that you avoid sending your child to school in a football kit.

Many thanks

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Admission to School September 2026 – letters have been emailed to families regarding the admission to St Peter's. If your child is registered at our school and you have not received a copy of the application process, then contact the school office. Closing date for online applications is 15th January 2026. Please note that school requires a copy of birth and baptism certificates, along with two proofs of residency. Even if proof of residency was submitted for a Nursery application a further 2 proofs of residency is required for the 2026 admission process. More detailed information is available on the school website under the School Admissions section.

St Peter's Christmas Shows

Children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will take part in 'The Nativity.'

Children in Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 will take part in the nativity story through song, dance and gospel readings.



Mass

Each class will celebrate Mass in the chapel of St. Peter's Church as a class this academic year. Families and friends are warmly invited to these special occasions. Dates are as follows:

26 November: Year 5

14 January: Year 4

25 February: Year 3 (Mass of enrolment)

18 March: Year 2

29 April: Year 1

1 July: Reception

8 July: Nursery



Please be assured that families are welcome to attend ALL Masses – there is no need to wait until it is the turn of your child's class.

Sacramental Preparation Programme

If your child is in Year 3 or is older, and you would like your child to prepare for the sacraments of First Forgiveness and First Holy Communion, then important dates are as follows:

Monday, 9 February at 3.30pm in school – Meeting for families

Wednesday, 25 February, 9.15am in St. Peter's Church – Mass of enrolment

Tuesday, 3 March, 2.00pm in school – Prayer sponsors' party (all families welcome)

Thursday, 12 March, 6.00pm in St. Peter's Church – Sacrament of First Forgiveness

Monday, 4 May at 3.30pm in school – meeting for families

Saturday, 16 May at 10.30am in St. Peter's Church – Mass of First Holy Communion



Robinwood Residential Instalment Reminder - A letter was sent out on 11th July regarding the Robinwood Residential trip taking place on 29th April 2026. If you have opted to pay in instalments, please continue to follow the guidance outlined in the letter. The next instalment was due 10th October and should be paid via Arbor through the trips section on your child's account.

Please note that all payments must be settled in full by 27th February 2026.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us provide this exciting opportunity for our pupils.



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Nursery Snack Fund via Arbor - We'd like to let you know that the Nursery Snack Fund is now available to purchase via the School Shop on Arbor. This is a one-time payment that covers snacks and curriculum enhancements for our Nursery children. Going forward, payments will be added to Arbor **half-termly**, with the amount varying depending on the number of school days in each half term. This is a reminder to please ensure payment for **Nursery Snack – Autumn 1** is made via the **Arbor Shop**.

Please note:

- Parents will only be able to purchase **one product**, so if you have already paid, you will not be able to purchase an additional item.
- **Nursery Snack for Autumn 2** will be available to purchase from today at the same cost as last half term - £24.50!

Thank you for your continued support in helping us provide enriching experiences and healthy snacks for our Nursery children.

School Meal Payments Now on Arbor - We'd like to inform parents of pupils who pay for school meals that **all payments are now made via Arbor**. This change will help streamline the payment process and make it easier for families to manage school-related costs in one place. Please log in to your Arbor account to view and make payments for school meals. **If you have any questions or need support accessing Arbor, feel free to contact the school office.**

Christmas Lunch - the children are invited to have a Christmas Dinner on Thursday 18th December.

If your child is in Year 3 to Year 6 and normally has a packed lunch and would like to have a school dinner please email - schoolmeals@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk. All orders must be received no later than **Friday 12th December 2025**.

Children in Reception to Year 2 who normally have a packed lunch can have a Christmas Dinner and payment is not required. Can you please inform the school office if your child wishes to have a Christmas Dinner. Please note – Christmas Dinner is for children in Reception to Year 6.

If your order is placed after this date, then unfortunately, your child will not be eligible for a Christmas dinner. Please understand that our kitchen staff are only able to order the supplies for the number of meals that have been ordered by our families. Thank you

Children who normally have a school dinner will automatically be included in this special meal



School Fund – We kindly invite families to contribute to our School Fund for the 2025-2026 academic year. The suggested donation is £38.00, and payments can be made conveniently online via the School Shop on the Arbor App. As this is a voluntary contribution, we are sincerely grateful for any support you are able to provide. All funds raised go directly towards wider curriculum opportunities for the children, enriching their learning experiences beyond the classroom. Thank you for your continued support.



Diocesan Building Fund - If anyone would like to make a donation to this fund, please do so via the school shop on Arbor. Building works for voluntary aided / Catholic schools are granted 90% of the costs, therefore school has to find an additional 10% of the building cost. This fund is of great importance to our school and helps to maintain the building and major repair projects. There is a letter on our school website in which Bishop Mark gives more information. We are very grateful for any donations received.

Arbor - Please download the new free Arbor parent app onto to your smart phone where you will be kept up to date with all correspondence from school. The in-app messaging will replace the text messaging service that school used in the past. If additional parents would like their email address adding to their child's information to access Arbor, please contact the school office. We currently have 89% of parents/carers using the app and keeping up to date with information!

In the love of God and neighbour



Community Events

Tameside Music Service - we're excited to let you know about a new group lesson opportunity for young people aged 8-11 wishing to learn a string instrument (violin, viola, cello etc). Kickstarter groups are a new group lesson taking place on a weekly basis at our Birch Lane music centre in Dukinfield.

These sessions are designed for total beginners to stringed instruments and to offer those pupils a fun and accessible introduction to learning a musical instrument in a supportive group setting. If you have a young person interested in taking part please visit the following link: <https://UKTAMESIDE.speedadmin.dk/registration?signupSchoolID=1157#/Course/147/0/293>

Please contact us via email or by calling our office on 0161 342 3132 if you have any questions. Please see attached flyer for more information

Christmas Craft Market at Portland Basin - Sunday 7 December 10.30am-3.30pm Little Owl Artisan will be back at the museum with a Christmas Craft Market, perfect for buying Christmas gifts and supporting local businesses, all within the unique museum setting. St John's Band Droylsden will be playing festive brass band music 12.30pm - 2pm.

Festive brass magic is coming to Stalybridge! - Get ready to wrap yourself in the warmth of Christmas cheer because Stalybridge Old Band is bringing the ultimate festive soundtrack to town! On Saturday 6 December 2025, the historic Stalybridge Civic Hall will sparkle with the sounds of The Best of Christmas Brass. Doors open at 7pm, and the music begins at 7:30pm, so grab your friends, your family, and your Christmas spirit for an unforgettable evening.

Tameside Christmas Celebrations - Tameside community festive events held across the borough highlight local commitment, with schools and businesses coming together to bring our town centres to life with a range of festive, family-friendly activities, including markets, Christmas fairs, holiday crafts, and musical performances.

Audenshaw, Ryecroft Hall – Friday 28 November - 4pm-8pm

Droylsden, Villemomble Square - Saturday 29 November - 2pm-6pm

Hyde, Market Square - Saturday 29 November – 3pm-6pm

Hattersley Hub - Friday 5 December – 4pm-8pm

Mossley, George Lawton Hall – Friday 5 December – 4pm-7:30pm

Micklehurst, Mossley Youth Base - Saturday 6 December - 4:30pm-6:45pm

God Bless,

Mrs K Ryan
Headteacher



Dates for your diary

- 25 November: Own clothes day (in exchange for a gift for the Christmas fair tombola)!
- 28 November, 2025: Christmas biscuits on sale after school (Infant playground or Year 5/6 classroom)
- 29 November, 11.00am-3.00pm: Parish Christmas Fair in school
- 10 December, 9.30am and 1.45pm: Christmas show for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 – tickets available nearer to the time.
- 16 December, 9.30am and 2.00pm: Junior Christmas show
- 18 December: Christmas dinner and party day (children may choose to wear party clothes).
- 19 December: Christmas jumper day – 50p donation for CARITAS. School closes at 2.30pm for the Christmas holidays

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