



25th February 2016

Dear Parents, Pupils and Guest Readers

With a brief half term pause now over, we zoom on through Lent Term with end of topic assessments in sight, as well as Kettering Eisteddfod, Winter Games Afternoons and the Sports Relief Mile.

Netball Victory!



Congratulations to members of our team who visited Geddington School with Mrs Van Rensburg before half term, playing an exciting 7-side match which resulted in a fabulous score of 12-2 to St Ps. Well done to: Ruby Allan, Ashleigh Meadows, Oliver Taylor, Mary Proctor, Anaiya Paes, Tom Hargreaves and Daisy Styles. You gave your all to the match and tasted success! Thank you also to parents who drove across to Geddington to support our School.

2MW News



Pupils in Year Two have been writing and learning about Fairy Tales. This has led to much discussion about events, characters and settings. Recently as part of their Design Technology lessons, children have been designing fabric hand puppets that could be used with our Nursery children to act out their favourite fairy tales. Over the next few weeks, pupils will learn to join different fabrics together by sewing, gluing and stapling. Ideas so far have included a Beast, Cinderella, Pinocchio, a Wolf and Rumpelstiltskin.

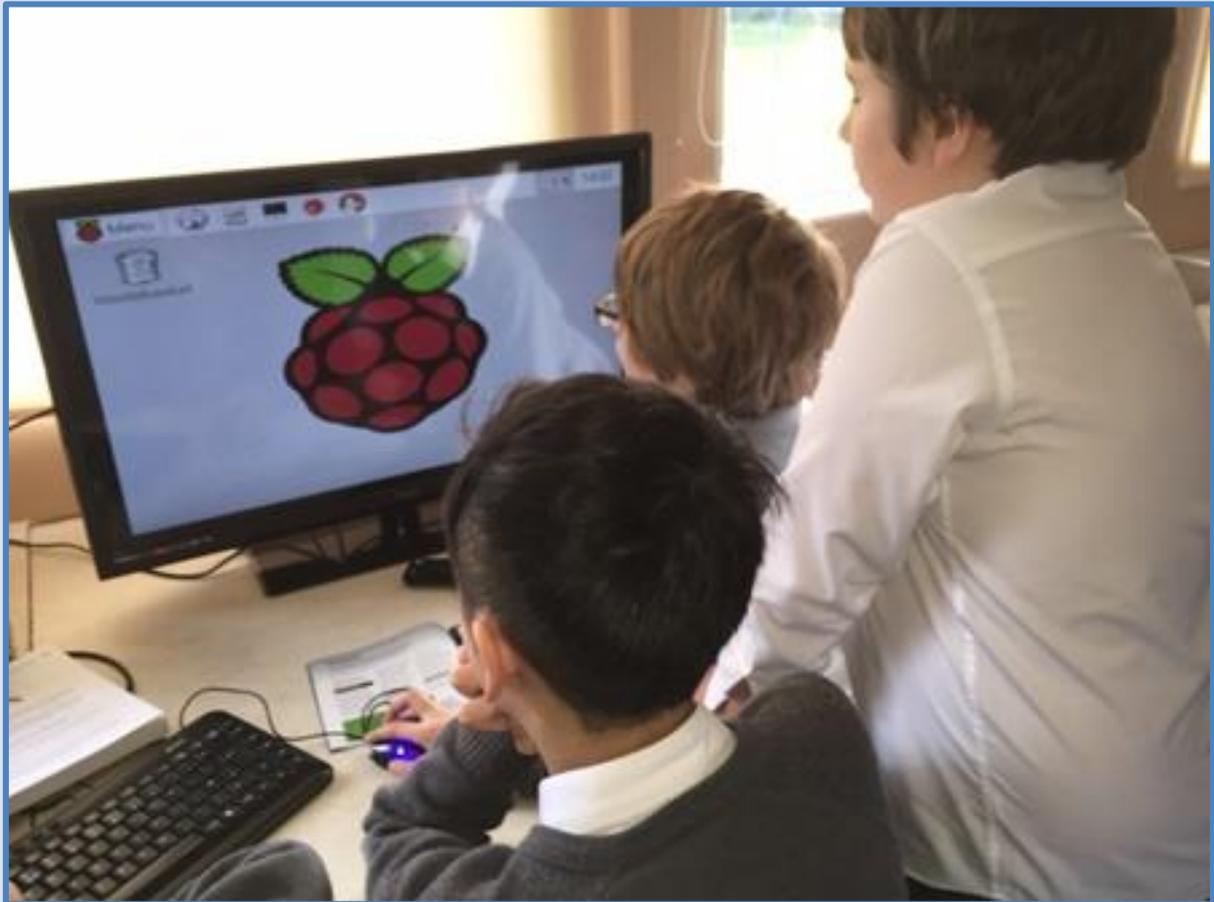


Year Two Science has been lit up by a very 'hands-on' investigation! Children worked in pairs to make simple electrical circuits and were only given two wires, a battery and a bulb, with the question: How can you make your bulb light up? The children started by experimenting with different types of connections to make a circuit, and by a process of elimination, found ways to make the bulb light up. They went on to replace the light bulb with either a buzzer or a motor or a fan. Diagrams were drawn and labelled to record their findings. Mrs Ward was very impressed by the children's enthusiasm throughout the lesson, particularly when some of 2MW's 'bright sparks' gave illuminating answers when asked what might happen if two batteries were introduced into the circuit!



Raspberry Pi system is set up!

After some head-scratching and relocating to Late Club where we were able to access a HDMI socket from the TV, there was a brief period of celebration as we watched the system load up successfully. Reeve, Teddy, Ryan and Jude then used their knowledge of scratch to write programs to control characters such as a cat, dog, fairy and monsters, making them move on-screen. The biggest learning curve so far has been to accept that in programming with Raspberry Pi we need to realise that such systems may not run as fast as those we are used to using on a day to day basis. Slow work is as valuable as fast results!



Eisteddfod Solo Singing competitors

These children have entered the solo singing classes at the Kettering and District Eisteddfod and have been rehearsing on Wednesday evenings. The older children have a tricky song to sing about a Wizard and the younger children have a song called 'The Smuggler'. Competitors have been working on their diction and voice production in their lessons with Mrs Cruickshank.



Getting Ready for the Eisteddfod Wind Instrument Competition



Pupils have been polishing up their entries for Kettering Eisteddfod Wind Instrument competitions. They chose their own pieces at the beginning of term with some challenging themselves to master quite difficult items requiring the learning of new notes and fingering. The pupils are aiming to introduce as much expression as possible into their performances, ensuring that they 'tell the story' of the music for their audience.

St Peter's School Choir

The School choir is preparing for two classes in the Kettering and District Eisteddfod. In the hymn singing competition we have been asked to perform 'When A Night Won His Spurs'. We are contrasting this traditional hymn with a gospel song 'Down By the Riverside.' Mrs Cruickshank is hoping that the Choir can perform this second song a Capella (unaccompanied) by the time of the competition. In the 'open' choice choir competition we are singing a three part arrangement of 'The Grand Old Duke of York' and contrasting this with a two part arrangement of a song called 'The Tree'. We have a bigger choir than ever now!



Gardeners' Delight



Rupert, Freddie, Tom, Teegan and Oscar have been working hard in Gardening Club with Mrs Tye to plant herbs such as chives, coriander and basil, as well as purple mustard for salads, which can be grown in pots or directly in the garden. This is another example of giving children the opportunity to also appreciate the 'slow in grow' and not just instant gratification!

Coaching from Northamptonshire County Cricket



James Mellor is a member of Northamptonshire County Cricket Development and has once again visited St Peter's School to run some coaching sessions in Kwik Cricket. He will be working with pupils in Year Five and Year Six and we look forward to see the benefits of the special training in the Summer Games Afternoons which take place in Trinity Term.

Web Advertising Design in Year Four

Year Four pupils have been working cooperatively to create a draft front web page advertising an imaginary school as part of their work in Literacy.



Key Stage One Eisteddfod Ocarinas



Daniel, Zara, Aryan, Oscar and Max have been practicing very hard in readiness for the competition. They have only been learning all about the ocarina since September!

We also wish Dalitso, Simon, Grace, Chloe, Harriet, Calypso, Naisha, Agastya and Bella the very best of luck in the KS2 ocarina solo and group competition.

KS1 Sewing Club



Children attending this club chose a rectangular piece of colourful binca, got to grips with threading a plastic needle and began sewing by decorating the edge of their binca with a simple running stitch. Great fun was had learning a 'step by step' approach to cross-stitch, although there were a few tangles along the way! We are looking forward to more fun with thread next week. ☺

KS2 Football Club

There is every chance that those pupils attending KS2 Football Club will really pile on the points for their Houses when it comes to the football played at the forthcoming Winter Games Afternoons. In this week's session there was plenty of practice in running quickly whilst keeping the ball under control, as well as shooting and defending.



Kettering & District Eisteddfod starts on Wed 9th March

Dates and times for all competitions were distributed before half term so everyone should know when, where and what time their competition is taking place. Parents, please read the information letter which was sent out together with the competition timings. Good luck to all competitors. Keep practicing to an audience and focus now on the little adjustments that need to be made to turn a good performance into an excellent one!

Sports Relief Mile on Friday 18th March

St Peter's School will be supporting the Sport Relief effort to raise an awareness of and funds for those less fortunate than ourselves. During the afternoon all pupils at the School will be able to choose how they complete their mile: hopping, three-legged, walking, dancing, backwards, or their own individual (but safe!) way of making the mile. After school there will be an opportunity for parents to take part too. We will have a separate time for a mile which is run, followed by another time for those preferring to walk it. Depending on ground conditions, it *may* be possible for parents of babies and toddlers to push prams around the circuit. We will advise closer to the date. And of course, your child will want to do the mile again with you, so it is entirely possible that many of St Ps younger pupils will be tired and ready for bed early on Friday evening after taking part in not one but *two* miles for Sports Relief. © The School Office is selling Sport Relief wrist bands costing £1 each. These can be worn on the day and are now available from the School Office. It would be fantastic if each pupil's family would act as sponsors for the mile so that all our pupils raise funds directly from their sporting efforts. Please just send Sports Relief donations to School in an envelope marked SPORTS RELIEF. **Try to send donations and/or sponsorship money in by Tuesday 22nd March so that we can complete the admin and send off the money to Sports Relief before the Easter school holiday starts.**



Don't forget World Book Day on Thursday next week

Key Stage One and Reception Class will use the 150th Anniversary of the birth of Beatrix Potter as a theme for World Book Day and teachers will read some Beatrix Potter stories to the children. We invite you to help your child to make a headdress or a mask to represent one of the many "Potter" characters, such as Peter Rabbit, Squirrel Nutkin, Jemima Puddle-Duck or Tom Kitten to name but a few. This should be brought to school for 3rd March. Our pupils in Reception, Y1 and Y2 may also like to dress up as their Beatrix Potter character- a costume can simply be appropriately coloured trousers and a top to go with their mask. In Key Stage Two, pupils will take part in a quiz challenge all about books. Pupils will also be reading and listening to stories from around the world on World Book Day. There will be a chance for KS2 pupils to dress as a character from a book –with a minimum of £1 entry fee to do this. Our 'dress up' fee for World Book Day is in support of **Book Aid International**, a fantastic charity dedicated to changing lives through books. Every year they send half a million books to community, public, school and academic libraries in 12 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, to increase access to the best quality books in some of the poorest areas of the world.



The next bulletin will be issued in three weeks' time, on Thursday 17th March, when there will be a full run down of Eisteddfod results.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'M Chapman'.

Maria Chapman MA(Ed)

Headmistress