The last few weeks have been a wonderful time at Robert Peel. Last week we saw Early Years and Key Stage 1 take part in their Christmas performances. They put in such a lot of hard work and were so excited to perform to an audience. I am sure you all agree the children were truly amazing and showed such aspiration, determination and confidence. This week Year 5 performed a spectacular Carol Concert. The sound they produced was spellbinding and brought many a tear to the audience’s eye. The children had also been working hard at making items for their Christmas Market. Those of you who attended saw the children’s selling skills in action and this was such a memorable experience for them.

Well done to the Choir who have sung carols in two local retirement homes. We also took part in The Christmas Tree Festival at St Swithun’s Church. This year Reception took charge and based their decorations on The Gruffalo’s Child. The children visited the church and saw the tree on display and got such joy in seeing their tree being talked about and admired by visitors to the church.

Throughout the term the children have been involved in so many different learning opportunities and activities which they have been most enthused about. It has been lovely to see the children really display our Learning Behaviours of: Resilience, Aspiration, Independence, Communication, Confidence and most importantly Happiness. By having these attributes the children are really thriving in their learning and they should be rightly proud of all their achievements.

Can I remind you that Mr James is our school SENDCo and Miss Deshaut is our SEND Manager. They are both available to talk to any parents who have any questions or concerns about their child’s learning so please contact them if you would like to talk further.

After such a busy few weeks it is nearly time for a break to spend time with our families. On behalf of all the staff at Robert Peel, we wish you and your families a fantastic Christmas and a very happy New Year.

One day to go and see you all back on Tuesday 7th January.

Merry Christmas
Miss L Ganney
A Message from The School Governors

As we approach the end of 2019, we would like to take this opportunity as a Governing Body, to thank you all for your ongoing support of Robert Peel Primary School. We are pleased to report that the school continues to make great progress with our approach to teaching and learning and continues to build on the excellent attainment and outcomes from last year. Our children have made us all very proud.

The Governing Body is extremely appreciative of the hard work of Miss Ganney and we would also like to thank each and every member of the team for their hard work, boundless energy and enthusiasm. We are honoured and humbled to be part of such a wonderful team.

We are delighted that our children feel part of a happy and thriving Robert Peel Family. Please be assured we will continue to ensure that every child is given every opportunity and support to reach their potential to be an enthusiastic and eager learner who is willing to take on new challenges.

This Term, as a Governing Body, we have been reviewing developments and areas of improvement for the school. We have been planning a program of updates which would see every class have a new large interactive teaching board. So far we have been able to replace four screens in Year 2 and 6 and plan to update a further four next term.

We have been delighted to see that the children at Robert Peel love reading books. Therefore we have directed a large sum of funds to update guided reading books, class reading books, Reception early reader books and banded reading books. In addition we have also purchased new atlases across the school and a great new range of topic themed books. These will be ready to use next term.

As you know we were awarded a grant to update the trim trail. When we reviewed this work further we wanted to extend the project so have added a sum of money so that a larger installation can be added to the middle section. This work is hopefully being booked to be completed during February and we are sure that the children are thoroughly looking forward to being able to play on this equipment again.

We wish you all the very best for this festive season and hope to see you all in the New Year.

Best Wishes

Robert Peel Governing Body

Children return to school on
Tuesday 7th January
6th January—Training Day
7th January—Children start back to school
9th January—Reception Trip to the Pantomime
15th January—Safari Stu visiting Year 1
20th to 23rd January—Bikeability
22nd January—Year 6 Taster Day at Sandy Secondary School
29th January—Hedgehog Class Assembly at 2.50
30th January—KS 1 Film Club
6th February—KS 2 Film Club
11th February—Safer Internet Day
12th February—Tiger Class Assembly at 2.50
12th February—Parents Evening — 5 – 7
13th February—Parents Evening — 4 - 6
14th February—Last day of half term
24th February—Children start back to school
6th March—Book Day
6th March—Disco
10th March—Red Cross First Aid Training in Year 4
11th March—Year 5 Taster Day at Sandy Secondary School
12th March—KS 1 Film Club
18th March—Voice in a Million at Wembley
19th March—KS 2 Film Club
24th March—Year 5 Faith Tour Trip
25th March—Wolf Class Assembly at 2.50
31st March—Red Cross First Aid Training in Year 6
1st April—Year 3/4 Performance at 9.30
2nd April—Year 3/4 Performance at 1.30
3rd April—Last Day of Term
Thank You!

Christmas Fayre total was £1,930!

This is an amazing total! A massive thank you to the FORP for organising the event and to you all for your donations and attending the event.

School Closure due to Bad Weather

It’s that time of year again when I just wanted to remind you of the arrangements in the event of the school being closed due to bad weather.

All parents/carers who subscribe to Parentmail will receive an email as soon as possible when the decision has been made. Please also listen to HEART and Three Counties Radio for updates on school closures. You can also register with the Central Bedfordshire SOS system and receive alerts. To register, please go to www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/webApps/SOS Click on “register for updates” and fill in the text boxes then click on “submit”. You will then receive an email containing instructions on how to activate your account.
**Unwanted Toys & Games**

We know that many of you have a clear out of old toys and games at Christmas time. If you have any donations of toys and games that you feel would be of use to the school then we would gratefully receive them.

These donations can be dropped off at the school office.

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**Children in Need**

Your donations raised a fantastic

£366.34

Pudsey says a big THANK YOU

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**Poppy Appeal**

Every year we support The Royal British Legion and every year the sum we raise gets bigger and bigger.

This year your very generous donations raised

£648.13

On behalf of the Royal British Legion many thanks for donating so much money to such an important cause.
**PE Kits**

Every child needs a Winter PE Kit in School. We still have huge numbers of children who don’t have a kit and are missing out on learning activities as they don’t have the correct kit.

Below is the equipment they need to have in school:

- White T-Shirt
- Black Shorts/Jogging bottoms
- Spare jumper
- Trainers/Plimsolls
- Socks

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**House Cross Country Finals**

As many of you know, Cross Country Running has become a big thing at Robert Peel. Up to 50 children daily love running around the school field. We have been thrilled to see this.

Last week each child took part in a race to become a finalist and a member of their House’s relay team. The final was postponed to this week and we ran the final in front of the whole school on Wednesday.

The final was a true competitive event and every runner gave their all. With the Year 6 runners to go it looked like it was between Churchill and Nightingale. But then Lily B in Year 6 got the baton in 3rd place for Shakespeare and she finished her lap in second place having gained an incredible distance. This left Churchill in front but then came Tommy A for Shakespeare who ran an amazing lap and overtook to take first place to bring home Shakespeare as the winners.

This has been one of our most dramatic events and we saw children falling but getting up and carrying on and all competitors congratulating each other at the end.

A truly amazing event and well done everyone for taking part.
Welcome to Robert Peel Primary School’s first Junior Road Safety Officers’ newsletter. The team have been very busy over the last half term. Firstly, we were nominated for a prize at this year’s ModeshiftSTARS awards at the Everyman Theatre in Kings Cross. Two of the team (made up of eight year 5 and 6 children) accompanied by two members of staff attended the ceremony where we were lucky enough to win Central Bedfordshire’s Primary School of the year. Then came Road Safety Week, which ran from the 18th to the 24th of November, where after an assembly, all year groups were encouraged to take part in fun activities related to safe travel. These included role play activities and puzzles. Finally, we are currently participating in the Santa Challenge where pupils are encouraged to walk, scoot or cycle to school. Every journey counts as 1 mile and the aim is to try and reach Lapland - 2,050 miles away - before the event finishes on the 13th December. All children who take part will be entered into a prize draw where they could win a fabulous new bike!

The JRSO Team have also been busy researching various topics and would like to share what they have learnt over the coming months.

**Be Safe, Be Seen**

Particularly at this time of year, with the nights drawing in, it is very important to make sure you can be seen when travelling out and about after school. Many accidents occur because drivers often do not see other road users until it is too late.

Things you can do to stay safe are:

- Try to wear brightly coloured clothing and coats. These are best during the day. Fluorescent materials are even better.
- Have a reflective stripe or keyring on your bag can help you to be seen by cars when it is dark. Even a small patch of reflective material can help you be spotted from far away.
- You should always use your lights when travelling by bike at night.

**Parking**

Whilst we all know that walking, scooting and cycling are the best ways to travel to school, we know that for many reasons this is not always possible. To make the school journey safer for everyone we ask that:

- You park sensibly and do not block any drives or dropped kerbs.
- Respect the property of the people who live in the vicinity of our school.
- Do not park on the yellow zigzag lines outside the school or on any double yellow lines.
- Please do not leave your engine running whilst parked; it is not good for our health or the environment.
- Stick to the 20 mile an hour speed limit around the school.