



St Peter's Newsletter

Wednesday 1st July 2020

Dear Parents,

We hope that this newsletter finds you well. We have been keeping in regular contact with you via email and we have appreciated all your replies of encouragement and thanks. It really has felt like a team effort between school and home over the last 14 weeks. School has been open without a break since the March lockdown and we have certainly got to know some of the children very well over that time. This newsletter serves as a snapshot of key dates and a few plans for the end of term and next academic term.

May I take the opportunity to publicly thank all the staff for their tremendous hard work and dedication to making the last 14 weeks and now as successful as possible, providing great learning opportunities and being in touch with children and families. They have also been balancing work here with their own home learning commitments and families, working their way through the Covid-19 pandemic. Thanks also must go to the Governors who have been a support all the way through this journey. They have helped with the critical thinking and planning and have encouraged us all through much unknown territory.

We have seen such delight in the children's faces as they have returned and spent time with their teachers and friends. It is such a shame, that due to restrictions and guidance, that we have not been able to accommodate more children, but we have worked to full capacity. When we return next term, there will be plenty of opportunities for children who have remained at home to find their routines again and time to discuss their experiences. There will be ongoing support for any child that needs it during the adjustment period.

Date reminders

Friday 10th July will be the last day for Year 6. They will have their leavers' assembly in the morning that will be professionally filmed for you to view on a download that will be emailed to you soon afterwards. We are sorry that we cannot accommodate families, but we all know that you are understanding of the current circumstances. The most important thing is that the pupils get to share their memories, we can bring the year to a close and the children can receive a blessing from Rev. Jacqueline. There will also be a message from Bishop Jo because we can't all be at the cathedral this year. The afternoon will be spent having fun together.

Picnics: school uniform, packed lunch and water bottle needed

Wednesday 1st July Year 2 picnic 1pm -3pm

Wednesday 8th July Year 3 picnic 1pm -3pm

Wednesday 15th July Year 4 picnic 1pm -3pm

Monday 13th July, we look forward to welcoming back all the Year 5 children for a week of time together, sharing of experiences, friendship and transition work for Year 6.

Monday 13th July reports will be sent to parents. Please read the covering letter which explains slight changes you will see in the report. You will also receive a chart to show which teachers will be teaching each class. If you have any queries about what is written in the report, please email your current teacher because we are unable to host an open afternoon.

Friday 17th July - last day of term for all children – 3.15pm. The school is closing 1.5 days earlier than published due to the need for building works to commence and nursery plans to be implemented.

We shall miss you!

After 19 years of service to St Peter's School and prior to that 12 years as a parent, we say a fond farewell to Mrs Bolton. We are grateful for all her years of hard work and her dedicated commitment to our school. Mrs Bolton has given so much to St Peter's over the years – not only in the classroom but also on extra curriculum opportunities - including 15 years of early morning Friday morning swimming lessons! We wish her a very happy and fulfilling retirement. We know she has some exciting travel plans for starters.

September – Autumn Term

At the time of writing the Government's plan is to be able to welcome all children back in September. We plan to return on Thursday 3rd September. Of course, schools have to be led by Government decisions, so we will endeavour to keep you up to date as soon as we can but remember that we hear the news at the same time as you.

Learning: home and school

We shall post learning for next week but that will be the last formal learning posted. We shall however send links to any projects or sites which we think will engage the children. We have been really pleased by the number of children who participated in our own St Peter's Challenges. During the final week (July 13-17), we shall be creating artwork linked to the international *Spirited Art* competition. More details will follow in the next couple of days as this is something which can also be completed at home.

If you didn't look the first time, please take a look at the musical performances from families' homes. They are on the website in the Gallery section.

Lunch Box Reminder

Please can we remind you to provide your child with a healthy and balanced packed lunch. Children must **not** bring in sweets or chocolate bars. A sweet treat is okay when balanced with fruit and protein. Fruit or vegetables are ideal for morning break – we don't have the fruit/veg scheme running at present.

CM Sports

You will have received information about Holiday Clubs being run at St Peter's over five weeks in the holidays. You can book individual days or the whole week. If your child has missed social contact by not being in school, this would be a perfect opportunity to meet up with others. It will also be a chance to be back on the school site and feel positive about coming back in full time in September. We have been really impressed over the past few weeks with the way that CM coaches have adapted to the new arrangements in school. The clubs are for all ages and will cater for all needs. They are planning craft as well as games and will adapt to the groups of children they have. Booking is direct with CM sports. If you need the form again, please ask the office.

