



St Peter's Newsletter

23rd October 2020

Dear Families,

Despite the current climate, our first half of term has been successful, enjoyable and very productive. The children have done brilliantly, their behaviour has been excellent and they have thrived on the learning experiences that the staff have given them.

We must not become complacent however, I must remind everyone that whilst you are enjoying your half term, we must all support each other by staying safe and following the government guidelines. The rule of 6 is a vital measure we must all adhere to however tempting it maybe to have a household of children over during half term. We must trust each other that we are all doing our bit for our school and local community.

During Half term if a child takes a covid test

Please can you email info@stpeters-farnham.surrey.sch.uk during half term if your child has to take a Covid test and email again with your positive or negative result. This information can really help us make a safe return for our children after half term.

Emergency Contact Details

Please ensure that your emergency contact details are up to date with the office and you provide us with two different phone numbers

Disabled Toilet in the school office – foyer

This toilet is for disabled access only. We have lots of families pop into this facility which is compromising our Covid arrangements. If a child from our school needs the toilet then they can use their allocated school toilet. Nursery children can use the toilet before they are collected. Thank you for supporting the minimal amount of adults that enter our school buildings.

School Fund

This is a sensitive request as we appreciate that some families are finding themselves in tricky financial situations.

Each term we normally ask families for a contribution of £15 per pupil towards our School Fund and £5 per pupil towards our Governor's Fund. The last time we asked families to contribute was back in January. Since then, in order to keep our children, staff and families as safe as possible during these times, the school has spent more money than planned on cleaning resources, safety measures and extra staffing. We are now asking if anyone feels able to contribute £20 this term, we would be so grateful.

All contributions to the Governor's Fund help to pay for building improvements. We have two building projects starting at Easter 2021 and will cost approximately £76,000. For the projects to go ahead, governors need to raise £7,600 as they have to pay 10% of all costs.

Payments can be made via SCOPay. Thank you for considering supporting us.

Social Media

As you will be aware, like all schools now we use social media to promote the school. You may not be aware that Farnham is a town with a surplus of primary school places, so social media is a powerful tool for the wider community and prospective families to find out about life at St Peter's. When a family is moving into the area they will probably search local newsfeeds to gain a first impression.

We are aware that our families are very supportive of the school and value the broad curriculum on offer at St Peter's. However, occasionally media posts are brought to our attention where an individual has used abusive language or swear words. This is not usually directly about the school but sometimes the children are on the title page wearing St Peter's uniforms. You will appreciate that this does not sit comfortably with the school's ethos and can actually do some damage.

While we are delighted when people sing our praises, comment on our posts and generally act as ambassadors for the school, please could we ask that people are careful not to link the school's name with content which could potentially have a negative impact. Thank you for your understanding.

Mid-morning snacks

Mid-morning must be either fruit or vegetables.

Weekly Tours

Please tell your friends and neighbours that the weekly school tours are still happening, to allow prospective parents to see St Peter's in action. We meet in groups of 4 maximum and tour outside. It is so important for families to feel the ethos of the school and hear first-hand what we do at St Peter's. Also remind them to watch our promotional video on our website.

The Surrey County Council admissions system opens on the 2nd November and closes on the 15th January 2021 for Year R applications in September 2021.

Extra Layers

Do feel free to give your child extra layers to wear: vest, base layer, fleece because we are having to

keep the school well ventilated and it is starting to get chilly. Please name any additional clothing.

Home Learning

Families have received information about learning from home during Covid-19. If a child is symptom free, learning will be sent home. We have a system in place where we can deliver early afternoon if a parent has informed the office that their child is well enough for home learning. As the information stated, if a full class is self-isolating, learning will be posted on the school website.

Travelling to & from School

Please could we remind parents that when driving & parking in the local area to:

- Follow our voluntary one-way system in Little Green Lane, driving **DOWN** the hill
- Not block access to driveways

We have received a number of complaints recently. Where possible we encourage children to walk, scoot or cycle to school.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Free School Meals

We have been made aware this morning that Spire Café (South Street) is offering a free hot meal Monday to Friday next week for any children who are normally eligible for free school meals, subject to capacity.

Parent Governor Election

As you know, over the last couple of weeks we have been holding an election for a new Parent Governor. Voting closed at lunchtime today and we are pleased to announce that from our two candidates, Mr Patrick Goodlet will now take on this role.

I'm sure Patrick will make himself known to you over the coming weeks.

CM holiday club @ St Peter's over half term

There are still a few places left for all days (Monday – Friday 8:30 -4:30).

Active games and generally lots of fun with the CM crew.

Please see the CM site for further details including information on Covid-19 precautions.

Curriculum PE lessons – participation

As you will know, PE is a statutory part of the school curriculum in the same way that Maths and English are statutory. Two lessons a week are dedicated to PE and we also participate in the Daily Mile.

At St Peter's, our PE lessons are taught by the CM coaches. The team members are trained to deliver games and PE to primary school children of all ages and we are confident that our pupils receive inclusive lessons which are of a high standard.

We would like to be clear about expectations for participation in PE. If a child is not well enough to join the lesson, we would question whether they are well enough to be in school. Exceptions would of course be a physical injury which prevents them from moving or bearing weight. Please could we ask parents to support their child to join the lessons which are suitable for all abilities. We cannot allow a child to sit and watch a lesson unless we have clear evidence that they are not fit to participate. By not joining in, a child is at a disadvantage as PE is also an opportunity to be part of team which brings with it, social skills. There is also considerable evidence to show that mental health is elevated by physical fitness. It is so important that children are included in this provision.

British Museum Workshops

This week our Y5 pupils enjoyed a British Museum workshop on the Indus Valley (which links with their ancient civilisation topic). It was very impressive to hear the workshop leader speaking directly to our pupils – as though she was in the room. A wonderful way to learn in a different way from an expert. The session ended with a Kahoot quiz on ipads.



Bonfire sessions

Our children and staff are really looking forward to their Forest School Bonfire sessions after half term – The children wear Forest School clothes all day when it is their turn for the bonfire. Please can we gently remind you to contribute £2 via Scopay. Money raised goes to the PTFA.



Meet the new sports captains and crew



We have already competed in a virtual athletics Competition and we will be finding ways to bring sport and competition to you all soon.



Y5 /Y6 Football training starts after half term on Wednesdays after school 3:15 – 4:15

Andrew Hall will be running the club under the wing of the Shots Foundation. Bubbles will be respected. Beginners and experienced players alike are all welcome.

A brilliant chance to keep fit and develop skills.

Golf for St. Peter's pupils & their friends

The usual Tuesday after school golf class is now taking place at Blacknest Golf & Country Club.

Autumn schedule for classes, starting after ½ term and running for **6 weeks**.

Day	Time	Age Group	Course Dates	Cost
Tuesday	1615 - 1715	6-9 yrs old	3 rd Nov - 8th Dec	£45
Thursday	1615 - 1745	10-14 yrs old	5 th Nov - 10th Dec	£75
Saturday	1300 - 1430	10-14 yrs old	7 th Nov - 12th Dec	£75
Saturday	1430 - 1530	6-9 yrs old	7 th Nov - 12th Dec	£45
Saturday	1530 - 1630	10-14 yrs old	7 th Nov - 13th Dec	£45
Sunday	0930 - 1100	10-14 yrs old	8 th Nov - 13th Dec	£75
Sunday	1100 - 1200	6-9 yrs old	8 th Nov - 13th Dec	£45

Individual lessons are also available at a time to suit and can be booked after school or at weekends.

Please contact me to discuss any of the above.

Kind Regards

Paul Creamer
PGA Professional



@StPetersFarnham