



Newsletter.....



The web site address is www.st-peters-alton.staffs.sch.uk
Email office@st-peters-alton.staffs.sch.uk

March 2018

Well, the cold weather continues.....roll on Spring!!!

INTERNET SAFETY

Mr Paul James is very kindly hosting an internet safety session in school for parents at 8.30am on **Monday, 5 March**. This is such an important topic and you will be shocked and amazed by the information Paul can give you during the session. He will then spend time in class with the children. We have tried various times of day to try to suit as many parents as possible. Busy Bodies will run as normal from 7.50am that morning but you are welcome to bring children in to school at 8.30am to enable you to join this presentation. **PLEASE CONFIRM BY THURSDAY MORNING AT THE LATEST IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING OR WE WILL HAVE TO CANCEL THE SESSION.**

PLEASE REMEMBER:

- **WHOLE SCHOOL** - full PE Kit to be worn to school on Mondays
- **CLASSES 2 AND 3** - full PE kit to be brought to school on Wednesdays this term
- **CLASS 1** - PE kit to be brought to school on Thursdays
- **CLASS 3** - REMEMBER VIOLINS ON FRIDAYS!

PLEASE RETURN:

- Consent forms for photographs for the new web site
- Slips to take part in the Mothering Sunday Service on **Sunday, 11 March** at 10.45am

WORLD BOOK DAY



To celebrate World Book Day on **Thursday, 1st March**, the children are invited to come to school dressed as a character from a poem or favourite book.

SWIMMING

There is no swimming this term as the pool at Denstone College is unavailable. It will recommence on Tuesday, 17th April. **We require a swimming helper or helpers (subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check). You will need to be available from 1.00pm to 2.30pm on Tuesday afternoons in the summer term. If a helper does not come forward we will be unable to offer swimming after Easter. Please see Mrs Bennett or Mrs Pemberton if you can help! Thank you!**

TOPICS

Please also refer to the curriculum leaflet that has been sent home separately. The topics continue for the Spring term as follows:

	Main Topic		RE
Class 1 (Yrs N & R)	Toys		Easter
	Main Topic	Science	RE
Class 2 (Yrs 1 and 2)	History: Local History Geography: Weather and Climate in different parts of the world	Living things and their habitats	Easter: Why is Easter important to Christians?
Class 3 (Yrs 3 and 4)	Our Local Area	Living things and their habitats	Easter: Why do Christians call the day Jesus died 'Good Friday'?

SCIENCE WEEK - 12 TO 16 MARCH

To celebrate Science Week all children will be involved in fun science activities throughout the week. These include a visit from 'Rent a Beast' (kindly funded by the School Association) and 'Have a go' Science investigations.

EXTRA CURRICULA

Burton Albion Community Trust will be running an after school football club on Thursdays to the end of term. There are still a couple of spaces if anyone would like to join. Please see Mrs Pemberton.

GYMNASTICS COMPETITION

Children in Years 1 to 4 will take part in the Uttoxeter area gymnastics competition on **Thursday, 15th March** at 'Big Top' in Uttoxeter. A separate letter will follow!

TREE PLANTING IN DIMMINGSDALE

The children in Class 3 have been invited to participate in a tree planting session in Dimmingsdale with the Forestry Commission. This will take place on **Thursday, 22 March**. More details will follow.

YEAR 4 - WHITEMOOR LAKES

A further instalment towards the cost of the visit to Whitemoor Lakes is due as soon as possible please. The balance owing is £100 which **must be paid in full by Friday, 25 May**.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Letters have been sent home for the consultation sessions to be held week commencing Monday, 12 March. In the meantime, if you have any concerns or comments, please do not hesitate to speak to the class teacher, Mrs Bennett (Head of School) or Miss Robson/Mrs Walker (Executive Co-Headteachers).

EASTER SERVICE

Our Easter Service will be held in St Peter's Church on **Wednesday, 28th March** at 9.10am. All welcome!

ATTENDANCE/PUNCTUALITY - reminder

A letter was sent home last term detailing new arrangements that are now in force regarding attendance and punctuality. The new attendance policy is available on our web site.

HEAD LICE

This tends to be the time of year when head lice outbreaks become a nuisance! Please can you ensure you check for head lice on a very regular basis and treat the **whole** family promptly. Combs are available from the school office at a cost of 75p each. More information can be found from the NHS web site at:

<http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Head-lice/Pages/Treatment.aspx>

DAILY READING reminder

To encourage children to read daily at home, all teachers continue to keep a record each time a child has read. Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates are awarded for 35, 70 and 100 times a child has read at home. The raffle ticket system continues alongside this.

CLASS 1 BOOK BAGS


Please could the children in Class 1 have a school book bag to carry their reading book and words to and from school each day. The rucksacks are lovely but take up too much space in the classroom. The children and staff are in and out of their bags all day so hanging them on their pegs isn't really an option. Bags are available from the office at a cost of £4.50. Thank you!

'BUSY BODIES' OUT OF HOURS CLUB

Emily Williamson will be leaving 'Busy Bodies' after the Easter break to pursue further studies. We are currently advertising for her replacement and will keep you informed. We wish Emily all the best for the future and thank her for all her work here as Play Worker and Lunchtime Supervisor.

Please may we remind you to complete the separate diary with your requirements, in advance where possible.

The charges are as follows:

	Mornings	7.50am to 8.50am £4.00 (to include light snack and drink)
	Afternoons	3.15pm to 4.30pm £5.00 (to include a light snack and drinks) 3.15pm to 6.00pm £8.50 (to include a light snack and drinks)

Please note: the childcare voucher scheme towards payment of fees is coming to an end shortly. New applications are not being accepted. Parents should register for tax free childcare via HMRC. Please see Beki Hickman, Play Leader, or Mrs Pemberton, for more information.

PERSONAL HEALTH AND HYGIENE

In line with NHS Norovirus guidelines, if your child has been sick or had diarrhoea after school or during the night, please keep them at home for 48 hours following the last bout.

BAD WEATHER

As we continue with the sort of weather conditions that cause mayhem around the country.... Our problem here is that main roads may be clear but gritters don't often come past the school - we have asked Staffordshire County Council if we can be added to the gritting plan and have been informed it will not be for the current season. We have appealed against this outcome! We continue with our text messaging service for any late school closures due to snow. **Please ensure that you update us with any new mobile contact numbers.** We will text **one** nominated parent.

Please DO NOT use the school mobile number to text or telephone the school.

In addition, school closures will be notified to Staffordshire County Council and will appear on their school closure list at the following web address:

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/schoolsandcolleges/emergencyclosures/schoolclosurelist

SCHOOL MEALS

The school is able to claim Pupil Premium funding from the Government for each pupil registered for Free School Meals due to household income. Please help us to boost our budget as much as possible by letting us know if you wish to apply for free school meals. Please see Mrs Pemberton, in confidence if you wish, for further information. Alternatively you can apply on line or download an application form from the Staffordshire County Council web site:

www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/educationalawardsbenefits/FreeSchoolMeals.

Please apply even if your child prefers to bring sandwiches or is in Year R, 1 or 2 and receives the Government funded free meal. Thank you for your support!

VACANCY - CATERING ASSISTANT

A vacancy still exists to assist in the kitchen each day with the preparation, serving and tidying away of school meals. The hours are 8.75 per week. Please see Mrs Pemberton if you are interested and she can pass your contact details to our catering provider. The position is subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

VACANCY - LUNCHTIME SUPERVISOR

We will have a vacancy for a lunchtime supervisor on Wednesdays and Fridays after Easter. Please see Mrs Pemberton if you are interested. The position is subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

The minutes of the last meeting are on the noticeboard in the entrance hall. The Governors, staff and children appreciate the tremendous support given by the School Association. The most recent support has been a fantastic extension to our reading books and a visit by 'Rent a Beast'! The date of the next meeting is **Monday, 5th March at 7.00pm at The Bull's Head, Alton.** Please let Mrs Stringer have any items for the agenda by Friday, 2nd March please.

50 Club

The winners of the half term 50 Club draw were:

£15 C Chapman

£15 L Stanley

Mother's Day stall

The School Association is holding a Mother's Day stall in school on **Friday, 9th March** from 1.30pm. The children are invited to bring £1.00 to purchase a gift. Donations of gifts gratefully received - there is a box in the entrance hall. Thank you for your support!

Disco - Friday, 16th March

The School Association has organised a disco for parents and friends at Alton Village Hall on **Friday, 16th March**, 7.30pm onwards. Dave Dee is the DJ. Tickets are £7 and bring your own drinks. A fish and chip van will be available during the evening.

REMINDERS

- If your child is to be absent through illness, please contact the office by 9.30am on the first morning.
- Please ensure all children bring a coat to school each day.
- Please remember to bring a school bag each day containing any reading and exercise books, equipment and homework.
- Please respect our neighbours and **DO NOT PARK ON OR OPPOSITE** the yellow lines outside the school gates. Please also mention this to anyone else who may be dropping off or collecting your child.
- Bikes and scooters should be parked carefully in the rack provided and **not ridden in the playground.**

PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

We are often asked to distribute various promotional materials and wish to remind you that these do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the governors and/or staff.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY/CALENDAR

Dates for March	Applies to	Event/Activity
Thursday, 1 st	All	World Book Day
Monday, 5 th	All	Internet Safety presentation for parents 8.30am
Monday, 5 th	All	School Association meeting in Bull's Head at 7.00pm
Friday, 9 th	All	Mother's Day stall in school at 1.30pm
Sunday, 11 th	All	Mothering Sunday Service in St Peter's Church at 10.45am
Monday, 12 th	Classes 1 and 2	Parents Evening 3.30pm to 5pm
Tuesday, 13 th	All	Parents Evening 3.30pm to 6pm
Tuesday, 13 th	All	Rent a Beast visit
Wednesday, 14 th	Class 3	Parents Evening 3.30pm to 4pm
Thursday, 15 th	Class 3	Parents Evening 3.30pm to 4pm
Thursday, 15 th	Pre school	Nursery 'taster' session for those starting after Easter
Thursday, 15 th	Years 1 to 4	Gymnastics Competition (am)
Friday, 16 th	All	School Association Disco for 'grown ups' - 7.30pm
Thursday, 22 nd	Class 3	Tree planting in Dimmingsdale
Wednesday, 28 th	All	Easter Service in church at 9.10am
Thursday, 29 th	All	School closes for Easter holiday
Dates for April	Applies to	Event/Activity
Thursday, 12 th & Friday, 13 th	All	School closed - INSET days for staff
Monday, 16 th	All	School re-opens for the Summer term