



St Peter's CE Academy, Alton

Newsletter September 2019



LOVE, RESPECT AND FRIENDSHIP

Telephone: 01538 702321

Web site: www.st-peters-alton.staffs.sch.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mrs R Walker

Deputy Executive Head: Mrs A Bennett



Mobile app



'Live' on the Apple and Google Play app stores. A search on 'St Peters Academy' will take you to the FREE download. You can set alerts for each year group!

Welcome...

To our new children Sidnie, Meredith and Brandon. We hope they will be very happy here!
To our new Busy Bodies staff - Miss Toni Adams and Miss Christine Adams. We hope they enjoy working here!

NUT ALLERGY

As you already know, we have a child in school with a **nut allergy**. Please take care with any food items brought in to school eg snacks, packed lunches, birthday cakes, cake raffle etc. Thank you!

Newsletter

Please note: October edition onwards, newsletters will be available on our web site. Paper copies on request only.

Thank you

To all our helpers - you are much appreciated!
To the parents and children who helped with jobs during the holiday - cleaning and tidying the playground, story shed and a few repairs.



Busy Bodies is back!

We are pleased to report that Busy Bodies Out of Hours Club returns. Morning sessions will be led by Miss Burrows and Miss T Adams will lead the evening sessions assisted by Miss C Adams. Plenty of exciting sessions are planned, starting with a Teddy Bear's Picnic this Thursday to celebrate National Teddy Bear Day! Fees will be payable through Parent Pay on a weekly basis please. Fees will be added to your Parent pay account every Friday as follows:

Mornings

7.30-8.45 a.m. £5.00

Afternoons

3.15-4.30 p.m. £6.00

3.15-6 p.m. £9.00

There will be a 10% discount for a sibling attending the same sessions.

Please book through the office (phone or email) or direct with Busy Bodies staff. Your support is much appreciated and we look forward to a successful relaunch!

Topics

Please also refer to the curriculum leaflets available on the web site. The topics for the Autumn term are:

	Main Topic - Why do we remember people?	Science	RE
Class 1 (Yrs N & R)	People who help us Super heroes	Understanding the world - various topics	What makes a place special?
Class 2 (Yrs 1 and 2)	Christopher Columbus Ellen MacArthur	Animals including Humans	What are festivals and why do we have them?
Class 3 (Yrs 3 and 4)	Dr Barnardo Lord Shaftesbury	Forces and Magnets	How do Muslims pray?

PE and swimming



Whole school - PE lessons will continue for the whole school on **Mondays** supported by SportStars UK. Please come to school dressed in PE kit for the day.

Years 2, 3 and 4 - There will be swimming this half term for children in Years 3 and 4 and a named group of Year 2 on Thursday afternoons each week.

Years R and N - please bring PE kit to school on Thursdays.

Years 1 to 4 - SportsStars UK after school club on Mondays 3.15pm to 4.15pm (a separate letter has already been sent home)

Sports fixtures:

Year 3 and 4 Smallwood Manor Football tournament on Friday, 20 September 1.30pm to 4.00pm

Please ensure all uniform and PE kit is clearly named. Please can the children wear full school PE kit - white t shirt, blue shorts, plain navy or black jogging bottoms and top (if weather requires). Pumps for indoor PE should be available in a separate bag. Trainers should be worn for outdoor sessions please. School swimming hats are available from the office at £5 each (thank you to Mrs Stone for organising).

Harvest

Our Harvest Service will take place in church on **Thursday, 26th September** at 9.10am. As in previous years the children are invited to donate produce in non-returnable containers. These will be carried to church on the morning of the service. All parents are invited to attend. The produce will be sold during the Sunday morning service with the proceeds being donated to Christian Aid.

Web site

You may have noticed that some changes have been made to the layout of our web site. We will be checking that all information is up to date and new diary dates will be added shortly.

Data check

To comply with data protection requirements, data check sheets will be sent home with the children next week. Please check all details carefully, **especially mobile phone numbers!** Please sign the form and return to the school office as soon as possible. Thank you!

Nursery

If you know anyone who may be interested in a place in our Nursery, please let Mrs Pemberton know so that we can get in touch.

School Meals

The menu is available on the web site. Schools meals are free for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. The cost to children in Nursery, Year 3 and Year 4 is £2.26 per day. Meals taken are recorded on the Parent Pay web site on Fridays each week for payment weekly or half termly in advance. You will not be charged if your child is absent.

Just a reminder that 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:

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/educationalawardsbenefits/FreeSchoolMeals/Apply-Online.aspx>

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!

Snacks

Please can we remind you that we encourage healthy packed lunches, drinks and snacks. We don't allow sweets at break or at lunchtime. The children in Classes 1 and 2 are offered a free piece of fruit each morning and any surplus is available to Class 3. The under 5's also receive free milk. Milk can be ordered for children over 5 by registering with Cool Milk at www.coolmilk.com. Each child has their own water bottle.

The children may bring a piece of fruit or vegetable sticks from home for break time. Please bear in mind this should be something small and light as lunch is served at 12 which is only just over an hour after break time.

Scholastic Books



A Scholastic book club magazine is attached to the Newsletter. Any orders generate 20% back in books for school. If you wish to place an order, please hand in to the office by **Friday, 27 September** (cash or cheques payable to St Peter's School Association).

Chartwells

Chartwells, our school meal provider, will be in school working with the children on **Wednesday, 9th October**. They will talk about and run activities on the topic of healthy eating. Parents are invited into school at the end of the afternoon to sample items from the new menu. Further details will follow.

Parent evenings

St Peter's Academy operates an open door policy, and staff are always willing to answer any questions or concerns you may have. Please do not hesitate to contact the school office to arrange a suitable time to see your child's class teacher or to arrange for a member of staff to call you.

Parent Consultation sessions have been arranged for **Monday, 21st and Tuesday, 22nd October** - details will follow shortly.

School Photos

Individual and family group photographs have been arranged for Tuesday, 8 October 2019. If you wish to bring a younger or older sibling to the session, please book with Mrs Pemberton. Thank you!

Help please!

Thank you to the parents who helped with jobs over the summer. It is much appreciated! Has anyone a bit of time to spare to help stain the sheds and the Early Years fencing? If so, please see Mrs Pemberton. We could do with it done before the bad weather really sets in please.

Easy Fundraising

We have registered with a web site called Easy Fundraising. It's amazing. You can shop on line through this site at various well known stores and they pay us money!! It doesn't cost you any extra, just shop from your regular stores eg Argos, Amazon, Ebay, John Lewis, Sainsburys, Viking, Booking.com but access them through <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stpeterscealton>

If you have your own business, why not use it for your business purchases too?

For more information, please see the attached flyer or visit the Easy Fundraising web site. All money raised will be donated to the School Association (PTA). Thank you!

School Association (PTA)

The minutes of the last meeting are on the noticeboard in the entrance hall and the school web site. The Governors, staff and children appreciate the tremendous support given by the School Association. The date of the next meeting will be circulated shortly.

The PTA cake raffles start again this Friday - 20p per ticket! Please remember cakes should be **nut free**.

Thank you!

50 Club:

The winners of the 50 Club draw at the end of term were:

£20 Mr Rogers

£15 Mrs Goldstraw

£15 Mrs A Brookes

Attendance

We are constantly monitoring the attendance of each pupil and aim to ensure that all pupils achieve 95% attendance. If your child's attendance falls below this level, without medical reason, we will contact you to take steps to rectify the situation. Similarly, if your child is constantly late for school we will work with you to address this.

Attendance Over the year	Number of days missed	Number of weeks missed	Hours of missed lessons
95%	9.5 days	Almost 2 weeks	57 hours
90%	19 days	Nearly 4 weeks	113 hours
85%	28.5 days	5 weeks 3.5 days	143 hours

Between the ages of 5 and 14 only 14.91% of a child's time is spent in school, so it is very important that their attendance is excellent. A reminder that the Government dictates that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence for holidays during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances, (with the exception of nursery children), and penalty notices will be issued for poor attendance. Parent/Carers will still need to request a leave of absence form, so we know where children are.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.

Our attendance policy can be found at <http://www.st-peters-alton.staffs.sch.uk/academy-information/policies>

Over 60's Afternoon Tea

Following the success the over 60's afternoon tea and the positive comments we received, we plan to do this again on Friday, 11th October from 1.30pm to 3.00pm. Posters will be displayed round the village and it would be helpful if people could 'book in' through the office to help with our catering arrangements.



A Few Reminders

WHOLE SCHOOL - REMEMBER TO WEAR PE KIT TO SCHOOL ON MONDAYS

CLASS 3 AND NAMED YEAR 2 GROUP - REMEMBER SWIMMING KIT ON THURSDAYS

CLASS 1 - REMEMBER PE KIT ON THURSDAYS

CLASS 3 - REMEMBER VIOLINS ON FRIDAYS!

- Please ensure all items of clothing are named.
- Please make sure your child brings a coat to school each day.
- Nail varnish, make up and jewellery are NOT allowed.
- Please take care and be considerate when parking - please don't obstruct our neighbours' drives or the staff car park.
- Please don't park on or opposite the yellow zigzags outside the school.
- Please remember that if your child is absent from school you must inform school of the situation by 9.15am (01538 702321 or office@ast-peters-alton.staffs.sch.uk). 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 at least 2 days following the last bout.
- Please ensure all long hair is tied back. As you already know, this is the time of year that head lice are usually prevalent. We haven't had cases reported to us so far but we would appreciate you checking your children regularly and treating the **whole family** as required. Free combs are available from the office. Please remember to tie back long hair - it helps towards controlling outbreaks.
- Please remember to bring a school bag each day containing any reading and exercise books, equipment and homework. **As space is limited, the school book bags are best as they fit in trays!**
- Bikes and scooters should be parked carefully in the rack provided and **not ridden in the playground.**
- Please can we politely remind you, that if you walk your dog to school, please stand away from the gates as there are children in school who are afraid of them.
- Emergency School Closure - a text message will be sent to each nominated parent and notified on the Staffordshire County Council school closure list:

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

Dates for the calendar



Date	Applies to	Event/Activity
September		
Thursday, 12 th	All	Busy Bodies Teddy Bear's Picnic
Friday, 20 th	Year 3 and 4	Smallwood Manor Football Tournament (pm)- a separate letter
Thursday, 26 th	All	Harvest Service in St Peter's Church at 9.10am
Friday, 27 th	All	Scholastic book order deadline
October		
Tuesday, 8 th	All	School photographs - individual and family groups (am)
Wednesday, 9 th	All	Chartwells Healthy Eating Day and parent information session
Wednesday, 16 th	All	Stoke City assembly
Friday, 11 th	Over 60's	Over 60's afternoon tea in school from 1.30pm to 3.00pm
Monday, 21 st	All	Parents evening to 5.00pm
Tuesday, 22 nd	All	Parents evening to 6.00pm
Friday, 25 th	All	School closed - INSET day
Monday 28 th to Friday, 1 st Nov	All	Half term break
Advance notice:		
Monday, 25 th November	Years R to 4	Flu vaccinations
Thursday, 12 th December	All	Christmas Play in church 2pm and 6pm