



# St Peter's CE Academy, Alton

## Newsletter February 2020



LOVE, RESPECT AND FRIENDSHIP

Telephone: 01538 702321

Web site: [www.st-peters-alton.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.st-peters-alton.staffs.sch.uk)

Executive Headteacher: Mrs R Walker

Executive Deputy Headteacher: Mrs A Bennett



## Parent Pay

Please check your Parent Pay account weekly for visits, meals, out of hours club and Nursery fees. Please make sure all outstanding items are paid by the end of each half term. School meals should be paid **weekly in advance** as we are invoiced by our supplier and the money is taken from the school budget until it is recouped via your payments on Parent Pay. Thank you!

## Nursery/School Admissions 2020/21

Please ensure you, or anyone else you may know of, have completed an 'Expression of interest form' available from the office if there is a child due to start school in September 2021 or Nursery during the year. This **CANNOT** guarantee a place but ensures we are able to forward either our academy Nursery application or a Local Authority application for Reception at the appropriate time.

### Applications for Reception and Middle School September 2020

Online applications have now closed via the Staffordshire County Council web site. You can make a **late** application by completing the [paper admissions application form](#). You can then either:

Email the form to [admissions@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@staffordshire.gov.uk)

Or print out the form and post it to School Admissions and Transport Service, Staffordshire County Council, 1 Staffordshire Place, Stafford, ST16 2DH

## Mobile app



Have you got our latest mobile app? Please search for Phenix Digital on the app store, then once the app is installed just search for our academy. Full instructions can be found on the web site.

## Dogs in the playground

Following the message on the last newsletter, thank you for co-operating and keeping your dogs outside the playground and away from the gates. We have children in school who are allergic to dogs and some who are afraid of them. Thank you!

## Year 4 to Ryecroft

The children in Year 4 will visit Ryecroft Middle School on Tuesday, 4 February 2020. Ryecroft has kindly arranged transport for us. The children will leave here at 9.00am and return in time for lunch.

## E-Safety

Internet Safety Day is Tuesday, 11 February. The children continue to be made aware of how to stay safe on line during their IT lessons.

E-Safety is so important with ever changing challenges! We have included links to a number of web sites to help you and ensure your children are safe and protected when they are using internet enabled devices such as iPads, mobile phones, laptops etc.

**Think you know:** <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

**NSPCC:** <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

**UK Government advice:** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/child-safety-online-a-practical-guide-for-parents-and-carers/>

**UK Safer Internet Centre:** <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

**Childnet International:** <https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

## Community Tea

Our next Over 60's afternoon tea is planned for Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> March from 1.45pm to 3.00pm. If you know someone in the local community who would like to come along, please let us know. It would be helpful for our catering arrangements, if people could book in advance on 01538 702321.

We are supporting the Lichfield Diocese 'Share a Miracle' scheme. Each over 60's person who attends our afternoon tea will be given an Easter Egg. Donations of Easter eggs will be much appreciated. Any surplus eggs will be donated to the Cheadle and District Foodbank. Thank you!

## World Book Day

World Book Day is **Thursday, 5 March**. Our theme this year is Poems and Rhymes. Activities will take place in school based on this. The children are invited to come to school dressed as a character from their favourite book (it doesn't have to be from a poem or rhyme!) Each child will receive a £1 book voucher.

## Fundraising

A number of fundraising activities are planned as follows:

**YESS** - non uniform day on **Friday, 7 February**. Donations will be given to YESS, a charity based in Uttoxeter supporting young people with emotional issues.

**Koala Bears in Australia** - the School Council has organised a red themed non uniform day on Friday, 14 February. Donations will be used to help koala bears that have been injured in the bush fires. A separate letter has been sent.

**Easter eggs** - donations of Easter eggs gratefully received! We are supporting the Lichfield Diocese 'Share a miracle' initiative, and so the Easter Eggs will be given to the over 60's who join us for afternoon tea on **Friday, 27 March**. Any surplus eggs will be donated to Cheadle and District Food bank. Please hand Easter eggs in to the office by **Wednesday, 25 March** please.

**Sponsored read** - this will take place during the week commencing **Monday, 2 March**. Funds raised will be used to boost the reading resources in school. More information will follow shortly.

**Bingo Night** - the School Association is organising a Mexican themed Bingo Night for the grown ups to be held at The Blacksmiths Arms on **Saturday, 7 March**. All welcome!

**Promise auction** - this will take place in Alton Village Hall on **Friday, 27 March**. Promises and your support at the event greatly appreciated! A separate letter has been sent home or can be found on the web site.

## Class 3 K2M - Music lessons

After the half term holiday, Class 3 will have 3 half terms of ukulele tuition with Mrs Omer each Friday morning. This will replace violins until the end of this academic year. Violins will return in September. We feel this will give the children a further experience of learning a musical instrument.

## Thank you.....

To all our volunteers. We do appreciate your time.

To those of you who have been doing handyman jobs for us and to those who have volunteered for the 'little jobs' rota!

## Car parking

Parking outside school is a nightmare! Please DON'T park opposite the yellow zigzags or block the car park or our neighbours driveways. If you are running a little late, please don't pull up outside the school as it is a danger to others who are either entering or leaving the school gates. If the issue persists, we will have no option but to involve the local PCSO.

Thank you for your co-operation.

## Bad weather

Just in case we experience 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 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:

<https://apps2.staffordshire.gov.uk/sln/schoolclosures/>

## 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.**
- If you walk your dog to school with you, please can you be mindful that not all children like dogs so please can you stand away from the gates.

## 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 the calendar

A booklet of dates planned for the year has been sent home but here are a few reminders and additional items!

Date	Applies to	Event/Activity
<b>February</b>		
Tuesday, 4 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4	Visit to Ryecroft Middle School 9.00am to 12
Wednesday, 5 <sup>th</sup>	Class 3	Visit to Denstone - Roman soldier in school!
Friday, 7 <sup>th</sup>	All	Non uniform day in aid of YESS charity (letter already sent home)
Wednesday, 12 <sup>th</sup>	All	Library van
Friday, 14 <sup>th</sup>	All	Non uniform day - School Council to help Koala Bears in Australia
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> to Friday, 21 <sup>st</sup>	All	Half term holiday
Monday, 24 <sup>th</sup>	All	School Association meeting at The Blacksmiths Arms, 7.00pm - all welcome!
Wednesday, 26 <sup>th</sup>	All	Library van
Thursday, 27 <sup>th</sup>	Class 3	Roman Feast in school - parents and grandparents welcome from 2.30pm
Friday, 28 <sup>th</sup>	All	Deadline for promises to be submitted for inclusion in auction brochure
<b>March</b>		
Monday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> to Friday, 6 <sup>th</sup>	All	Sponsored 'Read Week'
Wednesday, 4 <sup>th</sup>	Class 3	Chartwells workshop 'Inside Out' - Healthy Eating in connection with Science topic
Thursday, 5 <sup>th</sup>	All	World Book Day - poems and rhymes. Fancy dress theme is favourite book character!
Saturday, 7 <sup>th</sup>	All	Mexican themed Bingo Night for the grown ups at The Blacksmiths Arms
Wednesday, 11 <sup>th</sup>	All	Parents/grandparents shared reading event 2.30pm to 3.15pm
Monday, 23 <sup>rd</sup>	All	Parent consultations 3.15pm to 5.00pm
Tuesday, 24 <sup>th</sup>	All	Parent consultations 3.15pm to 6.00pm
Friday, 27 <sup>th</sup>	Over 60's	Afternoon Tea for the Over 60's 1.45pm to 3.15pm
Friday, 27 <sup>th</sup>	All	Promise Auction in Alton Village Hall
<b>April</b>		
Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup>	All	Curriculum event in school at 2.15pm - more details to follow
Thursday, 2 <sup>nd</sup>	All	Easter Service in St Peter's Church at 9.15am
Thursday, 2 <sup>nd</sup>	All	Easter Bonnet Parade and refreshments in school following the Easter Service
Friday, 3 <sup>rd</sup>	All	Last day of Spring term
Monday, 6 <sup>th</sup> to Friday, 17 <sup>th</sup>	All	Easter holiday
Monday, 20 <sup>th</sup>	All	School closed - INSET day for staff

Holiday/term dates for 2020/21 are available from the office or the web site