



# St Peter's CE Academy, Alton

## Newsletter November 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

Deputy Executive Headteacher: Mrs A Bennett



### Mobile app



Visit either Google Play for Android or The App Store for iPhone and search for The Parent App. You should see the app come up in the search with the Phenix logo. Install this app and then in the search bar of that app, start to type in the name of the academy and it will come up in the search results. Click on the name of the academy in the results list to download the app to your phone.

The link below demonstrates how it works:

<https://vimeo.com/339368938/17e0c05b96>

**Please take a minute to visit our web site for lots of curriculum links, information and photos.....**

### Thank you.....!

To all our helpers and volunteers. You are much appreciated and we look forward to welcoming you back as soon as we can.

To Mrs McKane for re-staining the benches.

To Mrs Coultas for keeping our garden tidy.

To Charlie and Megan in Year 4 who laid our poppy wreath at the village war memorial.

To everyone for your donations to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

### Welcome to.....

Mrs Capper, our new Lunchtime Supervisor and Mr Jake Goodley, our new Caretaker/Handyman. We hope they will be happy working with us!

### School Admissions 2021

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.

#### Children in Nursery

If your child will be 4 years old before 1 September 2021, you will have received a letter from Staffordshire County Council inviting you to apply for a place in Reception from September 2021.

The closing date for applications is **15 January 2021**. You can apply on line at [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions)

#### Children in Year 4

If your child is in Year 4 this year, you will have received a letter from Staffordshire County Council inviting you to apply for a place at Middle School from September 2021. The closing date for applications is **15 January 2021**. You can apply on line at [www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/admissions)

## Parent Pay

Thank you for keeping on top of the balances owing in Parent Pay. Sorry to keep hounding you but it helps our accounting process if we can clear balances at the end of each half term.

## Cool Milk

The children in Nursery and Reception (until their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday) receive a 189ml carton of free milk each day. If your child is over 5 years old and would like to receive a carton of milk at a subsidised price, please register at Cool Milk:

[www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)

There is also a link on our web site.

## Early Education and Childcare Survey

Staffordshire County Council has asked us to share this: Parent or parent-to-be? StaffordshireCC would like your views on your childcare needs, childcare in lockdown etc. Get your voice heard by taking this survey by 30<sup>th</sup> November: <https://tinyurl.com/y2ane8hu>

## Clubs

Soccer Stars, who support our PE lessons on Mondays, have been forced to pause the after school club on Mondays due to latest government restrictions. We will resume as soon as we can and apologies for any disappointment!

## School Meals

Christmas Dinner will be held in school on **Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> December**. If your child usually brings sandwiches you can order a Christmas Meal with Mrs Pemberton by **Friday, 4 December**. Payment for children in Nursery and Years 3 and 4 will be taken through Parent Pay.

Nursery children who don't normally attend on Friday lunchtimes and afternoons are welcome to do so - please see Mrs Pemberton by Friday, 4 December.

## Easy Fundraising

Thank you to all those who have registered with a web site called Easy Fundraising. It's amazing! With Christmas fast approaching and more on line shopping this year, you can shop on line through this site at various well known stores and they pay us money!! 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>

Please sign up - it's easy and completely FREE! 4,400 shops and sites will donate to us when you do your usual online shopping with them - at no extra cost to you!!

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

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



## Children in Need

As you already know, the School Council has invited the children to come to school on Friday in non uniform and/or with crazy hair. It is £1 each or £2 for both to be donated to Children in Need. Thank you for your support!

## Head Lice

Please check the whole family on a regular basis and treat as required. We have access to a limited number of free samples of an organic head lice treatment kindly supplied by a local business. Further supplies can be obtained at a discounted price! Please see Mrs Pemberton.

## Covid 19

Please be assured that the staff are all doing their best to keep up to date with the latest information from the Department for Education and Public Health England and implement the advice given to keep your children, families and themselves safe and well. We will continue to keep you informed via email or our web site. There are links on our web site to the latest government information. If your child or a member of your family develops symptoms, please ensure you arrange a test and keep us informed so we can take any necessary action in school. Thank you for your co-operation and support.

## Home Learning

Our academy pays for subscriptions for each child in Reception to Year 4 to Reading Eggs, Maths Seeds and Education City. Please make sure you take advantage of these at home at any time, not just when self isolating! ☺

If your family is isolating, we will send home learning to you via email as well. If your child is ill, they are not expected to complete the work until they are feeling better. The work sent home will be as close as possible to the work completed in school. Please bear with us if work doesn't arrive as quickly as you would like due to our teaching commitment, we won't forget and will get it to you as soon as possible. Thank you!

## Blue Peter

[Blue Peter on YouTube](#) has launched at CBBC!

Blue Peter is the longest running children's TV show in the world and videos are suitable for 5-11 year olds. There are world record breaking challenges, arts and crafts, environmental videos, cooking and baking how tos, inspirational films, gaming, celebrity appearances, dance routines and music performances. It also features ways of getting a Blue Peter badge, behind the scenes footage and extra content about the presenters Adam, Lindsey, Mwaksy, Richie and Henry the Blue Peter dog.



## Lost Property

Any items with names on will be returned to their owner so please, please make sure all items are named. Any un-named items can be found in the box in the entrance hall. Thank you!

## School Association (PTA)

The minutes of the last meeting and Annual General Meeting (AGM) will shortly be posted on the noticeboard in the entrance hall and the school web site. The meetings were successfully held on Zoom due to the current situation. The following officers were appointed at the AGM:

**Chair** - Lyndsay Doubell

**Vice Chair** - Helen Stone

**Secretary** - Beth Flashman

**Treasurer** - Debbie Dodge

Our thanks are extended to the outgoing committee members.

Fundraising was the main topic for discussion at the general meeting. As the usual fundraising activities are currently on hold, a 'donation' system is proposed until fundraising can resume.

Information has already been sent by email. If you do send a donation, please remember to complete and hand in your gift aid form as this increases your donation at no extra cost to you!

The Governors, staff and children appreciate the tremendous support given by the School Association.

The next meeting will again take place on Zoom at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 1 December. Everyone is welcome to join in!



# Busy Bodies Out of Hours Club

We are pleased to report that Busy Bodies Out of Hours Club is going well! Sessions are led by Miss Sutton assisted by Mrs Tatton. It is helpful in the current circumstances, if sessions could be pre-booked so we can keep children in their class 'bubbles' as much as possible. As we advised in the recent email, we will keep a waiting list for places if necessary so if you find your place at a session is no longer needed, please let us know as soon as you can so we can offer it to someone else.

Fees will be payable through Parent Pay and 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 is 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 continued success!

## A Few Reminders

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

**CLASS 1 - REMEMBER TO WEAR PE KIT TO SCHOOL ON THURSDAYS**

**CLASSES 2 AND 3 - REMEMBER TO WEAR PE KIT TO SCHOOL ON FRIDAYS**

- Please follow the new arrival times for a safe and prompt registration and start of the school day at 9.00am. Late comers disrupt the registration process. If you do arrive late, after the door has closed, please can you sign your child in at the office. Thank you.
- Please ensure all items of clothing are named.
- Please make sure your child brings a coat to school each day (no umbrellas please!).
- 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 or block ANY gateways. Please also drive carefully on routes in to the village and school. Thank you!
- 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](mailto: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. 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.
- 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 - an email and 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](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/education/schoolsandcolleges/emergencyclosures/schoolclosurelist)

## Christmas!



Well, Christmas celebrations will be a little different this year! We will do our best to ensure the children have the best possible time in school while keeping in their bubbles and following all guidance current at the time! We are planning a week of activities leading up to the end of term including Christmas Dinner followed by class parties on the last day of term, **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December**.

We have been in contact with our sources in Lapland and the man himself is planning to call by and drop off sacks of parcels which we will distribute safely in school. Unfortunately, we are unable to hold our usual production in St Peter's Church but rest assured there are plans afoot to record something for parents and possibly the web site, subject to permissions. Sorry but there will not be a Class 3 Christmas violin performance this year.

## Dates for the calendar



Date	Applies to	Event/Activity
<b>November</b>		
Monday, 16 <sup>th</sup>	All	Parent Governor ballot papers to be returned by 3.00pm
Friday, 13 <sup>th</sup>	All	Non uniform and/or crazy hair for Children in Need
Friday, 20 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery	Deadline for changes and new applications for the Spring term
<b>December</b>		
Tuesday, 1 <sup>st</sup>	All	School Association (PTA) meeting on Zoom at 7.30pm
Friday, 4 <sup>th</sup>	All	Christmas Dinner order deadline
Monday, 7 <sup>th</sup>	Years R to 4	Flu vaccinations in school
Friday, 11 <sup>th</sup>	All	Party afternoon to recognise those who have celebrated their birthdays this term
Friday, 18 <sup>th</sup>	All	Christmas lunch and party afternoon
Friday, 18 <sup>th</sup>	All	School closes - end of term
<b>January</b>		
Monday, 4 <sup>th</sup>	All	School closed - INSET day for staff
Tuesday, 5 <sup>th</sup>	All	School re-opens for the Spring term
Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery and Year 4	Closing date for applications to Reception and middle school