



St Peter's CE Academy, Alton

Newsletter March 2021



LOVE, RESPECT AND FRIENDSHIP

Telephone: 01538 702321

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

Executive Headteacher: Mrs R Walker

Executive Deputy Headteacher: Mrs A Bennett



Welcome back!

It is great to have everyone back in school.

Thank you all so much for your support with home learning and keeping your children at home where possible. We hope you found our new Microsoft Learning Platform beneficial.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance.

We will continue to keep our web site updated with our latest Covid 19 risk assessment and current government guidance.

Please see Academy Information, then Useful Links.

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 at the latest. 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!

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.

World Book Day

World Book Day was **Thursday, 4 March**. Each child has received a £1 book voucher that can be used in local stores.

Temporary drop off and collection times

Due to the current restrictions in place due to Covid 19, we are working really hard to keep our classes/bubbles separate as much as possible. Please try and keep to your designated times so that we can keep numbers in the corridors and front playground to a minimum. **Once your child has entered the building** or you have collected them at the end of the day, please move away from the school to ensure we can maintain social distancing as much as we can with our limited space!

| | Drop off | Collect |
|---------|----------|---------|
| Class 1 | 9.00am | 3.15pm |
| Class 2 | 8.55am | 3.10pm |
| Class 3 | 8.50am | 3.05pm |

Car parking

Parking outside school is a nightmare but thank you to everyone for co-operating with our efforts to make it safer outside the gates! 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. We would encourage you to park on the layby at the top of Town Head if possible please. Thank you for your co-operation.

Welcome to....

Mrs Lewis who has joined us as a Teaching Assistant for a term to support our Covid Catch Up plans.

Parent Consultations

As you know parent consultations are not planned for this term to allow the teachers and children to settle back in and assess progress, however, teachers are planning to give you a call towards the end of term to update you on progress. A letter will follow next week. In the meantime, if you do have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's class teacher who will be happy to help.

Uniform

We have stock of jumpers, cardigans, items with the school logo available from the office. Please complete an order form available from the office or web site if you need any items for the summer term.

Fundraising

As you know, usual fundraising activities have not been able to take place.

Easter Eggs for Cheadle and District Foodbank - the School Association donated advent calendars to Cheadle and District Foodbank before Christmas which were gratefully received and now plan to send Easter eggs. If you would like to donate an Easter egg, please hand them in to the office by **Friday, 19th March** ready for delivery in time for Easter.

Comic Relief's Red Nose Day - the School Council is organising a non uniform day in aid of Comic Relief on **Friday, 19th March**. They have suggested a donation of £1 please.

Children's Society - we have a collection box in school in aid of Children's Society. This is collected on a regular basis and donated to the charity through St Peter's Church. If you would like to donate, please let Mrs Pemberton know.

School Association (PTA) donations - thank you to all who have donated to the School Association in lieu of the usual fundraising activities. It is very much appreciated by all of us.

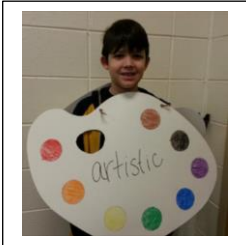
School donations - in addition to the above, two members of the local community generously donated towards an iPad for use in school and a laptop for home learning. A parent has also generously donated towards our IT upgrade project planned over the Easter holiday. We will be having new whiteboards in each classroom, upgraded WiFi and a further 6 new laptops. Some of these will also be kept as stand alone machines so we have devices to loan should the need arise in future. We only received 1 laptop from the DfE which was delivered last Thursday!!!

Nursery Taster - help needed please

We are planning to hold a Nursery Taster session for the children due to join us in the Autumn term. This will take place on **Wednesday, 30 June 2021** between 9.15am and 11.45am. This plan is subject to any Covid 19 restrictions in place at the time. If you know of any pre-school children in the village, please let Mrs Pemberton know or ask them to make contact with the office. We are missing being able to visit the toddler group to introduce ourselves!

Vocabulary Wow Day

On **Wednesday 24th March** we are going to hold a themed vocabulary day. The children are invited to choose a word and come to school dressed as that word. If you are looking for inspiration search for 'Vocabulary dress up day' on the internet and there are lots of ideas. During the day the children will complete a range of activities that, as well as being fun, will help to extend their vocabulary.



Easter Service



At present we will be unable to hold our usual Easter Service in St Peter's Church. We are planning to record a short performance which we will post on our web site at the end of term. The children are welcome to make an Easter Bonnet which they can parade in school on the morning of **Wednesday, 31 March**.

Wootton Cricket Club

We have been asked by Wootton Cricket Club to share the following with you:

If your daughter or son is interested in playing cricket Wootton CC offers:

- Fully qualified coaching
- All Stars Cricket (for 5 to 8 year olds)
- Participation in the South Moorlands Junior Cricket League (U8's to U16's)
- Participation in the Derbyshire County Cricket League
- Clubmark accreditation since 2009
- A friendly club in a great setting

Please contact our Club Coach, Sid Barker
Tel. 07973 226 715



Our Garden

Have you seen the new page on our web site? Please look under Curriculum and we have a new page called 'Our Garden'. Volunteers to help with watering during school holidays are always welcome and a rota will be on the noticeboard shortly.

Our thanks go to Mrs Coultas for giving her time and for keeping the garden well stocked and maintained!



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.*

Coronavirus - Covid 19

We are mindful that you will be concerned about the health of your children and would like to reassure you that we are assessing any potential risks on an ongoing basis. The advice we are following is regularly updated. Our latest risk assessment is available on our web site. The wellbeing of our community is of the utmost importance. We will continue to keep you informed as official advice changes through emails, letters and our web site - Academy Information, then Useful Links.

Please note:

- All staff are aware of the signs and symptoms of Coronavirus COVID19
- Pupils are being reminded about the importance of good hygiene including regular washing of hands.

The latest update from the NHS can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Further information specifically for educational settings can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-covid-19>

A helpline to answer questions about COVID19 relating to education for staff, parents and young people can be contacted as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687 Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

Dates for the calendar

| Date | Applies to | Event/Activity |
|---|------------|--|
| March | | |
| Monday, 8 th | All | All pupils return to school following 'lockdown' |
| Friday, 19 th | All | Non uniform in aid of Comic Relief |
| Friday, 19 th | All | Easter Egg donations to be taken to Cheadle Foodbank |
| Tuesday, 23 rd | All | National Day of Reflection |
| Wednesday, 24 th | All | Vocabulary Wow Day |
| Wednesday, 31 st | All | Easter Bonnet Parade |
| April | | |
| Thursday, 1 st | All | Last day of Spring term |
| Thursday, 1 st | All | Class birthday parties (pm) |
| Monday, 19 th | All | School closed - INSET Day for staff |
| Tuesday, 20 th | All | School reopens for the Summer term |
| May | | |
| Monday, 3 rd | All | School closed - Bank Holiday |
| Wednesday, 26 th | All | Sports Day - Covid guidance and weather permitting! |
| Thursday, 27 th | All | Sports Day (reserve - Covid guidance and weather permitting! |
| Monday, 31 st May to Friday, 4 th June | All | Half term holiday |

Holiday/term dates for 2021/22 are available from the office or the web site