



St Peter's CE Academy, Alton

Newsletter November 2021



LOVE, RESPECT AND FRIENDSHIP

Telephone: 01538 702321

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

Executive Headteacher: Mrs R Walker

Deputy Executive Headteacher: Mrs A Bennett



Web site

During the half term holiday our new web site launched at: www.st-peters-alton.staffs.sch.uk.

We are aware there may be a few items that need updating and we will be doing this over the next couple of weeks and ongoing.

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

Thank you.....!

To all our helpers and volunteers. You are much appreciated!

To Mrs Coultas for keeping our garden tidy and taking groups to visit the library van.

Mrs Gardner and Mrs Vaughan for listening to children read.

To Jacob and Isla in Year 4 who will lay our poppy wreath at the village war memorial on Sunday.

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

To everyone for supporting our fundraising in aid of the well in Nepal - we have almost reached our target!

School Admissions 2022

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 2022 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.

Nursery Spring starters - We are in the process of contacting children who can join Nursery after Christmas inviting them to join us for a taster session on **Wednesday, 15th December!**

Children in Nursery

If your child will be 4 years old before 1 September 2022, you will have received a letter from Staffordshire County Council inviting you to apply for a place in Reception from September 2022.

The closing date for applications is **15 January 2022**. You can apply on line at

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Admissions-primary/Apply/Overview.aspx>

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 2022. The closing date for applications is **15 January 2022**. You can apply on line at

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Admissions-primary/Apply/Overview.aspx>

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 all balances at the end of each half term. Keeping on top of Busy Bodies fees ensures we don't need to charge for initial registration or for cancellation of pre-booked sessions. We also haven't increased the session prices for the last couple of years!

Cool Milk

The children in Nursery and Reception (until their 5th 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:

<https://customers.coolmilk.com/V2/register/>

There is also a link on our web site.

Easy Fundraising

Thank you to everyone for raising donations for St Peter's CE Academy - Alton with #easyfundraising! If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE. 6,100 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to do your everyday online shopping - at no extra cost to you! Every donation you raise makes a difference to us so please sign up & share today:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stpeterscealton/?invite=NIBW5L%26referral-campaign=c2s%26utm_campaign=admin-trigger%26utm_content=srt

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

The School Council invites the children to come to school on **Friday, 19th November** in non uniform with a spotty theme. Please bring a donation of £1 for Children in Need. Thank you for your support!

Clubs

Soccer Stars, who support our PE lessons on Mondays, continue to run an after school club on Monday evenings. Details have already been circulated but if you need them sending again, then please let me know.

School Meals

Christmas Dinner will be held in school on **Friday, 17th December**. If your child usually brings sandwiches you can order a Christmas Meal with Mrs Pemberton by **Friday, 3 December**. Payment for children in Nursery and Years 3 and 4 will be taken through Parent Pay (£2.35 per meal). Nursery children who don't normally attend on Friday lunchtimes and afternoons are welcome to do so - please see Mrs Pemberton by Friday, 3 December.

Poet visit

Thank you to all of you who contributed towards the cost of the poet, Andy Tooze, who visited us last week. The children had a great time and learnt so much from him. They wrote and performed their own poetry and this will be displayed in the classrooms.

If you missed the date, it's not too late to contribute via ParentPay.

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 PCR test at a local test centre and keep us informed so we can take any necessary action in school. Thank you for your co-operation and support.

Learning at home

Our academy pays subscriptions for each child in Reception to Year 4 to Reading Eggs and Education City and in addition TT Rockstars for Years 3 and 4. Please make sure you take advantage of these at home at any time, not just when self isolating! 😊 We had thought we may have to cancel Reading Eggs this year due to the cost but have been offered a good deal to renew for everyone - log ins have now been reactivated so if you have any problems, then please let us know.

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!

Christmas Activities!



Classes 1 and 2 - will be joining with All Saints, Denstone for a travelling theatre production on **Thursday, 9th December**. Letter to follow.

Class 3 - will be visiting the New Vic Theatre on **Wednesday, 15th December** for their production of Beauty and the Beast.

CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION - PLEASE NOTE THE DATES. For a number of reasons, this will take place with slightly different arrangements this year. A separate letter will follow with the details but so you can add it to your calendar there will be 2 performances in St Peter's Church - **Tuesday, 14th December at 2.00pm and Wednesday, 15th December at 6.00pm**. This is subject to Covid guidance in place at the time.

Christmas Dinner and Party - takes place in school on **Friday, 17th December**.

Cheadle and District Foodbank

On the first Sunday of each month, St Peter's Church is planning a collection of non perishable food items to be delivered to Cheadle and District Foodbank. If you would like to contribute, you are invited to take items to church by the Friday before the first Sunday eg by Friday 3rd December ready for Sunday 5th December or you may hand your donations in to the school office. Please remember they must be non perishable and have a good use by date! Thank you for your support.

Lost Property

Lost property is a nightmare and haunts my sleep!!! 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 office. Thank you!



Busy Bodies Out of Hours Club

We are pleased to report that Busy Bodies Out of Hours Club is going from strength to strength!! Sessions are led by Mrs Tatton assisted by Mrs Martin.

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 BRING PE KIT TO SCHOOL ON THURSDAYS IN A NAMED BAG

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

CLASS 3 - REMEMBER VIOLINS ON FRIDAYS

- The door opens at 8.50am ready for a prompt registration and start to 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). 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

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 are successfully held on Zoom due to the current situation. The next meeting (AGM) will again take place on Zoom at 7.30pm tonight, Thursday, 11 November. Everyone is welcome to join in and a link to the meeting has already been circulated!

The following officers will be appointed at the AGM tonight:

Chair

Vice Chair

Secretary

Treasurer

Our thanks are extended to the outgoing committee members.

Fundraising - thank you to all who donated promises for the recent Promises Auction and to all those who bought the promises! Over £2000 was raised - a tremendous amount! Thank you to Mrs Anna Brookes and her team for organising and Mrs Kate Woods for her services as auctioneer! The Governors, staff and children appreciate the tremendous support given by the School Association.



Dates for the calendar

Date	Applies to	Event/Activity
November		
Thursday, 11 th	All	School Association (PTA) AGM on Zoom - link already sent
Sunday, 14 th	All	Remembrance Celebration in St Peter's Church and at the War Memorial at 10.45am
Friday, 19 th	All	Spotty themed non uniform for Children in Need
Wednesday, 24 th	Class 3	Re-arranged visit to Apedale Heritage Centre
Friday, 26 th	Nursery	Deadline for changes and new applications for the Spring term
December		
Friday, 3 rd	All	Christmas Dinner order deadline
Thursday, 9 th	Classes 1 and 2	Travelling Theatre production at Denstone Village Hall (am)
Tuesday, 14 th	All	Christmas Production in St Peter's Church at 2.00pm
Wednesday, 15 th	Pre-school	Taster session for Spring term Nursery starters 9.15am to 11.45am
Wednesday, 15 th	Class 3	Visit to New Vic Theatre - Beauty and the Beast (am)
Wednesday, 15 th	All	Christmas Production in St Peter's Church at 6.00pm
Friday, 17 th	All	Christmas lunch and party afternoon
Friday, 17 th	All	School closes - end of term
January		
Tuesday, 4 th	All	School closed - INSET day for staff
Wednesday, 5 th	All	School re-opens for the Spring term
Saturday, 15 th	Nursery and Year 4	Closing date for applications to Reception and middle school

PLEASE NOTE THE DATES OF OUR CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION - A CHANGE FROM PREVIOUSLY CIRCULATED