



Dear Parents

We have had an action packed half term, where our learners have experienced an engaging and challenging curriculum.

My vision for the school is to ensure that we continue to have a strong focus on our Christian values. We want to grow like a seed grows into a lovely plant and to become better people, sharing the Gospel values with the world we live in. Each term we will focus on a different Christian value. This is done through our collective worship, curriculum and everything we do at St Peter's Catholic Primary school. Father Michael regularly visits the school and this helps us to reinforce our understanding of each value. The values we explore and strive to live by are: love, hope, honesty, respect, forgiveness and perseverance. Our motto and focus will be "Growing through God's Gospel".

I would like to say thank you to all the parents who attended the parent meetings this term- there was a great turn out.

Our priorities for our school improvement this year are included in our Newsletter - these highlight areas we need to work on to continue to make St Peter's school a high quality learning community.

You will have noticed that all staff are closely monitoring the homework/reading records/uniforms - I myself continue to monitor this. PLEASE read with your children and help them with their homework.

Please ensure that your child's school uniform is clearly labelled. Thank you for giving your child the best possible start to their school life. Your children will also be doing home learning on their topic this half term, so do support them with this.

We have had lots of prospective parents visiting our school this term - it always makes me very proud to see how polite and articulate our pupils are about our school. If you know you will be moving from St.Peter's, do let us know as soon as possible, so that we can fill the place immediately, as we have many applicants on our ever increasing waiting list.

We remember in our prayers, all those who are hungry and all members of the community who are sick, under emotional or mental strain and all those recently deceased. Thank you for the generous donations for our food bank collection this term. It is much appreciated. We work together as a St. Peter's family to share the love of God.

We ask God our Father to continue to guide us and help us in all we do. As we are in the month of October, we remember to say the Rosary as a family.

Please let me know if I can help with anything.

Enjoy your holiday.

**Miss Du Bruyn
Headteacher**

Dates For Your Diary



- 1st November - Start Term 2
- 4th November - Year 5 to Mass
- 8th November - Prayer Group, Team Training and Choir start this week
- 11th November - Years 5 and 6 Critical Thinking/Social Awareness Workshop
- 11th November - Year 4 to Mass
- 18th November - Year 3 to Mass
- 25th November - Class Photos
- 25th November - Year 6 to Mass
- 28th November - First Sunday of Advent
- 30th November - 'Jack and the Beanstalk' Pantomime Workshop for all classes
- 2nd December - Year 5 to Mass
- 2nd December - Infant Nativity Play
- 5th December - Second Sunday of Advent
- 8th December - Junior Christmas Concert
- 9th December - Year 4 to Mass
- 12th December - Third Sunday of Advent
- 14th December - Christmas Lunch Day
- 14th December - Christmas Jumper Day
- 16th December - Last Day of Term (No Toys/School Uniform to be worn)

School finishes at 1.00pm

4th January - Start of Term 3

Charities



CAFOD/Greenwich Food Bank

Thank you to all those parents who contributed to our Harvest Festival collection this year and also made donations for CAFOD. We celebrated a special Harvest assembly in school, and all food collected will be distributed via Greenwich Food Bank, to help people in the local community.

School Governors

The Governors play a vital role in the running of the school and the implementing and overseeing of all the work of the school. Governors are the largest volunteer force in the country, and we thank all our Governors for their hard work and continued support at St. Peter's School. A number of Governors have already visited St.Peter's this school year, to attend a number of meetings.

School Visits/Activities:



Junior classes started to attend Mass during the last half of Term 1, and will continue to regularly attend Mass next term.

We held Harvest Festival assemblies for all our children. During the assemblies we discussed CAFOD, and explained the importance of their work and gave thanks for all the donations received. All food that had kindly been donated would go to Greenwich Food Bank, who would distribute it to our local community.

Year 4 visited the Library for a Drumming workshop as part of Black History Month. The children were able to participate, singing African songs and listening to and discussing African folk tales.

Year 6 attended a Safety Bus Workshop, organised by Royal Greenwich Road Safety Team, focussing on all areas of personal safety when travelling. This was particularly useful as many Year 6 will be travelling to their secondary schools independently in September.

Meet the Teacher week and Parents Evening week were very successful. It was wonderful to see so many parents. Parents commented on how very useful it was to receive clear and concise information with regards to work in the classroom and ways in which parents can help their child with studies.

The whole school took part in Mindfulness Workshops over a full day. Through games and exercise, children learnt strategies to improve mental health, enhance focus for learning and develop social skills.

Year 5 went to the Library to attend a lesson in identity and education, titled 'The Day Prince Philip Came to Tea'.

To celebrate National Poetry Day, Year 6 visited the Library for a workshop examining all related topics, including poets in south London and performance poetry.

As part of the Bob and Roberta Smith art project, that will be transferring to the Tate in London, schools were asked to submit art work reflecting the impact of Covid 19 on our local community, how people supported each other during the pandemic and the positive aspects of Thamesmead. We are delighted to say a number of our talented children's artworks are to be included in the project. As Mr and Mrs Hammond were initially involved, they were invited to the open evening, and received many good comments about the art work St.Peter's school had submitted. Well done to all those who took part.

Parking Outside School



Please do not park illegally outside St.Peter's school. Traffic Wardens are now patrolling Crescent Road and surrounding roads. For example, it is illegal to park on or across someone's drive or to park on zig-zag lines or yellow lines (check restriction times) - if you do, the Traffic Warden will issue you with a ticket - they are doing their job helping to keep all our children and community safe.

Also please be respectful to residents in the road, and do not park across their driveways, or indeed on their driveways. Please leave yourself enough time to park further away from the school, or walk to school if you can.

Adult and Child Use of Mobiles in School

As you are aware, safeguarding of our school community is a priority for us all. As is the practice in many other schools, we ask that parents/carers **do not use their mobile phones** on the school grounds, when bringing or collecting their children. Similarly, please could you remind your child, that if it is absolutely necessary for them to bring their mobile phones to school, and you have given written permission, that they switch their phones off immediately on entering the school grounds, and do not switch them on again until they leave the school grounds. This helps to prevent pictures of children being taken inadvertently, or, for adults, inappropriate language being used without thought for those who might be standing close by. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Dinner Money



Dinner Money for next term (up to 16/12/21) totals £88.40 per child, payable for all Junior children. You can pay via PlusPay, cash payment or cheque. If paying by cheque, please make payable to 'St. Peter's School RBG'. **Please ensure you keep a personal tally of how much dinner money you have paid - we are not always available to do this for you.**

PLEASE NOTE: In the exceptional circumstance that your child may need to change from Packed Lunch to School Dinners or vice versa, **please let the office know first**. Children are required to remain EITHER School Meals or Packed Lunch for the whole term.

Purchases Made in School



The PlusPay system is now up and running in school, enabling you to pay for school dinners or uniform via Parentmail. You can use this system for a wide range of school payments, including school trips, after school clubs, music lessons, governor's fund and school journey.

We are still accepting cash and cheque payments, however the office **DO NOT CARRY CHANGE**, so please ensure the correct payment is made.

We also ask that if you wish to purchase uniform, you ensure you order the correct size.

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

Child Protection

Thank you to all those parents who returned the Hometime Arrangements and Emergency Contact forms.

As Governors, Headteacher and staff of St. Peter's School, through the implementation of the Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy (held in the School Office and on the Website), we endeavour to ensure that all child protection issues, or where there are reasonable grounds to suspect an issue, for example a child stating they have had no breakfast that morning or they had been hit by an adult etc..., will be dealt with appropriately including reporting to the duty social services officer, who must involve the Police, who will act on the concern. Let the school know if your child has had an accident/fall at home resulting in bumps, marks or bruises or if your child has been upset for a particular reason. Schools have a statutory responsibility under section 175 of the Education Act 2002 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children both in and out of school, and are legally bound, in our duty of care, to make referrals to Social Care, particularly as physical chastisement may be illegal in certain circumstances. We have to, as professionals, 'Think the Unthinkable' to safeguard our children.

The Greenwich Safeguarding Children Board have a very informative website, with lots of information and further links, that parents can access <https://www.greenwichsafeguardingchildren.org.uk> The website covers areas such as domestic violence, parental mental ill health, prevention and early help, safeguarding in education and recognising and addressing abuse.

School/Parent Information Sharing



So that our whole school community is aware of what is happening in school, we have a number of ways of sharing information.

We send letters and newsletters home on a regular basis - please, please ensure you check your child's bag every evening or remind your child to give you any letters received and please read it carefully, as a number of letters, ie after school clubs or trips have a deadline date or important dates for your diary.

We use Parentmail for emergency information and date reminders. Please keep the office up to date with regard to any changes to your mobile phone number, so that you do not miss any Parentmail messages that are sent.

Please be sure to check our website regularly www.stpeters.greenwich.sch.uk. We have lots of useful information about the school on the website, ranging from the latest SATs results to the dates for Extra Curricular Activities. We also publish many of our school policies, including the Respect and Behaviour Policy, Safeguarding Policy, E-Safety Policy and Positive Handling Policy.

The Community Board in the entrance way is also updated with local events and news. Please check it on a regular basis.

School Trips

All of our arranged school trips are linked to the class curriculum, and play a vital part in your child's learning. We encourage all parents to ensure their child is able to attend. However, if for any reason your child cannot attend, ie financial, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Du Bruyn to discuss the matter further.

Getting Ready for Christmas



We are soon starting Advent, where we prepare for the Birth of Jesus. During Advent, we ask you to think about the little things we can do to help each other. A little effort goes a long way. Also, remember each other and those in need, in your prayers.

Fr Michael is always looking for altar servers - this is a wonderful opportunity for our young people to serve. Contact Fr Michael on 0208 854 0359.

Remember the 'Wednesday Word' - this is your chance as a family to prepare for the Gospel reading. There is a great website www.wednesdayword.org - Fr Michael also reminds us of this.

Fr Michael asks that if you know of any family or friends who have recently moved into the Parish, please could you ask them to register at St. Peter's Church.

School Uniform



It is always lovely to see our children looking smart in their school uniforms.

After half-term, ie Term 2, Summer uniform is not permitted, and children should wear white shirts and ties. Also if jumpers have been stretched and do not fit correctly anymore, you must buy a new one. We also have many 'lost property' jumpers which have been in the Lost Property box for a long time. These can be purchased in return for a small donation to the school.

Please ensure you label all your child's school uniform, and remind your child of the importance of looking after their school uniform, which in turn may lead to less uniform being 'lost'.

School Council



We are delighted to announce our new School Council. They are:

Year 2 - Rachel and Kalina

Year 3 - Best and Mickaella

Year 4 - Ethan and Jessica

Year 5 - Jasmine and Gabriel K

Year 6 - Emmanuel and Sophia

Each Councillor, prior to election, made a supporting statement as to why they should be chosen, and what they would do as a Councillor. They have had their first meeting and are already working hard with ideas and suggestions.

To date the School Council have had many successes, which is to the benefit of our whole school community.

Our House Captains are:

St.Paul's - Emmanuel and Seun

St.Luke's - Roqueeb and Chloe

St.Teresa - Chelsea and Joshua

Martin Luther King - Mara and Daniel K

Priorities for School Improvement

1. To foster knowledge and understanding of the Gospel values and growing in God's love.
2. To develop the Leadership, Management and Middle Leadership team.
3. To raise the quality of education through teaching, learning and assessment, providing more opportunities to broaden pupils' experiences.
4. To support all pupils to further develop their own personal skills, behaviour and attitudes towards learning.

Attendance



Our attendance this term has been very good, being 98% overall. Please help us to maintain this high level of attendance by arranging non-urgent appointments out of school time or during the holidays - your child's education will ALWAYS benefit from consistently good attendance. The attendance figures for the classes are as follows:

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| FS2 | 97.4% | Year 1 | 95.7% | Year 2 | 96.3% | | |
| Year 3 | 98.6% | Year 4 | 98.6% | Year 5 | 99.1% | Year 6 | 98.5% |

68% of our pupils achieved 100% attendance this term, which is a great achievement. At the end of next term, all those children who have maintained 100% attendance will receive a certificate to celebrate this great accomplishment.

We also monitor punctuality, both when a child arrives in the morning, and if a child is collected late. Please ensure your child is in school ready for a prompt start at 8.55am. Similarly please ensure your child is collected promptly at 3.15pm

Year 6 Secondary School Applications



Just a reminder to all parents, that the closing date for applications to Secondary Schools is 31st October 2021. If you are applying to a Church school you will **also need to return their supplementary form by this date.**

The Secondary school destinations for our Year 6 class of 2021/2022 were as follows:

| | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|
| St.Paul's Academy | - | 2 |
| St.Columba's | - | 2 |
| St.Catherine's | - | 1 |
| St.Ursula's | - | 8 |
| St.Matthews | - | 2 |
| Chatham Girls Grammar School | - | 2 |
| Beths Grammar | - | 1 |
| John Roan | - | 1 |
| Ark Greenwich Free School | - | 1 |
| Dartford Boys Grammar School | - | 1 |
| Eltham Hill School | - | 1 |
| Rochester Grammar School | - | 1 |
| Townley Grammar School | - | 2 |
| Wilmington Girls Grammar School | - | 1 |
| Woolwich Polytechnic Boys | - | 3 |
| Harris Academy Falconwood | - | 1 |

We wish all our pupils the very best for their futures.

Reception Intake 2022/2023

Just a quick reminder that parents applying for places for Reception Class 2022/2023 can collect the St. Peter's Supplementary Form from the School Office. The closing date for applicants is 15th January 2022.

(This is for children born 1.9.17 - 31.8.18)

Authorised Leave

It is important that children attend school every day. We work closely with the Attendance Officer to monitor and maintain the 98% good attendance that we regularly attain in school. Although we understand that there might be circumstances that families might need to travel abroad during term time, parents must request permission for authorised absence during term time, writing to the Headteacher explaining the exceptional circumstance. Unauthorised absence is always questioned by the Attendance Officer.

Working together will ensure we can provide the best care for all our children.

We wish you all a Happy and Safe Half-Term Holiday