

St Peter's Newsletter

Friday 11th December 2020



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Message from Mrs Murphy

Dear Parents, Pupils and Friends of St Peter's,

As we enter our final week of this unique term, may I thank all families for their support this week – particularly if your child is currently self-isolating. Please pray that no one in our school community falls ill or has a confirmed case next week, as this would mean large numbers of pupils would have to self-isolate over the Christmas period. As a result, please follow the advice outlined below:

If your child feels unwell, please do not send them to school. If your child, or anyone in your household or support bubble has COVID-19 symptoms, please do not send them to school. Please arrange a COVID-19 test and only send your child back to school if the test result is negative and your child is well. Families should self-isolate whilst they are awaiting results of their test.

This Sunday marks the third week of advent. The pink candle that will be lit symbolises joy. In this difficult year, it is important to remember the joy that Jesus' birth would have brought, and this is renewed every year as we celebrate this special miracle. Although we cannot enjoy assemblies, have whole year masses or services, there has been a festive atmosphere around school. Many of the staff and sixth form pupils wore their Christmas jumpers today to raise money for SIFA Fireside – some of whom you can see overleaf.

Finally, the theme of this week has been tolerance. Thank you to Mr Palin for creating some excellent resources that were shared by individual form tutors. This ties in perfectly with the second issue of our pupil newsletter entitled 'Our Voices' where the theme is privilege. It is a very enjoyable and informative read.

Maureen Murphy

Year of the Word



"In the beginning the Word already existed; the Word was with God, and the Word was God" John 1:1

Mass times in our Local Parishes

[St Augustine's Catholic Church](#)
[St Thomas More, Sheldon](#)
[St George & St Teresa Catholic Church
Olton Friary](#)
[Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic
Church](#)

Friday 18th December

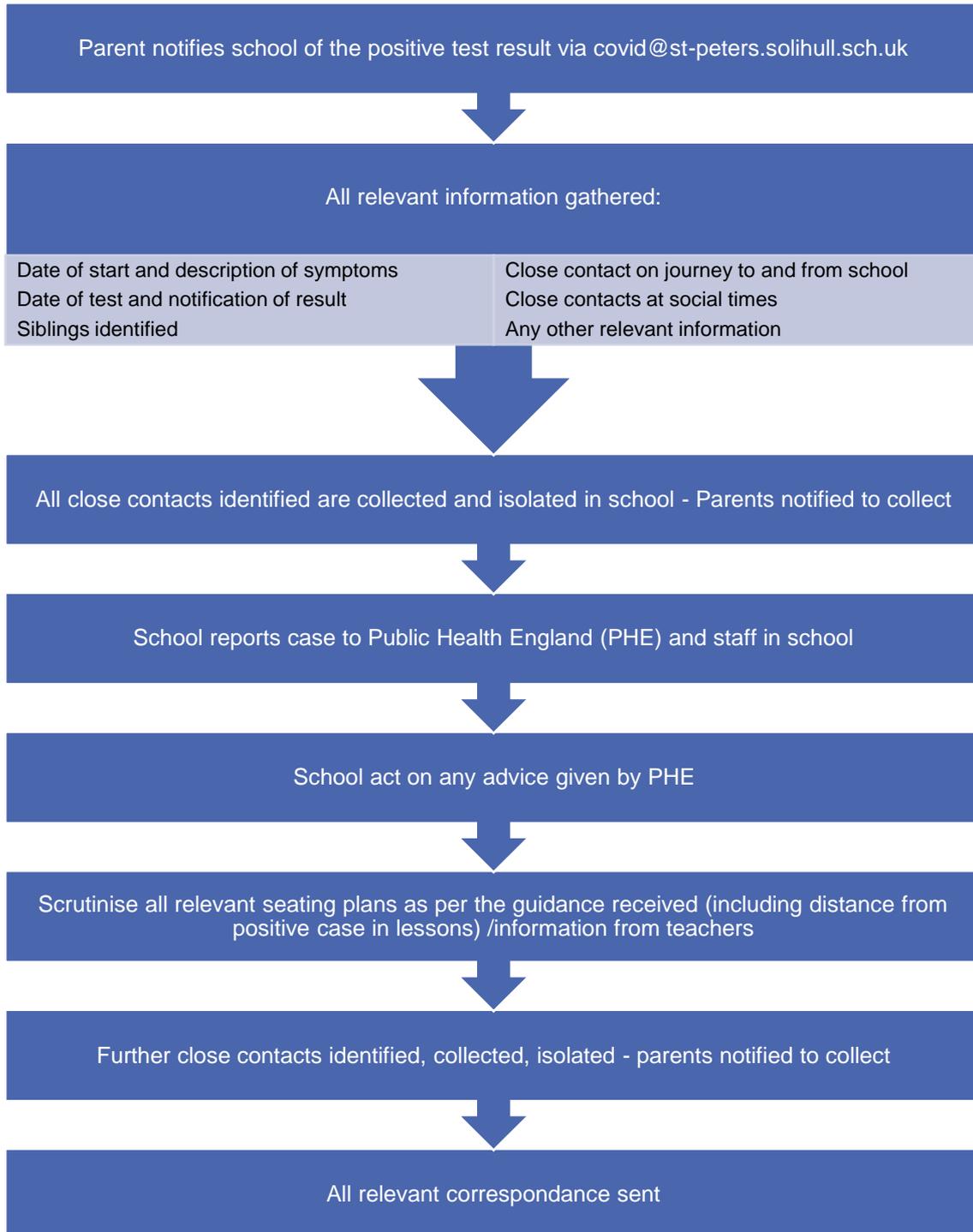
This year, all pupils will be breaking up for Christmas on Friday 18th December, at their normal time. This will be a normal school day. All pupils will be expected to be in full school uniform.



Faith is our Foundation

COVID Positive Cases

A reminder of the process undertaken in school when we receive notice of a positive case.



Christmas Jumper Day

Today, staff and pupils in Sixth Form joined in with annual Christmas jumper day. Money was raised for SIFA Fireside, the homeless charity. Here are some of the photos from earlier.



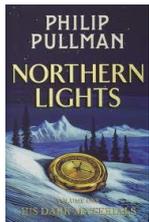
Looking for a decent book for a stocking filler?

Here at St Peter's, we are always promoting the importance of reading. It has so many benefits: it's therapeutic, it improves your memory, it teaches you new vocabulary and it's actually proven to make you better at maths! Most of all, it's enjoyable!! Some staff have suggested some books below that they think your child would enjoy and that would make the perfect stocking filler. Read on!

For Key Stage 3

'The Poet X' by Elizabeth Acevedo (recommended by Mr Mallon)

This is fantastically hard hitting book written in free verse about the challenges a teenager faces whilst growing up. The writer is a champion slam-poet and that passion exudes off each page. I've not read anything quite like this in a while and would recommend to everyone.

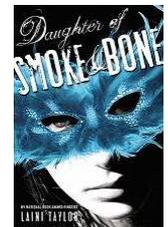


'Northern Lights' by Philip Pullman (recommended by Mrs Hutchings)

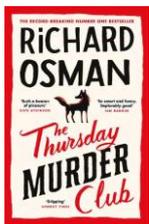
'Northern Lights' a beautiful creation of a world and a thrilling, complex, human narrative.

'Daughter of Smoke and Bone' by Laini Taylor (recommended by Mrs Wrottesley)

If you like books like 'Twilight' and 'Hunger Games', this might be for you. Black hand prints on doors signal the arrival of visitors from the sky. When one of those visitors encounters Karou, a blue haired, art student with a past mysterious even to herself, secrets of love, blood and warfare are revealed.



For Key Stage 4

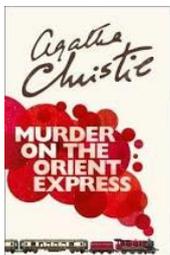
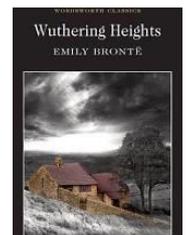


'The Thursday Murder Club' by Richard Osman (recommended by Ms Isle)

Set in an upmarket retirement village, a group of pensioner amateur sleuths are thrown into a real-life murder a little too close to home. Written by the TV Presenter of 'Pointless', this novel modernises the typical English 'whodunnit' with a rich array of eccentric yet lovable characters. This might be particularly interesting for potential A-Level Literature students who are currently exploring the crime genre.

'Wuthering Heights' by Emily Bronte (recommended by Mrs Przyrodski)

Although it is famously a story of love, it could be defined more accurately as a story of destruction and hate. Heathcliff and Catherine, from their childhood, form an unhealthy addiction to each other when they first meet at Catherine's house: Wuthering Heights. Who would enjoy reading this book? People who enjoy strong female characters.



'Murder on the Orient Express' by Agatha Christie (recommended by Mr Clinton)

Poirot, the famous Belgian detective, climbs aboard a luxurious train travelling through snowy Europe. Just after midnight, an American passenger is murdered. Which of the other passengers committed the crime? This is a real page turner, so if you like a quick read, you'll gallop through this in less than a week. A must for potential A Level Literature students.