

St Peter's Newsletter

Friday 15th October 2021



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the latest updates @StPetersSch

Message from Mrs Murphy

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

In Sunday's gospel, Jesus says to his disciples that he did not "come to be served, but to serve." This idea of servant leadership and putting other's first has been very much in evidence this week. Today, we were visited by the wonderful Kenelm Trust. Beccy, and her team of youth workers, spent 90 minutes discussing this crucial topic: "What our Faith says about Mental Health". Our peer mentors, like Jesus, will put others first and support any pupils who are finding things difficult. Thank you to all the work that Ms Conaty does in leading this group. If your child is finding school difficult, or struggling with anxiety, please advise them to speak to their form tutor and the peer mentors will support them.

We have one more week at school this half term, and Year 11 and 13, in particular are working at an impressive pace to prepare for their mocks which will begin after half term. If your child is taking external exams in the summer, you can read some advice from Mr Chesterman and Mr Carr in this issue about how best to prepare and support.

When we return to school on Monday 1st November, we look to forward to celebrating All Saints and All Souls days with a series of masses. We are looking forward to seeing so many of pupils who see it as their vocation "to serve" taking a leadership role in the masses, whether it be in the form of readers, musicians or altar servers.

Enjoy your weekend and we look forward to another successful week ahead.

Maureen Murphy

Morrisons Good to Grow Scheme

Miss Walsh is asking for donations of 'Good to Grow' vouchers to assist in the set up of a St Peter's Vegetable Garden.

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](#)



St Peter's
Catholic School
Faith is our Foundation



#hellyellow Day – Friday 8th October 2021

We celebrated #hellyellowday for Young Minds charity on Friday 8th October 2021, promoting awareness of Mental Health and Wellbeing. Pupils completed a range of activities in form time around gratitude and positive affirmations, allowing the opportunity to reflect on some of the things we can do to keep ourselves positive and happy as often as possible. Staff raised almost £200 for Young Minds with a wellbeing raffle.

Think Tank Visit

Year 10 pupils took part in an engaging Think Tank visit in school from the Kenelm Youth Trust Team today. The Trust are working with young people across the Diocese to share insights on a particular topic and pupils are given the opportunity to discuss and work on the subject. The topic for this session was "What our Faith says about Mental Health"; enabling pupils to explore their understanding around what mental health is, how their faith could be linked to wellbeing and how the pandemic may have impacted on these over the last 18 months. Pupils explored their own perceptions of mental health alongside what the Bible teaches us about this.



The pupils demonstrated great insight and maturity in their discussions, and this will be integral to developing and enriching the school's provision of early intervention support for mental health and emotional wellbeing moving forwards.

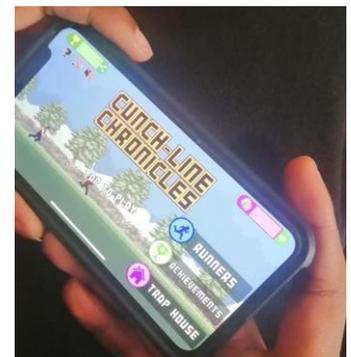
Gender Equality

As part of our Gender Equality, as of next week, we will be asking pupils to complete a survey. The survey will be sent out to you next week.

Safety of Pupils

We have been made aware of a game pupils can play online called 'Cunch-Line Chronicles'. The subject of the game is County Lines.

As part of County Lines Awareness Week, West Midlands Police have also written to all parents, the letter can be found overleaf.



Year 11 and 13 Mock Exams

The Year 11 and Year 13 mocks are due to start after half term. The Year 13 mocks will start on Tuesday 2nd November and the Year 11 mocks will start on Monday 8th November.

To help support students with their revision we recommend they consider the following key strategies:

- Retrieval practice – recalling information from their memory rather than re-reading or highlighting.
- Spaced practice – Revising little and often. This means revision should take place throughout the whole year and not just close to the mock exams.
- Distractions – When they are revising to not have music or the TV on.
- Mobile phones – It is important that when they revise their mobile phone should be in another room.

If you haven't already you may find it useful to watch the "GCSE Success" presentation which can be found here - <https://youtu.be/UqBwOw6MXwo>. Mr Carr will be sending the Year 13 PowerPoint out on Monday.

Extracurricular Clubs

Please see below changes to the extracurricular timetable for PE which will commence after the half term break.

Day	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime 1.20-2pm		Year 9 Football (Sports hall)	Year 10 Dance (Sports hall)	
After school 3-4pm	Year 7 & 8 Netball (Wk 1) Year 9 & 10 Netball (Wk 2)	Dance-All Years (Main Hall) Squad Basketball (Gym)	Year 7 Basketball (Gym)	Clubbercise (Sports hall) Week 2 Only

Information from the Government regarding COVID

Further to the [joint letter to parents](#) from the Secretary of State for Education and the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care on Monday 11 October, we have produced frequently asked questions for schools and further education providers on increased LFD testing to respond to potential outbreaks.

In addition to regular twice-weekly LFD testing, local health teams may advise additional LFD testing at your school or college. For example, if a student is identified as a close contact, they may be asked to take daily LFD tests while they wait for their PCR test result. In this scenario, they should continue to attend school or college as long as their LFD test results remain negative. You may also be advised to conduct a one-off round of LFD testing or daily testing for a group or cohort in secondary schools or colleges where case numbers are very high. This should be done for a minimum of 5 days, increasing to 7 days as necessary to ensure the final LFD test is taken on a school day.

Help your child do maths (even if you don't) - a free webinar for parents and carers

In this [Microsoft Teams session](#), Dr Rosemary Russell will show how any parent or carer (even those who think they are 'rubbish' at maths) can help give their child a can-do attitude to it.

Children and young people's views - October events

As part of the development of Solihull's *Additional needs strategy*, we are working with **Our Voices Heard** (Solihull's new forum dedicated to children and young people) to hold an online event (20 October 2021) to hear children and young people's views.

Please follow this [event information](#) to make a booking. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact damian.king.cypv@outlook.com.

Celebrating Success

This week we want to celebrate the success of these pupils, who have shown great attentiveness and discernment.

Year 7

Seren M
Kaitlenn K
Mason B
Sienna R
Nathan W



Year 8

Pearl H
Sean M
Libby-Louise M
Peter M



Year 9

Mollie A
Brody B
Alexis L
Jessica O

Year 10

Francis E
Janna A-K
Ronnie B
Sam B
Brent F
Luke M
Freddie W



Year 11

Callum B
Christian S



Star Pupil of the week

Pearl H

Form of the week

8 John



Visit to Our Lady the Wayside

We have always enjoyed excellent relations with our feeders primary schools, so it was lovely for three of our former pupils to return to visit Our Lady of the Wayside on Friday afternoon. Niamh and Charlotte, both in Year 7, did a superb job explaining to Year 6 what they expect in September, if they choose to come to St Peter's. Another former pupil, Mrs Murphy herself, enjoyed asking Year 6 which relations attended St Peter's and answering all their questions.



**Solihull Police Station
Homer Road,
Solihull
B91 3QL**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

County Lines

It is likely you will have heard the term 'County Lines' in the news recently. This is a real and growing form of criminal activity that exists nationally, regionally across the West Midlands and here in Solihull

To explain, it is a term used to describe gangs and organised criminal networks involved in exporting illegal drugs from urban areas into rural areas. The leaders of these gangs are likely to exploit children and vulnerable adults, often without them realising it, to move (and store) drugs and money. they use coercion, intimidation, violence (including sexual violence) and weapons.

There may be signs of a change in a young person's behaviour such as:

- Returning home late, staying out all night or going missing
- Being found in areas away from home
- Increasing drug use, or being found to have large amounts of drugs on them
- Being secretive about who they are talking to and where they are going
- Unexplained absences from school, college, training or work
- Unexplained money, phone(s), clothes or jewellery
- Increasingly disruptive or aggressive behaviour
- Using sexual, drug-related or violent language you wouldn't expect them to know
- Coming home with injuries or looking particularly dishevelled
- Having hotel cards or keys to unknown places.

Your school and local police are working together to spot signs of exploitation and ensure young people are safe. We're keen parents are aware and able to offer support.

I would ask that you be aware of County Lines and if you have any concerns about a young person or have any information regarding County Lines to contact West Midlands Police on 101. There are some links overleaf that you may find useful for more information.

With kind regards

Solihull Neighbourhood Poling Unit

<https://www.fearless.org/professionals/resources/gangs>

<https://www.youandco.org.uk/crime-info/violent-crime-facts/gangs-and-street-violence>

<https://www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-is-county-lines>

<https://www.spurgeons.org/>