

# St Peter's Newsletter

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2022



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the latest updates @StPetersSch

## Message from Mrs Murphy

Dear parents, carers, pupils and friends of St Peter's,

We have had another busy week at St Peter's. We have been exploring Children's Mental Health Week, National Apprenticeship Week as well as Safer Internet Day. All opportunities to explore how we use the gifts and talents that God has given us and the importance of using these to help others. Our work around safer internet day revealed the high number of hours many pupils are spending using their mobile phones and the importance of time away from the screen was a key message of this day as well the Mental Health Week activities. We value the support of parents in ensuring that they are vigilant around mobile phones.

Today, Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February, is the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, a special feast for many families in the St Peter's community. Remembering St Bernadette and the humility with which lived is a wonderful role model for us all. She kept her faith and never gave up – something so important in helping us all to stay mentally healthy in the modern world. On this World Day of Prayer for the sick, we know how much the children appreciate prayer time in their tutor groups and we regularly hear of members of the wider St Peter's family who are in need of the healing power of Our Lord.

Look out for next week's newsletter where we will be reporting on the many sporting fixtures and trips which have taken place over this half-term. A reminder that this half term finishes on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm.

*Alaine Murphy*

## Year of the Word



"The word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us" John 1:14

## 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](#)

## COVID-19 Testing

Please continue to test your child using the lateral flow testing kits twice a week. Then report the result to the [NHS](#) and [school](#), using the links provided. If your child shows any symptoms, please take them for a PCR test.



Faith is our Foundation

## Summer Exams 2022

On the 7<sup>th</sup> February 2022, information was released regarding the Summer Exams in 2022. For more information for students, please visit [this guide](#). The below letter has been issued by the Ofqual Chief Regulator:

Dear students,

In my job as Chief Regulator of qualifications I get to meet many students, teachers and parents from different parts of the country. Speaking to students like you, who are getting ready for formal exams and assessments, it's clear to me that you want life to get back to normal and that you would like as much certainty about what is going to happen as possible.

For that reason the exam boards have, this week, published for you 'advance information' on their websites. This is subject by subject, specification by specification, specific outlines of the focus of questions across many of your summer exams. [We've added a tool on our website which shows you what is available for each subject](#).

These materials are just one of the ways we are working to make sure that, despite the disruption caused by the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, your exams and formal assessments are less daunting.

You will also get formulae sheets for GCSE maths exams and updated equation sheets for GCSE physics and combined science exams, so you won't have to memorise as much.

As well as advance information and formulae sheets, you will be supported by generous grading, which will provide you with a safety-net to protect you from just missing out on a grade.

We will also publish videos, infographics and other materials to help those of you who have been prevented from ever sitting a formal exam, to know what that feels like.

You can find more information at the following official sources:

- [Rolling update](#)
- [Ofqual Instagram](#)
- [Ofqual blog](#)

Best wishes,  
Dr Jo Saxton Ofqual Chief Regulator

Parents information - for a useful guide to the summer series for parents, please click on [this link](#).

## COVID Vaccinations

Ahead of half term, we have been asked to remind parents that our strongest defence against COVID is the vaccination programme being run by the NHS. For details of where walk-in vaccinations are taking place, please follow [this link](#).

## Allergies

Reminder to parents of pupils with allergies: antihistamine and autoinjectors that they must ensure that their child carries 2 autoinjectors on their person at all times.

Also, it is parents' responsibility to replenish allergy medication in school. Please contact School Nurse to arrange replacement of this medication.

## E-safety Information

As part of E-safety week, we thought we would send a reminder of the information sent before Christmas. To support your child's safety online, we have looked at a number of weblinks that may help. We have divided the information into common problems and provided resources that can help keep parents informed. The categories include:

- Keeping your child safe online
- Keeping up to date with the latest apps
- Applying parental controls to digital devices, gaming consoles and social media
- Reporting issues to social media sites
- Gaming – what parents need to know

### Keeping your child safe online

Thinkuknow have produced a helpful resource to help keeping your child safe online while they are off school.

### Keeping up to date with the latest apps.

If you're concerned about keeping up-to-date with the latest apps your child has been using, NSPCC's Net Aware provides simple guides for parents to the most popular social networks, apps and games. Simply type in the app you wish to review in the search bar and the website will provide you with useful information to help parents make an informed decision. <https://www.net-aware.org.uk/>



### Step-by-step Guides

Click on the guides for step-by-step instructions to set controls on popular devices.



### Parental Controls

Internet Matters.org have produced excellent resources on setting up parental controls in a step by step format. Simply click on the links below to explore ways in which parents can set up parental controls on digital devices and popular social media apps. Each circular icon that is loaded represents a guide and can be accessed by simply clicking on the icon.

Parental controls on; [Smartphones and other devices](#)

Parental controls on; [Entertainment and search engines](#)

Parental controls on; [Broadband and mobile networks](#)

Parental controls on; [Social media](#)

Parental controls on; [Gaming console](#)

### Reporting to social media sites

At times, pupils may post information they regret. The easiest way to deal with this is for them to delete it from their account immediately. If another user has posted about your child which causes concern or upset, websites and social media sites offer users a way of reporting. If you click on the following link, you will be presented with a comprehensive list of guidance and ways of reporting to sites. It is important to remember that making a report does not always mean the content will be removed. <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/Reporting-to-social-media-sites/>

## 16-19 Bursary Fund

For pupils in Sixth Form, please follow this link for information about the 16-19 Bursary Fund. [Pupil Finance - St. Peter's Catholic School In Solihull \(st-peters.solihull.sch.uk\)](#)



### Gaming: What's appropriate for your child?

[Find out more](#)

#### **Gaming: What parents need to know.**

Thinkuknow have produced some useful guidelines on online gaming for young people.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/>

On the right of the weblink above you will also find a section on 'finding appropriate games for you child' with a link to the 'Video

Standards Council Rating Board' website which allows you to search a game to review a breakdown of the content.

You can also access this website by clicking on this link: <https://videostandards.org.uk/RatingBoard/>

We hope that these resources will help you to monitor your child's online activities and keep them safe in a digitally changing world.

## **Reminder**

A reminder that due to asthma in the community at St Peter's, no aerosols/sprays should be brought into school. If these are found, they will be confiscated.