

St Peter's Newsletter

Friday 28th May 2021



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Year of the Word



"These have been written
in order that you may
believe that Jesus is the
Messiah, the Son of God"
John 20:31

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](#)



Message from Mrs Murphy

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

Over the last two days, we have bid an emotional farewell to our lovely Year 11 and Year 13. Both examination groups have coped brilliantly with the most turbulent 15 months in living memory. They deserve everyone's admiration.

We have enjoyed a fantastic enrichment week with both year groups. Whether it was hearing about the formation of modern Birmingham from Professor Carl Chinn, or receiving very informative sessions about a range of topics from teachers, to enjoying the fun of sports afternoon. As well as attending a poignant mass celebrated with Father Austin on Tuesday, the week culminated in amusing and nostalgic celebration assemblies that were delivered brilliantly by Mrs McHale with Year 13 and Mr Seickell with Year 11. You can read all about enrichment week in this relaunched newsletter!

After working so hard during their Formal Internal Assessments (FIAs), we are now sending out Year 11 and Year 13 to follow their vocation, whether it is employment, apprenticeship, another college or back here at St Peter's Sixth Form. Sunday's gospel from Matthew is particularly fitting as Jesus says, "Go, therefore, make disciples of all the nations; baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teach them to observe all the commands I gave you. And know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time." We are so proud of you all and you will be missed. Remember: faith is your foundation.

God bless you all

Mrs M E Murphy

Bank account details

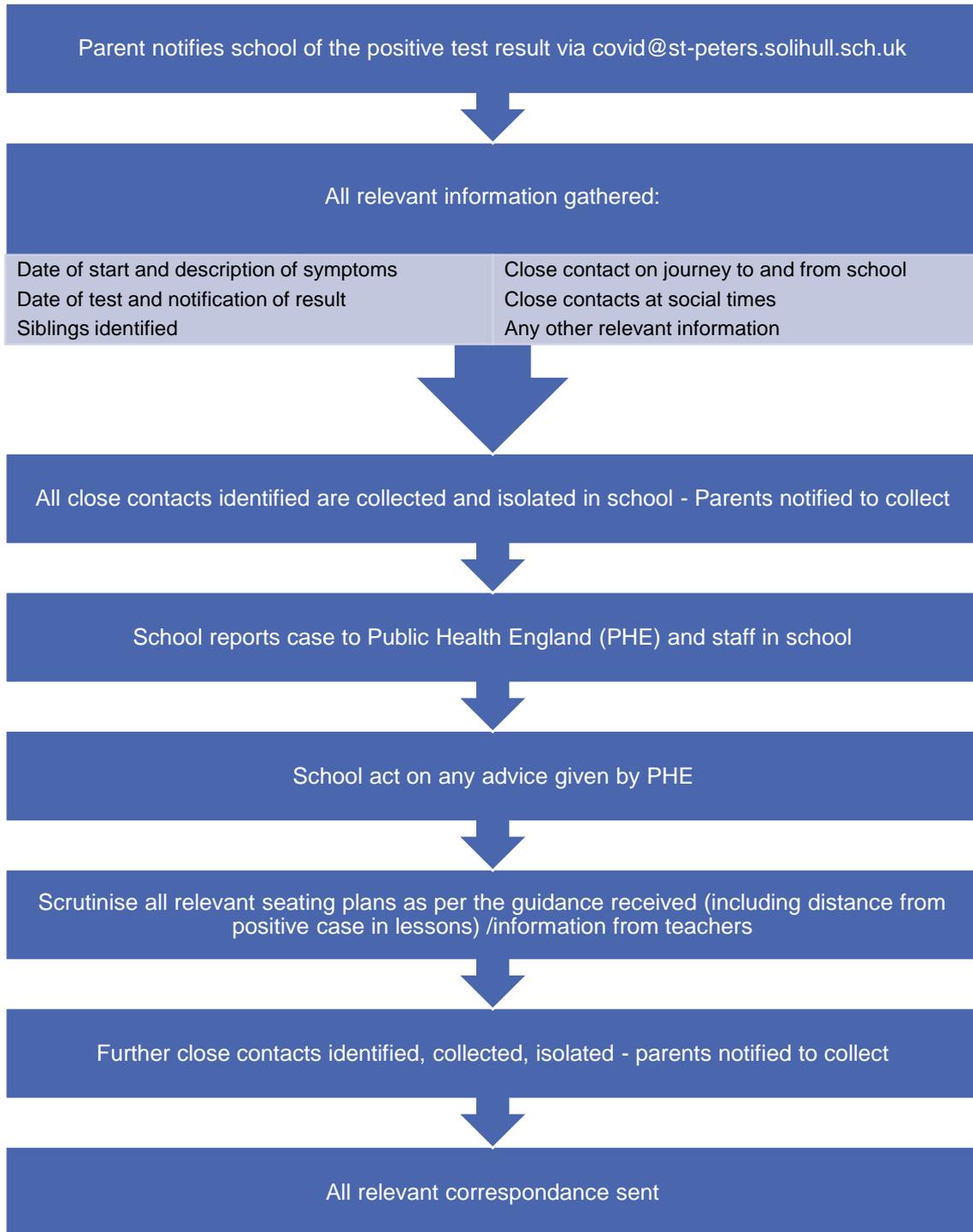
Please find attached a letter regarding a change to the school bank account details.



Faith is our Foundation

COVID Positive Cases

A reminder of the process undertaken in school when we receive notice of a positive case. Please report any positive cases to school over the half term, the covid mailbox will be monitored daily at 10am.



Year 11 & 13

We would like to congratulate Year 11 and 13 for their hard work and behaviour during the assessment period. We look forward to seeing you at the prom and on the appropriate results day. If you would like the leadership team to consider any special consideration for during this assessment period, then please make sure the special consideration form is completed by Monday 7th June.

Catholic Life

This week, our collective worship focused on the feast of Pentecost and the birthday of the church. Pupils enjoyed an Assembly about the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit and how we all need the help of the Holy Spirit from time to time. The scripture reading was from the Acts of the Apostles and told how the apostles went out to preach the good news and spoke in tongues so that everybody understood. The Assembly explored how, although we are all different, we can be united by one spirit and this spirit encourages us to be good people as acts of kindness and care is a language everybody can understand.

Enrichment Week



On Tuesday 25th May, Fr Austin Hughes, SCJ from Olton Friary church came into school to celebrate two very special masses for our Year 11 and Year 13 pupils. It was fitting that their time with us ended in the same way it started, by coming together in prayer as a community. The mass of thanksgiving celebrated the time that pupils had spent with us and asked for God's help and blessings as they embark on new adventures and experiences. While parents could not physically join us as they did in Year 7, many families joined by livestream – another first for St Peter's. The hymn 'Christ be our Light' chimed over each form presenting a personally designed candle to represent their time at St Peter's as they asked Christ to be a light in their hearts for many years to come.

During the rest of the week, Year 11 and 13 pupils enjoyed an enrichment week where our focus moved from the academic to the pastoral side of school life. The National Citizenship Service and West Midlands Police visited to speak to Year 11 while both years attended a selection of PSHE lessons on topics such as Gambling Awareness and Gender Equality. Year 13 pupils found sessions on Personal Finance really useful while Year 11 pupils received some helpful advice about looking after their health in specially designed cancer awareness talks.

A real treat for both year groups were the Celebration Assemblies where the achievements and experiences were celebrated. Viewing photographs from 5 or 7 years ago was good fun but also reminded us how much has changed as those children have grown to become mature and responsible young people. A host of certificates were issued reflecting success in various areas of school life but some informal awards such as "Most likely to.." were also good fun. A huge thank you to Mr Seickell and Mrs McHale for preparing these wonderful celebrations.

Uniform

Now retail restrictions have been lifted, we would expect all pupils to be wearing the correct uniform each day. Uniform standards will be checked on Monday 7th June and those failing to meet our expectations will be sanctioned. A reminder that during the summer months from Easter up to October half term, pupils are permitted to wear the blue summer shirt. This should have the school badge on the breast, and it is not to be worn with a tie. It should still be tucked into the trousers or skirt. During the summer months, many pupils choose to swap black opaque tights for socks. Socks must be black, white or grey ankle socks. Knee high socks are not permitted. The support of our parents is much appreciated. No jewellery is permitted to be worn at all. Nail varnish or false nails are also not allowed as part of our desire to be fair and consistent in ensuring a smart professional appearance.

KS3 Assessments

We are very proud of the excellent effort pupils in Years 7, 8 and 9 have made in the first week of their assessment period. They have been revising hard and taking every opportunity available including using form time and lessons. Pupils have been using a range of online and written resources to revisit topics taught previously. Should your child need any further advice about revision for their assessments, they may speak to their subject teacher.

It is well known that assessments can sometimes cause anxiety amongst pupils; if your child needs support at any time, please do not hesitate to contact the school. Further information is also available here: [Help your child beat exam stress - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

After half term, the assessment period continues for another two weeks; please see the schedule below. For those pupils who have missed an assessment, there will be sessions made available to do these the week commencing Monday 21st June.

Year 7 Timetable

	Monday 07 June 2021	Tuesday 08 June 2021	Wednesday 09 June 2021	Thursday 10 June 2021	Friday 11 June 2021
	Year 7 Science (75 mins)			Year 7 RE (75 mins)	
	Monday 14 June 2021	Tuesday 15 June 2021	Wednesday 16 June 2021	Thursday 17 June 2021	Friday 18 June 2021
		Year 7 History (60 mins)	Year 7 MFL (75 mins)		Year 7 Geography (60 mins)

Year 8 Timetable

	Monday 07 May 2021	Tuesday 08 June 2021	Wednesday 09 June 2021	Thursday 10 June 2021	Friday 11 June 2021
	Year 8 History (70 mins)	Year 8 Geography (70 mins)	Year 8 MFL (75 mins)		
	Monday 14 June 2021	Tuesday 15 June 2021	Wednesday 16 June 2021	Thursday 17 June 2021	Friday 18 June 2021
	Year 8 Maths (90 mins)				Year 8 English (90 mins)

Year 9 Timetable

	Monday 07 June 2021	Tuesday 08 June 2021	Wednesday 09 June 2021	Thursday 10 June 2021	Friday 11 June 2021
		Year 9 English (90 mins)		Year 9 Maths (90 mins)	
	Monday 14 June 2021	Tuesday 15 June 2021	Wednesday 16 June 2021	Thursday 17 June 2021	Friday 18 June 2021
	Year 9 Science 1 (45 mins) Year 9 Science 2 (45 mins)	Period 4 ONLY Year 9 Science 3 (45 mins)		Year 9 RE (75 mins)	

Year 9 superstars...

Miss Galligan is very proud of all of Year 9 who have worked so hard and continued to work to their very best effort despite it being such a disrupted year. In addition, the mature and confident way that the year group have approached the end of year assessments has been a pleasure to see, with numerous members of staff commenting on this.



At St Peter's, we strive to follow the ASPIRE qualities of the 'St Peter's Learner' and there are many students who demonstrate this consistently by 'being aspirational and resilient in their approach, attentive and curious in their lessons and always dedicated to working hard and trying their best'. As recognition for their hard work, Miss Galligan hosted two rewards breakfasts to celebrate some of these students for their dedication and commitment to learning.

A huge well done to Lola L, Oliver C, Daniel J, Jude T, Delbert M, Grace M, Gracie S, Grace M who attended last half term and to Danielle O, Amelia W, Josiah C, Laura G, Joey O, Tom M, Zach O, Charlie S, Leena P, Isabelle C, Charlotte M, Ashna A, Sinead B who attended this week.



Cooking for Life



I had the absolute pleasure of taking the cooking enrichment session with Y13 as part of their enrichment activities. My task: to teach them to cook, ready for the next steps on their journey to independence. To say they were a mixed ability group would be an understatement! But whatever some of them lacked in experience, they made up for in enthusiasm. Everyone, from the complete novices to accomplished cooks created a delicious dish of 'Pasta a la Crees'. They were also given a booklet of recipe ideas and tips to take away with them, to hopefully reduce the number of takeaways they order in the future! My apologies to parents and siblings who didn't get to sample their delights, many of them couldn't resist tucking into their finished dishes for their lunch.

I hope that even those who already know a colander from a can opener learnt some useful culinary tips. I wish the whole of Y13 the very best of luck in the future! Mrs Crees

Football Success

A massive congratulations to Luke P (left) and Fionn O (right) who both received an Ireland call up last week to the training camp in Loughborough University. Luke and Fionn are ex-pupils who after finishing Year 11 last year both gone on to gain scholarships with Southampton and Coventry. They have both made excellent progress this year and have both had time playing for their clubs U23's this season at the age of 17. We are all very proud and hope to see them make their competitive international debut very soon.



Farewell for now to Year 13

We said an emotional farewell to our Year 13 pupils on Thursday. In the morning, the pupils were invited into form to spend some time with their form tutors before assembling in the Sports Hall for their success assembly. The assembly showed many past memories of events held throughout the pupils' time at St Peter's and a number of awards were presented. The finale was a pre recorded version of 'Ain't no mountain high enough' performed by the Year 13 Tutor Team. A memory we will always cherish and laugh about. We wish our Year 13 pupils a restful few weeks before their results and if the Government roadmap continues as planned, we look forward to seeing them for the Year 13 Prom on the 29th June at The Village Hotel. The tickets will be available on ParentPay after half term. We are already missing you Year 13!



Professor Carl Chinn MBE visits St. Peter's



The Sixth Form historians and geographers were delighted to welcome Professor Carl Chinn to our school community last week. Professor Chinn presented an excellent and informative talk on why history and geography matter, a visual presentation both staff and pupils will never forget. We all learnt a lot of information about Birmingham, Solihull and further afield highlighting the importance of these subjects and how they interlink with each other. We thank Professor Carl Chinn for his presentation and hope to welcome him back to St Peter's soon.

Mini Sports Day for Year 13

Year 13 pupils were presented with a range of Masterclasses and alternative curriculum after the completion of their Formal Internal Assessments. Pupils were presented with a range of life skills including, cooking, PSHE, finance and travel. All pupils engaged in these topics and took on board a range of information to help them in the future. To end the sessions, we arranged a mini sports day on the field. Pupils engaged in a number of popular sports day activities including three legged race, relay races, 100 m race, skipping, and egg and spoon to name a few. The interform competition of tug of war proved a hilarious hit, with staff joining in to help their form win! In the



afternoon, we set up three rounders pitches and completed a mini rounders tournament. Pupils displayed a great community sportsmanship. Congratulations to 13Andrew for winning the mini sports day tournament and 13John for winning the mini rounders tournament! Well done to all the Year 13 pupils and staff who made this such a memorable event at the end of a busy half term.

Virtual Interviews

Several pupils in Years 11, 12 and 13 participated in some virtual mock interviews this week which were held by local, national and international employers. We had 46 interviewers from 12 different organisations who interviewed almost 150 pupils over three days! Thanks to volunteers from Solihull Council, IBM, The Solihull Catenians, JLR, Warwick University, Touchwood, Hertfordshire University, The Army, Aspire Academy, Metro Shipping, Wilmott Dixon and Hymans Robertson, plus independent interviewers, for giving up their time to interview our pupils.

Selected pupils were given a 1-1 virtual mock interview that took place through Microsoft Teams. Each interview lasted up to half an hour and each pupil was given some personalised feedback from their interviewer on how to improve their technique and some of their key strengths.

Some of the interviewers commented on the calibre of the pupils at St Peter's:

"Both students did a brilliant job, particularly as it was their first time interviewing and I was very impressed with their engagement!"

"I enjoyed my time with your students yesterday"

"Thank you for inviting me to support these interviews, it truly has been the highlight of my day. Both students were very polite, friendly and a real credit to St Peter's – it was a pleasure."

"All candidates were well presented today and tried their absolute best to answer the questions at interview."

The pupils were clearly nervous before the interviews, given the nature of them, but all handled it exceptionally maturely and were pleased with their performance. Well done to everyone who took part.

Special thanks to the IT team Mr Fuller and Mr Arifagic for their work getting the laptops and accounts set up, plus all staff (especially Mrs Kenny and Mr Gilleran) who helped run the sessions by collecting pupils from all over the school to take part. Many thanks to Mr Horsfield who had the immense task of organising the interviews and logistics for the day.

Diocesan Vocation Office Art Competition

We were pleased to have been asked to take part in an Art competition by Diocesan Vocations Office and this year's theme was **'Patris Corde - With a Father's Heart'** for the Year of Saint Joseph. The Diocese were asking for pieces of artwork exploring this theme.

There were several pupils who entered their piece of artwork from St. Peters and there was also a lot of competition from many the other schools in the Diocese. Our entry by Keira D year 9 was voted the clear winner and we are very proud of her effort and achievement. Well done!

Deacon Owen Gresty said, "I'm delighted to say that Keira D in Year 9 was the declared by our judges to be the overall winner. One of the judges in particular commented on the composition of her piece and how the love of father and son was depicted."



Year 11 Drama Exam

On Wednesday 26th May, I had the pleasure of being an audience member for the Year 11 Drama exam where a number of our talented Year 11s delivered monologues that would contribute to their overall grade. After a challenging two years due to restrictions caused by Covid-19, this drama class have had to work incredibly hard to get themselves performance ready in only a couple of weeks.



It is safe to say that the staff in the audience that evening were blown away by the talent they were observing. It was clear that the pupils and Ms Rai had worked tirelessly to create hysterically funny and sometimes heart-wrenching performances that left us all hanging on their every word. These monologues were taken from three plays: 'BU21' by Stuart Slade, 'Too Much Punch For Judy' by Mark Wheeler and 'Girls Like That' by Evan Placey all of which provided the students with very challenging subject matter to deliver which they handled with an impressive amount of maturity and respect.

The supportive and loving relationships that had been fostered in this drama class were exemplary and demonstrated all of the St Peter's values in the best way possible. It was wonderful to see a group of young people encouraging and supporting each other at a stressful time in the way that they did. These pupils are an absolute credit to St Peter's. So, on behalf of the staff, I would like to congratulate the Year 11s involved for their outstanding work

Finally, on behalf of these pupils, I would like to thank Ms Rai for giving up so much time to prepare these pupils for their exam – they were an absolute credit to you. Also, thank you to Miss Matthews who joined Ms Rai in marking the performances on Wednesday. These pupils are lucky to have such dedicated teachers.

Congratulations to all involved.

Miss Woodall

Opportunity for Year 12

BCU outreach programme will be delivering a master class to our Yr12 English Literature students.

Professor David Roberts who specialises in Shakespeare will deliver the session on *Othello* on Thursday 17th June at 2pm.

This will be a 30 minute talk followed by questions. Anyone free and keen to attend, please see Mrs Przyrodzki for more details.