

St Peter's Newsletter

Friday 18th
September 2020

Message from Mrs Murphy

Dear Parents,

As we approach the feast of St Matthew on Monday, one of our eight form patrons, I am reminded of a poignant piece of scripture, "Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house." These words are certainly in evidence with our new St Peter's Learner. There are six attributes that we want pupils to display when they are in their lessons (Attentive, Self-Motivated, Productive, inquisitive, Resilience and Enthusiastic). This can be found on page 21 of the pupil's journal. Please ask your child/ren about these attributes.

All staff continue to be impressed with pupils' use of one of these qualities: resilience. Despite our new raft of health and safety procedures, pupils are following them cheerfully, maturely and supportively. Pupils' focus in lessons has been excellent and they should be commended. In this issue, you can see the names of pupils who have particularly impressed senior teachers and pastoral staff. Next week, we will publish names of pupils that have been nominated for being particularly attentive and discerning by their subject teachers.

Please enjoy your weekend and in the words of St Matthew, "with God all things are possible."

Maria Murphy

Drinking water

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions, we cannot allow pupils to use the water fountains in school. Therefore, please ensure your son or daughter has plenty of water with them to last the day, especially in the warm weather. Bottled water will be made available to pupils after PE lessons.

Year 8 mobile phone found

Are you in Year 8? Did you get the bus home last Friday afternoon? Did you lose your mobile? If so, it is in lost property in the Liverpool Street depot.

Year of the Word



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

Bike safety



We are very pleased that so many pupils are deciding to ride their bike to school. Not only is this an excellent form of exercise, but it also removes cars from our already busy roads. However, may we urge parents to insist their child wears a helmet for their own safety.

E-safety alert

We pride ourselves in being a leading school in terms of e-safety. We view e-safety as an important aspect of safeguarding our school community and, as a result, our e-safety committee periodically releases alerts to our pupils, parents and staff about current issues surrounding online safety. We have been made aware that there is a graphic video currently circulating on social media of a man live streaming his suicide. The video is highly distressing if viewed. Social media platforms are working to remove this video, however it may still be shared under fake captions. We urge parents to continue to monitor their children's phones. If pupils come across the video, we urge them not to watch it and report it to the appropriate platform to be removed from circulation.

Report inappropriate content to Tik Tok:

<https://support.tiktok.com/en/privacy-safety/report-inappropriate-content-default>

Report inappropriate content to Facebook:

<https://m.facebook.com/help/263149623790594>

Report inappropriate content to You Tube:

<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/2802027?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en>

Medication

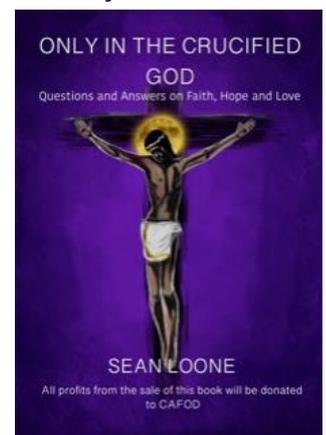
If your child requires any over the counter or prescribed medicine during the school day, can you please complete the appropriate consent form and return via email to the main office. Please inform the office of how you will be sending the medication into school, such as your child will bring into school or you wish to make an appointment to drop it into school personally.

Deacon Sean Loone

Deacon Sean Loone of Our Lady of the Wayside Parish and Chaplain to the school has written a new book. Here, he tells us more about his time in lockdown and the subject matter of his new book: "When the country entered 'lock down' in late March of this year, all of a sudden life for me, like for most people, seemed to stop. The schools and churches all closed leaving me with the question, 'how could I exercise my ministry now?' In the centre of Birmingham there exists a charity, 'The Saint Chads Sanctuary', providing much needed help to asylum seekers and refugees. These were people who, literally, had nothing apart from the clothes on their back. I was delighted to offer my support and filled my car several times over with food donations.

However, I still felt there was something missing. So, I returned to a project I had been working on before lockdown, a new book. The title for the book was, 'Only in the Crucified God – Questions and Answers on Faith, Hope and Love.' Many of the questions were, in fact, asked of me and inspired by pupils from Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic School. The project provided me with the opportunity to answer many of the questions I have been asked over the years by using the Bible as my main resource. It was important for me to write a book reflecting one of my core beliefs that God includes everyone and excludes no one."

The book, 'Only in the Crucified God – Questions and Answers on Faith, Hope and Love,' by Sean Loone is currently available in dual format from [Amazon.co.uk](https://www.amazon.co.uk). All profits from the book will be donated to CAFOD.



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](#)

Congratulations

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been nominated by a member of staff.

| | | |
|-------------|---------|--|
| Santiago F | Year 7 | Excellent contribution to the community. |
| Joachim s | Year 7 | Excellent contribution to the community. |
| Ciara R | Year 8 | For being kind and caring to everyone. |
| Jacob O | Year 9 | Being attentive and discerning to his services |
| Zuzanna P | Year 11 | Great start to year 11 |
| Mackenzie W | Year 11 | For making an excellent start to the year. |
| Zuzanna P | Year 11 | Superb work during lockdown and extremely conscientious. |



Our Pastoral Staff have nominated the following pupils

| | | |
|---------|---------|--|
| Nyah M | Year 7 | Fantastic transition booklet |
| Erin B | Year 8 | Excellent commitment throughout. |
| Ashna A | Year 9 | Excellent work across the board, worked really hard during the lockdown. |
| Jack A | Year 10 | Work ethic and contribution |
| Chloe W | Year 11 | Outstanding effort. |
| Cain W | Year 11 | Worked tirelessly throughout lockdown and excellent engagement |
| Reece B | Year 13 | Excellent Commitment |

Year 7 Welcome

Congratulations to all Year 7s that have completed the transition booklets over the summer holidays, with particular congratulations to Charlie W, Chloe A, Maria E, Ailis B, Nyah M, Benito S, Nella T and Alex M who completed their booklet to an exceptionally high standard.



Year 6 to Year 7
Transition Booklet

As the Head of Year 7, it has been lovely to see how all of Year 7 have settled in well at St. Peter's and I looking forward to the year ahead. Mrs Costello



Welcome to the Sixth Form!



The Sixth Form are delighted to welcome over 130 Year 12 pupils for this academic year. The pupils have all chosen at least 3 A-level or BTEC courses and have the option of accompanying this with other AS qualifications such as AS Core Maths or the AS EPQ qualification. We are delighted with the positive start the Year 12 pupils have made in the Sixth Form.

We would like to extend our congratulations to the way the pupils in both Year 12 and Year 13 have conducted themselves in these unprecedented times. They continue to display a focused attitude to their studies and act as role models to the rest of our school



community. Well done to our Sixth Form pupils - we are very proud! Mrs McHale and Mr Carr.



Lottie's first day at school

We're happy to report that our lovely new school dog, Lottie, is settling in well!

Destinations

St Peter's Sixth Form has once again been celebrating a set of amazing Year 13 destinations. Despite the unique challenges faced by our Class of 2020, we are proud of the work that the students did prior to lockdown with their UCAS applications which enabled them to secure offers from their chosen universities.

We are delighted with the success of the conscientious students who acquired places in highly sought after apprenticeships, including degree apprenticeships.

A number of our students will be going to a Russell Group University, which this year include Birmingham, Bristol, Exeter, Leeds, Manchester, Nottingham, Oxford, Sheffield and Warwick. The pupils have pursued a wide range of courses, reflecting their individual passion and the huge amount of thought they have put into their university choices. Pupils will be taking courses ranging from the scientific, such as computer science, mathematics and biological sciences; business specialists studying real estate or business management; and our social sciences and humanities students studying courses such as economics and history. We are, of course, very proud of those pupils going into vocations including primary teaching, nursing and professional policing.

There were a number of high achievers this year, a few of which are listed below:

- Christian acquired his place to study Physics at the University of Oxford
- Erinn secured her place to study Veterinary Medicine at the University of Nottingham
- Hannah will be studying English at the University of Nottingham
- Michael will be studying Mathematics at the University of Bristol
- Elidia will be studying Psychology at the University of Leeds
- Annie will be studying Sociology at the University of Birmingham
- Jonathan will be studying English at the University of Nottingham
- Annabel will be studying Geography at the University of Exeter
- Ameera will be studying Biomedical Science at the University of Warwick
- Eleanor will be studying Economics at Bath University
- Lucy will be studying History at the University of Nottingham
- Callie will be studying Computer Science at the University of Leicester
- Matthew will be studying History and Politics at the University of Sheffield
- Finnian will be studying Computer Science and Mathematics at the University of Manchester
- Lara will be studying Law at the University of Nottingham
- Matthew will be studying Mechanical Engineering at the University of Nottingham
- John will be studying Mathematical Physics at the University of Nottingham
- Darcie will be studying Management at Loughborough University
- James will be studying Mechanical Engineering at the University of Nottingham
- Saskia will be studying Computer Science with Mathematics at the University of Leeds
- Charlie will be studying Politics at the University of Sheffield

We wish all our pupils continued success and remind them to keep in touch to let us know how they are getting on.



St Peter's have supported the charity Anawim for many years at Christmas and Easter, during this time of crisis many of their families would welcome extra support. We are pleased to say that we will be collecting the following items for their foodbank – tinned veg, pasta sauces, long life milk, couscous, rice, biscuits, dried breakfast items, tea, coffee, sugar, tinned fruit, juice and dried dessert items. All donations will be greatly appreciated and will be distributed by Lauren from Anawim.

Careers Upcoming Events

The **UK University & Apprenticeship Search Virtual Fair** will be held on Wednesday 21 October from 12:00-18:00. The event is free and will feature over 80 universities, colleges and apprenticeship providers, and it's open to students in Year 13, 12 and 11.

For more information about the event, please [click here to open the email in your browser](#). Pupils will need to register themselves for the event by visiting the website <https://ukunisearch-west.vfairs.com>.



UCAS are offering lots of opportunities to research remotely, and now's the time for pupils to discover their options online.

Sign up for a virtual exhibition!

Pupils have the chance to explore courses they're interested in and speak to universities and colleges from around the UK. By taking part, they can talk to subject and admissions experts, discover apprenticeships, get advice on applying through UCAS, and more. To register, please select the link here: [UCAS Virtual Exhibition](#)

Each event is dedicated to one of the following subject areas:

Business, law, and finance – 30 September

Biological and physical sciences – 16 October

Social sciences, humanities, and teaching – 23-24 October

Maths, engineering, and computing – 2-3 November

Creative subjects – 13-14 November

Compare accommodation options with our new search – Year 13

Accommodation is high on the priority list when pupils are considering where they want to study, but it's not always easy to compare what's on offer. The UCAS new [accommodation search](#) helps them see what's available from both universities and colleges, and private providers. Understanding what options there are will help them to narrow down where they might want to study.

Join our Hub live sessions – Year 12

UCAS will be hosting a range of Hub live sessions over the coming months, covering different topics that will help pupils research their options and complete their applications. Pupils can [create their own UCAS Hub](#) now so they're ready to take part.

Start Profile - Help your child to explore their future

As part of our commitment to prepare students for a rapidly changing world, we are using an innovative online resource called Start. Start will help your child to connect with their future career potential, develop their employability and help them to explore future career and study options at school or at home.

How should my child use it?

Pupils have had accounts created for them so that they each have their own account for Start at school, but it is accessible anytime on computers and compatible mobile and tablet devices. Your child will personalise their profile on Start with details about their skills, qualities, interests and work preferences. This provides a starting point for them to explore information matched to their personal preferences and interests. As they update their profile, Start will personalise this information, helping them to navigate the thousands of jobs, courses, providers and opportunities available. Start will help students to understand where they are on their journey and what's important as they make their choices at GCSE, post-16 and post-18. We encourage you to use Start with your child at home. Encourage them to rate jobs, qualifications, colleges or universities so that we can see their preferences in order to support them better.

What if I want to use Start myself?

Parents can also use Start to find out more about jobs, training and study opportunities for yourself. Please do not log in using your child's user details and instead register yourself using the steps outlined below, creating your own username and password.

These instructions explain how to register for Start. To create your own username and password, please follow the simple steps below.

- Go to www.startprofile.com and click Register
- Enter your first name, surname, email address, postcode and gender

Tip: if you forget your username or password we will use the email address you provide to send you a reminder

- Choose a memorable username and a secure password and click Get Started
- Click Login and enter your username and password. Click Login

The first time you log in you will be required to complete the following:

Select "I am a Parent and would like to use Start with my children."

For more information on Start or the support available for your son or daughter, please don't hesitate to contact me through the main school office, or email careers@st-peters.solihull.sch.uk.

Mr Horsfield
Careers Leader