

St Peter's Newsletter

Friday 11th
September 2020

Message from Mrs Murphy

Dear Parents,

We, as a school community, have worked hard to protect our pupils and staff: as well as numerous wash stations around the school, sanitisers in every classroom, bubbles, staggered starts and breaks, members of staff wearing high viz jackets and practising social distancing, reminders about hygiene, installing a marquee for the sixth form to study in, we have our onsite school nurse travelling the school attending to unwell pupils. Despite this intense new way of working, it has been a challenging but highly enjoyable first week. It has been lovely to see our pupils again. For some of them, it has been their first time back at St Peter's – apart from one touching base session with their form tutor in the summer – for six months. Can I thank the staff for their tireless endeavour, the pupils for being so well behaved and respectful of others and to you, our parents, for instilling the importance of hygiene and health and safety in your child/children.

We are also delighted to announce that we will be resuming our mass on Tuesday mornings shortly. Thank you again to our visiting priests, who give their time so generously. The chapel is in our newly renamed 'Block M', (the old RE block) which is also where all Year 7 lessons take place. Therefore, each Year 7 form will hopefully start their Tuesday mornings with mass over the coming weeks.

As we are trying so hard to protect our pupils and staff, regrettably, no parents will be permitted on site. There are no exceptions. Please do not put our office staff in an uncomfortable position by attempting to gain access, pressing the buzzer, or attempting to park on site. We hope it will not be long before we can welcome parents back to our school.

I hope you will enjoy this new look issue. These will now be published on a weekly basis. Have a restful weekend and we look forward to another successful week ahead.

Alaine Murphy

Reminder

St Peter's is a nut free school. Please do not send any nut-based products in for lunch/snacks. This is due to other members of our community having severe allergies.

Year of the Word



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

Face Coverings

Whilst we are fortunate at the moment and are yet to see a positive result for Coronavirus within our school community. We are aware that the number of cases within schools in the borough is increasing. Therefore, from **Monday 14th September, face coverings will become mandatory for all staff and pupils in communal areas within school.** The face coverings should be an appropriate plain design and must not be a bandana or scarf. All pupils and staff must have two masks, one for outside school and one for on the school site, as well as carry a sealable bag for the coverings to be placed into, when they are removed. The correct way of wearing a face mask safely is detailed [here](#), please share with your children.

St Peter's Learner

We are excited to announce the launch of 'the St Peter's Learner', an initiative which exemplifies the learning qualities we would expect every pupil at St Peter's to be showing. It is based around **Aspire** – always being ambitious and aiming high. We want all pupils to be actively and enthusiastically involved in class and doing their best in every lesson and in every piece of classwork and homework. Teachers will be referring to the St Peter's Learner qualities in their lessons and it has now become part of our Attitude to Learning levels.

The St Peter's Learner
At St Peter's, we all **ASPIRE** to be the best that we can be:

- Attentive**
You are focused in lessons and you pay careful attention to your work and your teacher.
- Self-motivated**
You set yourself high standards and invest time and effort into reaching your goals. You go the extra mile because you want to – not because you are told to.
- Productive**
You work hard and use your time effectively.
- Inquisitive**
You ask questions and actively seek out the answers. You enjoy looking at 'the big picture' and 'thinking outside the box'. You ask for help when you need it.
- Resilient**
You realise that some things will be difficult, there might be setbacks and you will make mistakes. However, you always keep going and you do not give up.
- Enthusiastic**
You show an interest in learning, in school and at home, and you are actively involved in lessons.

St Peter's Catholic School
Faith is our Foundation

Our Lady and All Saints
Primary School
Bromley in Park

Attitude to Learning

In light of the launch of 'the St Peter's Learner', and in response to feedback, we have revised the Attitude to Learning levels that we use in school. Some key changes include moving from five categories to four and dividing each category into two distinct sections: Aspire (Learning qualities) and Behaviour. You will be receiving Attitude to Learning levels for your child later on this term.

Safety in parks

Please be aware that there have been some reports of muggings in Tudor Grange Park. Please remind your child to proceed straight home after school and strongly advise them not to loiter in any park in Solihull after school.

Message from Solihull Council and West Midlands Police

Please find a joint letter from Solihull Council and West Midlands [here](#).

Hair accessories

Any hair accessory should be appropriate and subtle. Brightly coloured or embellished accessories are not allowed. Plain hair bands can be worn but they should be black.

Winter Health video

The Solihull School Nursing Team have produced a video about how to keep well this winter. We feel this is particularly important this year and at this time as we see an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases. Please watch the video [here](#).

PE Guidance

With the amendments to the timetable in current circumstances, we would like to remind parents and pupils of the expectations for PE. All pupils will only partake in one practical lesson and one theory lesson per week. The teacher will inform the pupils which day they expect to be doing the practical lesson so PE kit only needs to be brought into school on those days, although this could change at short notice due to weather conditions. Practical lessons will not involve contact

Medicines

If your child requires medicines for an existing condition e.g. asthma, please ensure this is in school at all times.

Digital Contingency Plan

You were recently sent a digital contingency policy. Thankfully, as yet, we have no confirmed cases at St Peter's. However, many other schools have. Therefore, we must be prepared that at some point in September, a particular year group may be asked not to come into school. In this case, lessons will continue via Microsoft Teams, which they did so successfully in the summer term. The link to the plan is [here](#).

We are currently updating our list of pupils who do not have WiFi access or a device for remote learning; please contact your child's Lead Tutor if your circumstances have changed since the school re-opened.

Parking

Please be reminded to be courteous to our neighbours, as well as following the laws of the road, when parking in the local area whilst dropping off/collecting your children.

Pedestrians

When your child is walking to and from school, please remind them to walk in such a way, that other pedestrians are able to pass them safely. This particularly applies at the moment with social distancing rules.

Poetry by Heart

Early in the Spring Term 2020, Year 8 English classes took part in the Individual Recitation category of the 2019-2020 Poetry by Heart competition. This is a poetry recitation competition that invites young people to learn a poem off by heart and recite it to their class. Each class nominated a winner based on the Poetry by Heart judgement criteria of Voice, Understanding, Presentation and Accuracy. Our class winners then competed against each other to find our overall school winner. That student was Beth B.

Beth was then entered into the West Midlands regional competition where the video of her school winning performance was judged by an experienced panel of poets and educators. To compete, Beth had to learn a second poem and her performances were videoed and sent in.

The results were released in the summer and we are delighted to announce that Beth was 'Highly Commended' in the West Midlands county contest.

The judges' feedback is below:

Poem 1: 'The Arrow And The Song'

A thoughtful delivery that showed Beth had spent time considering the rhythm, rhyme and musicality of the poem.

Poem 2: 'Time'

An engaging and entertaining presentation that captures the essence of the poem well.

The judges were impressed by how the young people managed to learn two poems by heart and share them out loud and watching these performances was a joy.

We would like to congratulate Beth and say we are very proud of her representing St. Peter's and her efforts. We plan to enter the 2020-2021 competition again this year so watch this space!

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](#)