

St Peter's Newsletter

Friday 25th
September 2020

Message from Mrs Murphy

Dear Parents,

Our pupils and staff, like St Peter in today's gospel according to St Luke, have shown incredible courage in the face of adversity this week. As you know we have had two confirmed cases last week, yet teachers rose to the occasion and many taught their class and pupils self isolating at home simultaneously. The vast majority of pupils continue to work undeterred by the uncertainty and have been exceptionally well behaved, even during the poor weather over the last couple of days. Year 13s have sat their mocks this week and Year 11 are busy preparing for theirs in three weeks. We wish both year groups great success.

I hope you enjoy this issue. I urge you visit the opening evening section of our website and watch a variety of talks and lessons from a range of staff who all seem very comfortable and natural in front of the camera! If any prospective parents are reading this, I hope this newsletter and the videos give you a flavour of the special Catholic community we have at St Peter's.

Maia Murphy

Wellbeing of Pupils

During these difficult times, the Government have created a number of resources to support the mental health and wellbeing of young people, here is a [link](#) to information they have recently updated. Please remind your son/daughter that they must wear a face mask on public transport. A second mask must also be worn in communal areas in school, this is non-negotiable. If a pupil arrives without a mask, a replacement will cost 50p, which will need to be paid for via ParentPay. I also ask they have their own sanitiser.

Punctuality

Punctuality has never been so important. Pupils must arrive at school at the designated time to ensure 'bubbles' do not mix. We would really appreciate your support in this area.

Year of the Word



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

Uniform

If you have any uniform, in good condition, that is no longer suitable for your child, we would be very grateful if you could donate this to school. Any items including the main school uniform, PE kits and in particular any old football boots would be fantastic. Thank you for your support.



Faith is our Foundation

Open Evening

We were disappointed not to be able to hold our annual Open Evening and Open Mornings in the usual way this year. However, we have utilised our technology and created a Virtual Open Evening for families to watch and enjoy. This allows prospective parents and pupils to get a feel for our lovely school by 'meeting' some of our staff and pupils and hearing all about life at St Peter's. The Virtual Open Evening can be found on our website <https://www.st-peters.solihull.sch.uk/virtual-open-evening/>



Art and D&T

Could all students please bring coloured pencil crayons to each Art & Design and Design & Technology lesson. This is listed as essential equipment in the Student Learning Journal.

Pupils in years 10 and 11, if you would like to collect your practical work from last year, please email Mrs Sanders on sandersz@st-peters.solihull.sch.uk so a suitable time and location can be arranged.

Lunch

Families are welcome to pre-order a lunch from the school canteen. We are asking for this to be pre-ordered each week so that we can operate a 'grab and go' system to ensure that the service is efficient, pupils have enough time to eat but our 'bubbles' are protected.

[CLICK HERE TO PRE-ORDER LUNCH FOR NEXT WEEK](#)

This will take you to Microsoft Forms where you can choose from a range of hot and cold options. It will look like this

A screenshot of a Microsoft Forms survey for lunch pre-ordering. The form is titled 'Questions' and shows 'Responses: 55'. The questions are:
5. Sandwich selection *
 Ham (Please note - not available on Friday)
 Cheese
 Tuna Mayo
 Egg Mayo
 HOT Ham and Cheese panini (Not available on Friday)
 HOT Cheese and beans panini
 HOT Chicken Select Wrap (Not available on Friday)
 HOT Fish Finger Wrap (Only available Friday)
 HOT Chicken Burger (Not available Friday)
6. Bread *
 White Bread
 Brown Bread
 (Chosen panini, wrap or burger above)
7. Extra if choosing a sandwich *
 Tomato
 Lettuce
 Cucumbers
 Cress
 None (Must be ticked if choosing panini)
8. Days *
 Monday
 Tuesday
 Wednesday
 Thursday
The form is flanked by images of fresh vegetables and fruits.

A letter with more details is sent out each week, usually on Wednesday, but can also be viewed [here](#).

Pupils can purchase a bottle of water from their form group's serving point. We ask parents to make sure that their Parentpay account is 'topped' up with the necessary funds.

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](#)

Digital Contingency Plan – Business (almost) as usual

At the beginning of September, we sent out our Digital Contingency Plan, setting out how we planned to manage in case any staff or pupils fell ill or had to self-isolate due to the COVID19 pandemic. The main aim was, and still is, to keep our curriculum going for all pupils, in the best possible way we can. We want the vast majority of our pupils to be able to follow their normal timetable, remotely or face to face, whatever happens. This is a huge and exciting challenge for our whole school community!

Already, we have had to test out our plan, and despite a few technical hurdles, so far, we are pleased with how it is going. By investing in extra equipment to improve communication between home and school, we have been able to provide online lessons delivered in school to pupils self-isolating at home, whilst the rest of the class are taught concurrently at school. Teachers working from home have also been able to teach lessons to their classes in school, remotely using Microsoft Teams.

While we settle into these new ways of working, we have decided to prioritise KS4 and KS5 classes for Microsoft Teams lessons, delivered by their usual teacher, or another subject specialist. KS3 pupils self-isolating, at home, will access work set remotely via the portal. Microsoft Teams lessons will be delivered to years 7, 8 and 9, if we are in a position to release staff to teach them.

Whatever the circumstances, teachers should be setting work via the portal for any pupils at home, just in case there are any technical glitches. In addition, we are providing hard copies of resources to any pupils who need it. If your circumstances change, and you require work set in this way, please let your child's Lead Tutor know.

Thank you to everyone for their support, patience and understanding while we adjust and adapt.

Online Revision Sessions – an unexpected benefit of COVID19!

This term, all of our after-school revision sessions for Y11 will be delivered online, via Microsoft Teams. The sessions will take place 4.30-5.15, giving pupils and staff the ability to work at home, avoiding the dark evenings and cold weather. These sessions will be recorded, giving even greater flexibility to pupils with other commitments, and the opportunity for all to revisit a session on an area they need to improve.

Year 13 Mock Exams

Well done and a big thank you from Mr Carr and Mrs McHale to Year 13 pupils for displaying such an excellent and studious attitude towards the mock exams this week.

Note for Year 11

At the start of the year, we normally have an GCSE Success evening for year 11 pupils and parents. Unfortunately, we were unable to invite parents into school so instead, Mr Chesterman, Mr Tudor and Miss Woodall recorded their presentation and emailed it to all Year 11 parents.