



2nd October 2020

Dear Parents



Jesus, help us to share the message of your love with others, so that they too can understand it.

Year 6 transfer from Primary to Year 7 (High School) – September 2020 The online admission process is now open. Parents will need to log on to Tameside MBC school admissions and register to submit an application and access the 'Moving On' booklet www.tameside.gov.uk/admissions. The closing date is Saturday 31st October 2020. Admissions submitted after this date will be treated as late and if your application is not submitted on time you are less likely to receive the school of your choice.

Moving On / Starting Out – A message from Tameside Admissions for Year 6 and Nursery/Reception parents

We have been notified that Microsoft has blocked the Tameside MBC domain from their system.

This means that parents using Hotmail/live/outlook email addresses will encounter problems with the Tameside online applications system. This means that you will not receive the confirmation email when you register or submit your applications for new reception and new year 7 and this error will prevent you from completing the application.

Parents using these email providers are asked to set up an alternative account using another provider (Gmail for example).

We have taken steps to address this problem with Microsoft but it is at present unclear if / when this will be resolved.

Entrance and exit arrangements for children Please could we ask all parents to observe the social distance markings on the pavements around the perimeter of school when waiting to drop off or collect your child. Some parents are finding it difficult to pass groups who have gathered together on the pavement and are having to walk in the road with their children. If people who are waiting to collect children at the end of the day stand close to the fence, but use the markers as a guide, then this situation should not arise.

World Mental Health Day

This takes place on Friday, 9th October, and is the same date as the CAFOD Harvest Fast Day (details below). The children will take part in some lovely activities in their class bubbles, including mindfulness, meditation and celebration of achievements.

Nursery and Reception Phonics and Reading Workshops.

These will be held on the following dates:

Reception Wednesday 14th October 2020

Nursery Wednesday 21st October 2020

Shortly parents will receive a letter from Mrs Walker or Miss Cooper, inviting you to book a slot on the day or evening of these dates.

We are able to carry out these workshops in groups of less than 6 people, in line with government guidance.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day

This will take place on Friday, 9th October. The theme is 'Brighten up the Harvest.' Children may come to school wearing something bright in addition to their usual school uniform. This may be a hair accessory, tie, pair of socks, etc. We will be collecting donations for CAFOD on that day. We would also like to support our local food bank. We would be very grateful to receive donations of tinned and packet foods. We have placed these on display in the hall, so that they may be quarantined before being collected by the food bank team. Thank you for your support with this – we have received some donations, but we would always encourage more, particularly for any local families who may be struggling in the light of the current pandemic.

Reading Books We would like to make a plea for all reading books to be returned to school. Lots of books which were given to the children at the beginning of the lockdown period have not yet been returned. We would appreciate your support in seeking these out if they are at home, as they form a valuable part of our reading scheme resource. *Unfortunately, if the books are not returned to school, we now need to ask families for a monetary contribution to replace them.*

Nursery Snack Fund Fund amounts will vary due to the staggered intake. Snack fund is £2.50 per week. We also ask for £1.00 a week as a voluntary contribution for curriculum enhancement as explained in the Nursery Prospectus and is available to view on the website under the Admissions section. Please make cheques payable to: St. Peter's Catholic Primary School alternatively payments can be made via School Money Scheme, a text has now been sent out. Thank you to parents who have already sent in their snack fund.

Nursery Wraparound Provision – from 3rd September we are pleased to offer wraparound care in our nursery unit. The sessions are from 11:55 am until 15:15. The charge is £10.00 per afternoon session.

School Meals - Please note there is a slight school meal increase to £2.32 per day from the 1st September

The amount due for KS2 (juniors) for the autumn term will be 37 days, totalling £85.84. Please ensure that money is placed in an envelope clearly marked with the pupil's name and class. Alternately monies can be paid online via the Tameside MBC website. www.tameside.gov.uk school & education > school meals.

If your circumstances change you may be eligible to apply for free school meals. More information is available on the school website under school meals where there is a link to a website www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims-tameside Here, you can complete an online application to see if you are eligible.

Nasal Flu Vaccination Year R to Year 6 The Department of Health have announced that all children in year R - 6 are going to be offered a flu immunisation every year. The immunisation will take place in school on Tuesday 20th October for those children who returned the signed parental consent. If you wish to withdraw consent, a form is available from the school office. This form can also be downloaded from the school website under Newsletter.

Risk Assessment In line with the measures on our school risk assessment, we would like to say a sincere thank you to the many families whose lives have been disrupted recently because a person from their household has displayed symptoms of Coronavirus. The symptoms of the virus are:

- A high body temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss of taste or smell

If a child presents with these symptoms in school, we ask for them to be collected and taken home. The whole household are then asked to self-isolate, and the person with symptoms must obtain a Coronavirus test. If the test is negative, children may return to school once their temperature is back to normal and they are well. If the person affected by symptoms is an adult, then children in the household must self-isolate at home until the adult receives a negative test. Children should not return to school if they are experiencing symptoms themselves.

Please let us know the outcome of any Coronavirus tests before your child returns to school.

Home Learning At the present time, all class bubbles are open, and children are learning well. If school was directed by the Public Health or the Health and Safety team to close a class bubble, then arrangements would be made for children to continue with home learning. Our school's contingency plan for such an event will be sent to you as soon as possible. At the moment, school will send maths and English home learning to your child electronically via e-mail **if your child has been absent for more than two days because of issues related to Covid-19.**

SEND Survey Parents of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities are invited to participate in a survey, located on the Tameside Council's [Local Offer Home page](#). Please contact school if you require any support with this.

Please find below some changes in arrangements to planned events in school

Parents' Evenings These will now not take place in person. We are planning ways in which teachers can make contact with parents remotely by appointment, as will let you know the details of this as soon as they are finalised.

Nursery, Reception, Year 1, and Year 2 Christmas Nativity Play: Thursday, 3rd December

This will now take place on the school field. We will NOT be able to hold our usual lovely Nativity play, but we strongly feel it is important that we mark the celebration of the Nativity with the children in a different way. We plan to use the field so that parents can gather together outdoors with social distancing to enjoy watching their children singing some Christmas carols and songs. The children will need a pair of wellingtons, a warm coat, hat and scarf. We invite Nursery and Reception parents to join us at 9:20am, and parents from Year 1 and 2 at 2:30pm that day.

Junior Christmas Production: The children are going to perform 'Aladdin.' Clearly, we will be unable to perform this to an audience in the school hall, which saddens us greatly. After much deliberation, we have decided that the children will perform the play on the stage as usual, and a DVD will be filmed. This way, children still have the experience of the performance, and parents can still share in it in some way. We appreciate the disappointment that parents may feel about the arrangements for the two events above, but we have made what we feel is the best decision in the current circumstances.

Kind regards

Mrs K Ryan
Acting Headteacher