



11th December 2020

Third Sunday of Advent: *Jesus is the light of the world*

Dear Parents

Parish and Community events - although there will be no Gift Service this year, the parish would still like to help the 'Home Start' project which we have supported for the last few years. If you would like to donate a gift, to help a family less fortunate than yourselves, you can drop it off at the presbytery between 9am and 11am Monday to Friday, before Monday 14th December. The gift can be for a boy or girl from birth to teens. Please make sure your gift is unwrapped and in a gift bag. Items can also be donated at the presbytery for the food bank. Thank you for your continued support.

Christmas Gifts 2020 –every year, teachers at St. Peter's are overwhelmed by the generosity of families who bring in the most wonderful Christmas gifts for staff in school. This year, things are a little bit different because of the Covid-19 pandemic. All staff would like to thank parents for their kindness and generosity, but please do not feel at all obliged to send in any sort of gift to staff this Christmas. We fully appreciate that the pandemic has brought financial pressures to many families. You may wish instead to purchase a gift for the 'Home Start' project (detailed above) or you may have wished to support the Tameside Toy Appeal, which the Mini Vinnies have helped to support in school. We know that whatever decision you make is a personal decision for your own family, and please be assured that any decision to support either of the two charities is a completely free choice.

Christmas lunch/Party day 17th December 2020 – children may wear their party clothes/Christmas Jumpers to school on this day. £1.00 donation in Aid of Willow Wood and Francis House Hospice. This is in place of the door collection and programme selling that we would normally have at the Christmas Productions. **No football shirts or sports kit to be worn, please.**

Year 1 – we welcome Miss Bianka Southall to St. Peter's. She is going to be the class teacher in Year 1 whilst Mrs Walker is on her maternity leave.

Christmas Flumpets key clips/stickers– we have a supply of Christmas Flumpets key clips on sale £1.50 each. Please put the exact money in an envelope with your request along with your child's name and class. Stocks are limited so it will be first come first served. Also available are Christmas stickers £1.00 a strip. The proceeds will be donated to Willow Wood.

Tameside Radio – Tune in to Tameside Radio on Sunday, 13th December, to hear a recorded version of our Year 6 children singing a verse of 'O Come All ye Faithful' in a collaborative recording with other Tameside schools.

Track and Trace over the Christmas Holidays – please be mindful that Coronavirus cases in these last few days of term may unfortunately result in school bubbles or close contacts being asked to self-isolate over the Christmas holiday period. We are committed to ensuring that children continue to attend school as much as possible up until the end of term, but we ask families to be particularly vigilant in identifying possible Coronavirus symptoms in your household. Please ensure that you follow the self-isolation/ stay at home government guidance, should any member of your household show any symptoms of Covid-19. If your child receives a positive test for Covid-19 up to and including 24-12-20, please Email head@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk. This Email address will be checked between 12.00 noon and 1.00pm each day after school closure. After 24-12-20, positive test results may be reported directly to school in the New Year. Thank you for your understanding with this matter.

Christmas Productions – Parents will be able to purchase a DVD of each class performing a dance to a Christmas carol or song. The cost of the DVD will be £6.50. Slips will be sent out today to order your DVD's. *If your child's black PE pumps are not in school, please send them in with your child before Tuesday.*

Christmas cards – please do not send in individual Christmas cards to your child's class. Children are invited to make one Christmas card for their whole class, which can be quarantined and then displayed in the classroom during Advent.

Swimming – Year 3 will be swimming from Monday 4th January. A letter will be sent out by Mrs Warran. We need parent volunteers to help. Please could you let Mrs Warran know if you are able to help.

Hairstyles Please could we ask that from January, hairstyles follow the guidance on our school uniform policy. Boys' hair should be a similar length all over so that the sides are not shaved to an extreme. We ask that children do not have dyed hair in school.

Nursery Snack Fund - 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. Nursery snack fund for the term will be £24.50 payable to St Peter's Catholic Primary School; alternatively, you can use the School Money on-line system www.eduspot.co.uk A chase up text was sent today showing outstanding monies. Please can you pay the outstanding arrears no later than Monday 14th December 2020.

Nursery Wraparound Provision - from 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.

30-hour funding throughout this autumn period you should have updated / checked your entitlement against your eligibility code, to enable your funding for the 30-hour provision from 1st January 2021 to continue. Changes in circumstances can affect your eligibility. If there have been any changes, please contact the school office regarding the completion of an Addendum form. For further information on your entitlement from January 2021 click on the government website link <https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare>

Admission to school September 2021 – letters have been posted. If your child is registered at our school and you have not received a copy of the application process, then contact the school office. Closing date for online applications is **15th January 2021**. Please note that school requires a copy of birth and baptism certificates, along with two proofs of residency. More detailed information is available on the school website under the Admissions section.

School Dinner Money – please would you bring any outstanding payments up to date. Alternatively, you can pay for school meals on-line using the link at www.tameside.gov.uk and click on the link school meals. ***We will not be able to issue a school dinner to any child where there is a debt of more than £20.00. In such cases parents will be expected to provide their child with a packed lunch.***

Please would you ensure that all advance payments and arrears are received by Monday 14th December due to the Christmas holidays, any late payments received will not be processed until January.

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 where you can complete an online application to see if you are eligible. If it is undecided, then proof of benefits will be required to be shown at school.

Year 6 Residential Trip Robinwood July 2021 - a text was sent out 25th November regarding outstanding payments for next year's re-arranged residential trip. Please bring all outstanding payments up to date as soon as possible.

Year 5 Residential Trip Robinwood April 2021 – a chase up text was sent out today for outstanding instalments. Payment by cash and cheque are acceptable. Payment can be made using the online payment systems www.eduspot.co.uk

Nasal Flu Vaccination Year R to Year 6 - if parents have arranged themselves to take their children to have the Flu vaccination please would they contact the School office so that a withdrawal of consent from the Nasal Flu programme at school can be completed by themselves.

Visits to School - thank you for understanding about the fact that we are trying to limit visitors to the inside of the school building as much as possible at the moment. If you do need to come to the school office, we ask that you please wear a face covering, unless you are exempt from this guidance. The office can be contacted by telephone, or by e-mail at: admin@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk

Parking in Castle Hall Close – resident parking area – please be considerate when you collect your child from the Castle Hall Close entrance. The parking in this area is for residents of the flats only. We have received a complaint regarding parking since a resident was blocked in their space and unable to attend an appointment. Please be attentive when picking up and dropping off at school. Thank you in advance for your co-operation with keeping our school community a safe one.

Please note that school will close for the Christmas holidays at 2:30pm on Friday, 18th December 2020 and re-open on Monday 4th January 2021.

Kind regards

Mrs K Ryan
Acting Headteacher