



Fourth Sunday of Advent:

Mary loved God so much that she was ready to do whatever He asked of her. Trusting Him completely and always ready to please him, she agreed to become the mother of His son, Jesus.

18th December 2020

Dear Parents

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year – I would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you for all your continued support for school over this last term. It is very much appreciated and continues to be a pleasure and a privilege to serve the families of this wonderful community. I truly hope you all have a very blessed Christmas and get to enjoy many happy times with your loved ones before we see you all again in January.

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.

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 e-mail 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 have been sent out to order your DVDs. Any orders received now will be processed in January.

Swimming – Year 3 will be swimming from Monday 4th January. A separate letter will be sent to Y3 parents. We need parent volunteers to help. Please could you let the school office know as soon as possible if you are able to help – especially on this first day back. Please also ensure that the Year 3 children have their swimming kit with them on the first day back at school.

The Talk Shop - attached to this e-mail is a poster containing information about counselling sessions in our local area for children aged 9 and upwards.

Charity Donations - Sincere thanks for the overwhelming support you have given this festive season. The Mini Vinnies collected all the toys for the Tameside Toy Appeal and Mrs Sibson took these to the local drop-off point. In the new year, we will be able to share with you the amounts raised for St. Peter's Church, Francis House Children's Hospice and Willow Wood Hospice.

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 next term will be £21.00 payable to St Peter's Catholic Primary School; alternatively, you can use the School Money on-line system www.eduspot.co.uk A text will be sent out when we return.

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 If there have been any changes in circumstances, 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. A letter will be sent out to parents who have registered their interest, chasing up outstanding evidence.

School Dinner Money – school dinner money for next term will be £69.60(30 meals). Alternatively, you can pay weekly £11.60 payable to School or via the Tameside MBC website www.tameside.gov.uk

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.

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 in the new year.

Year 5 Residential Trip Robinwood April 2021 – a text was sent out 10th December regarding outstanding payments for next year's trip.

Payment by cash and cheque are acceptable. Payment can be made using the online payment systems www.eduspot.co.uk please bring all outstanding payments up to date in the new year.

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.

Parish & Community events

St Peter's Church – Mass times for Christmas – please see the school website > Catholic Life for the latest bulletin with information regarding Mass times at Christmas and booking a place to attend.

Tameside Soccer Coaching Club Astley Sports Village Dukinfield, from Monday 11th January 2021. Ages 4 – 14 years. For more information, please see the school website under Newsletter.

School re-opens on Monday 4th January 2021.

Kind regards

Mrs K Ryan
Acting Headteacher