



3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020



Second Sunday of Advent

“Those who walked in darkness have seen a wonderful light. The light which shines on them chases the shadows of darkness away from their land.” (Isaiah 9:2)

Dear Parents

A high-profile funeral is taking place at St. Peter’s Church tomorrow morning. We would like to reassure parents that school will operate completely as normal tomorrow. School has been briefed by Tameside planning officers, and our usual robust security measures have been shared. Our drop-off and pick-up times at the beginning and end of the school day will not be affected.

**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 wish to support the Tameside Toy Appeal (please see the attached poster). The Mini Vinnies are supporting the Tameside Toy Appeal, and *gifts can be dropped off at school any day up until 11-12-20.* 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.

**Year 6 Christmas Dance** The children in Year 6 will be performing ‘Winter Wonderland’ as one of their dances for this year’s DVD. They will be filmed for this on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> December. They will not be wearing costumes for this dance but will be filmed outside. Please could the Y6 children bring in wellingtons or boots, a woolly hat, scarf and gloves in a labelled carrier bag from Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> December onwards. The items can be left on their coat pegs until the dance is filmed on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> December.

**Christmas Art Competition** – the closing date for entries is Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December. Further details can be found in the ‘newsletter’ section of our website.

**Christmas Lunch** - the children are invited to have a Christmas Dinner on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December. If your child normally has a packed lunch and would like to have a school dinner please send £2.32 for each meal requested in a clearly marked envelope with your child’s name and class. All orders must be received no later than **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2020.**

**\*Children who normally have a school dinner will automatically be included in this special meal\***

**Christmas lunch/Party day 17<sup>th</sup> 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.**

**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.

**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.

**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](http://www.eduspot.co.uk) a text has been sent week commencing 2<sup>nd</sup> November.

**Nursery Wraparound Provision** - from 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Any amendments are to be notified to the office no later than **10<sup>th</sup> December**. 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 **15<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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 7<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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 has been sent out 25<sup>th</sup> November regarding outstanding payments for the residential trip which was originally for April 2020. Please bring all outstanding payments up to date as soon as possible as school has paid the final invoice for this forthcoming trip.

**Year 5 Residential Trip Robinwood April 2021** - the next instalment of £43.00 was due on 27<sup>th</sup> November. Please bring any outstanding payments up to date. Payment by cash and cheque are acceptable. Payment can be made using the online payment systems [www.eduspot.co.uk](http://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](mailto:admin@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk)

#### **Diary Dates**

The current Year 4 children will make their First Holy Communion on Saturday, 12<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

The current Year 3 children will celebrate their First Forgiveness on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021, and their First Holy Communion on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

Please note that school will close for the Christmas holidays at 2:30pm on Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

Kind regards

Mrs K Ryan  
Acting Headteacher