



8th January 2021

Dear Parents

I would like to start by saying that I do hope all of our St. Peter's families are well. The situation of national lockdown in which we currently find ourselves has, I know, been extremely upsetting and worrying for many people. Our school building remains open. Please give us a telephone call or send an e-mail to admin@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk, if you feel that there is any support at all that we can offer.

Remote Learning - I am thrilled that our home learning portal, Tapestry, is now up and running. Families are able to access home learning for each day that school is closed to some children. Children learning at home can view a video of their class teacher delivering Maths and English each day. This video is then followed by a task for children to complete at home. Teachers will also upload Science and RE lessons weekly, as well as a range of other subjects throughout the week. **We recognise that everybody's family situation is different. We also recognise the many challenges faced by families during this time of lockdown** – there may be lots of children in the same household, all needing to access a device, children needing help with home learning, parents and carers trying to work from home whilst home-schooling and managing childcare. If you have any worries or concerns AT ALL about home learning, please do not keep these to yourself, but share these concerns with your child's class teacher via Tapestry, in the first instance. Please use the 'comment' or 'reply' function on Tapestry to stay in contact with your child's class teacher. The attachment to this e-mail gives a step-by-step guide to Tapestry. We thank you for all the work you are uploading to Tapestry.

If you experience any technical difficulties when logging in to Tapestry, please telephone school – we will do all we can to help.

Children have their log-in details for Times Tables Rock Stars, Numbots and Oxford Owl (for reading). Year 1 and 2 could also access 'Teach Your Monster to Read.'

Places in School - We are able to continue to offer places in school to all children who have attended this week. However, I MUST ask that if it is ever possible for your child to stay at home (for example, if you work as a part-time critical worker, or if one parent/ carer is working at home for the day), then please let us know that your child will be at home for that day. I am asking you to pause for thought before sending your child to school, simply because the number of children requiring a place in our school is much higher than we anticipated. Schools are only open to vulnerable children and children of keyworkers so that we can reduce the number of contacts in our school community.

Nursery – St Peter's Nursery continues to be open to ALL children. This is in line with national government guidance.

Fruit - deliveries of fruit for the Infant children to eat at breacktime have been suspended. Therefore, if your child would like a snack of fresh fruit at morning playtime, we need to ask you to send this in from home – thank you.

Music - lessons in school continue as normal, but children do NOT need to bring in their instruments during lockdown.

School Dinner Money –school dinner money for this 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.

Food Parcels – Children who receive Free School Meals can collect a food parcel from the school office each Monday between 11.00am and 12.00 noon. The government has stated that a national food voucher scheme will once again be introduced – St. Peter's will switch to offering supermarket vouchers instead of food parcels as soon as this scheme is in operation.

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 has been sent out this week.

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 in line with our School's Admission Policy, see supplementary information form a copy can be found on the website link <http://stpetersstalybridge.co.uk/admissions/school-admissions/> Evidence of proofs to be received by 15th January 2021.

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.

Year 5 Residential Trip Robinwood April 2021 – a text was sent out 10th December regarding outstanding payments for next year's trip. The next instalment will be due Friday 29th January 2021.

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.

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

DVD orders - late orders are still being taken for the Christmas DVD. Cost £6.50 each; please send this into school in an envelope clearly marked with your child's name, class and details of amount enclosed by Monday 18th January.

Kind regards

Mrs K Ryan
Acting Headteacher