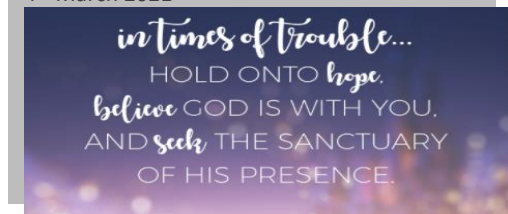




4th March 2021



"Lord, give us faith and courage to do whatever you might ask of us. Make our trust and love for you grow stronger each day."

Dear Parents

Return to school – We look forward immensely to Monday when all our children at St. Peter's will return to school. Staggered start and finish times for the school day will remain the same as they were before lockdown 3. We continue to teach the children in class 'bubbles,' and to follow enhanced cleaning regimes, with regular handwashing throughout the day. Staff in school have access to twice-weekly testing for Coronavirus, and staff will be wearing face coverings when in communal areas of school.

May we ask that parents observe the social distance markings on the ground when queueing to drop off and collect children. We also ask that parents of children in our Reception and Year 1 classes escort their children across the road to the school gate, where staff will receive them.

We urge families to continue to follow current government guidance around socialising with others when out of school. It is so important that we do not meet up with people outside of our own household and support bubble at this time, as part of our efforts to drive down the rates of infection.

World Book Day – this will be celebrated by St. Peter's on Friday, 5th March. Staff in school have made a 'masked reader' video which will be available to view on Tapestry on the day. Children will need to guess which adult in school is reading from their favourite book! We invite those children who are in school to make a mask of their favourite book character and bring it to school on that day. We invite those children who are learning at home to send in a photograph of their book character masks, so that their friends in school can see them. Activities will be placed on Tapestry for children to enjoy throughout the day.

Swimming – Year 3 will recommence their swimming lessons from 8th March. Mrs Warran has sent a separate letter with further details. The children will travel by coach to Active Copley each Monday afternoon, and will require a swimming costume/ trunk and a towel.

PTFA - we are looking for more volunteers for our Parent, Teacher and Friends of St. Peter's Association. If you feel you could give a little of your time to support the PTFA with fundraising events (for example, at the Summer Fair), then please e-mail your details to: ptfa@st-peters.tameside.sch.uk. Mrs K Broadbent is our lead member of staff for the PTFA, and she would be extremely pleased to welcome any new volunteers on board.

Uniform – we ask that the children wear full, correct uniform when they return to school on 8th March. Jumpers and cardigans must have our school badge. We fully appreciate that the pandemic may have had a great impact on the financial budgets of some of our families. Please feel free to come and speak to us in confidence if you would appreciate any help in providing uniform for your child.

Admission to school September 2021 – the application has now closed. If you have a late application, please contact Tameside Council School Admissions department by email schooladmissions@tameside.gov.uk or telephone 0161 342 4004.

Nursery admissions September 2021 – letters have been sent out offering places for September. We still have vacancies in the nursery, please make an enquiry at the school office.

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 27th January regarding outstanding payments for this year's trip. The next instalment of £43.00 was due on Friday 26th February 2021.

Payment by cash and cheque are acceptable.

Payments can be made using the online payment systems www.eduspot.co.uk please bring all outstanding payments up to date.

Robinwood Year 5 Residential trip – We will notify parents of Year 5 children as soon as we are aware of arrangements for this trip. *At this moment in time, indications are that the Robinwood trip booked for the Year 6 children in July WILL go ahead.*

School Dinner Money – school dinner money for this term will be £67.28 (29 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.

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

Nursery Snack Fund/School Fund - Nursery snack fund for this term will be £20.30 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 week commencing 22nd February. 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.

School fund for this term will be £6.00 per family for the term payable to St. Peter's Catholic Primary School.

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 click on the government website link <https://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare>

Stations of the Cross – Due to restrictions around visitors in school, we are unable to hold our usual Lenten prayers and reflections around Stations of the Cross before the start of the school day. Each class in school will be invited to join a reflection on Stations of the Cross during the school day.

Lent fundraising – Please send in any sponsor money for the Lent Quest. This year we are fundraising for the Mission Together charity. Please also send in your photographs for 'Lent Through a Lens.'

We will be selling breadsticks to the Infant children each Friday. The cost of breadsticks is £1 for the whole of Lent. Please send this money into class in a labelled envelope if you wish your child to have breadsticks.

Easter Reflections – as usual the last week of term before Easter is devoted to Holy Week activities. Sadly, we will not be able to hold our Easter reflections for families to join us, but we will mark the season with an 'RE in Art' morning, where children in each bubble will contribute to a collaborative piece of artwork, based on the Word of God.

Big Yellow Friday – On Friday 12th March we will be supporting Big Yellow Friday. Children can wear something yellow with their school uniform for a small donation of £1 to support this deserving charity.

Spring Reports – Our usual Spring reports will be given out in the week commencing 26th April, rather than just before the Easter holidays.

Tennis After School Club Year 3 – School is pleased to offer this club to children in the Year 3 bubble each Wednesday from 28th April onwards. No previous experience of tennis is required! There is no charge to parents for their child to attend this club. Staff in school walk to Stalybridge Tennis Club with the children after school each Wednesday. Parents then collect their child from the club at 4:45pm. A letter will be sent out to all pupils' week commencing 8th March 2021.

Hallé Children's Choir – we have been contacted by the Manchester Hallé to enquire whether any of our children would like to audition for the Hallé Children's Choir. This is for children aged 8-12 years, who love singing and are prepared for the challenge of developing their ability whilst having fun. For more details and to access the application form, please Email verity.riley@halle.co.uk. Auditions are scheduled to take place throughout the month of July at Halle St. Peter's in Ancoats.

Take good care, everyone, and a sincere thank you for all your support during this period of lockdown 3.

Kind regards

Mrs K Ryan
Acting Headteacher