



Head's Update Michaelmas 1, Week 6, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all had a good week and are looking forward to a restful weekend. Some important Covid announcements as well as some fun this week!

End of day

There are some minor, but important, changes to the end of day procedures to keep everyone safe and socially-distanced. Only one gate will be open with one teacher on duty, and children won't be brought to the gate until their parent is at the front of the line or clearly visible. Can all parents line up, socially-distanced, up the Crescent and please don't call your child when you can see them. If you need to talk to a teacher please request a call or email them rather than asking any questions at the gate, to allow for a quick and safe pickup. Alternatively, if it's something the School Office can sort out, please message Miss Wills. Your child's safety is the most important thing to us and I have therefore asked teachers not to have these conversations with you at pickup. It's also really important that you notify the School Office, in advance, if somebody different is collecting your child. Lastly, parents collecting from the Hub should wait outside and not enter the building. Any parent on school grounds should wear a face mask.

Nursery

This week has been all about outdoor learning and nature. The Nursery children have enjoyed pouring, measuring and colour mixing in our potion lab. They have explored a giant sunflower head and planted daffodil bulbs, as well as crunched the leaves under their feet on our leaf walk around the School grounds. We had a fox visit the orchard this week, which enticed the children to create their own fox pictures, with pens, pencils, crayons and chalks. Finally, a butterfly had been hibernating in our cupboard; the children loved seeing it up close and admired it's beautiful colours!

PTA - Spooky Spoons

Monday 19th October is the deadline for ordering your wooden spoons through ParentMail for the Spooky Spoons competition. Make sure you've ordered yours!

Female Footballers

Kettering Town Football Club are on the lookout for girls for their under 11 league squad. They have won their opening two matches, but require extra girls to boost the squad. No experience or ability level required. They train on Wednesdays 7-8pm at Latimer School 3G. They also have an under 9 girls squad if any one from Year 4 upwards is interested in joining. I know the girls enjoy playing at lunch times and some of them looked particularly skillful in Games earlier in the week.



Poppy Appeal

After half term, our Year 6s will be selling poppies near the school gate. Children can purchase a poppy, reflector, wristband, snap band or zip pull from the Year 6s who'll be collecting for the Royal British Legion appeal. Due to the current circumstances, children won't be allowed to touch any items until they are paid for and will need to pay with exact money as no change will be available. All donations go to charity. I'm happy for children to wear a poppy on their school blazer for the month of November, all other merchandise must be taken home.

A message from NMPAT

Due to the current situation, our Saturday music centres, which many students have been benefiting from for many years, have not been able to run as usual. We do have a growing virtual centre with lots of sessions for students to access, have fun and boost their musical, ensemble and performance learning. This Saturday morning is "bring a friend" week and there is a totally open-access session for students at 12.00 - 12.30pm

The meeting can be accessed here:

- 12.00 - 12.30 - Bring a Friend!
- <http://bit.ly/VCFriend>
- Meeting ID: 885 7703 1294
- Passcode: 765245

The 30 minute session will be a combination of rehearsal and performance of 'Ain't No Mountain High Enough'. All guests are invited to join in with this and should email VC@nmpat.co.uk to obtain appropriate parts. There is absolutely no pressure on anyone to sing/play along and we would be equally delighted to see people there absorbing everything and contemplating joining us next term.

Clubs

Due to the inclement weather, not all clubs will run as advertised. Our sports staff will endeavour to get children outside playing sports, but in heavy rain this may not be possible. There'll always be an alternative sport or indoor activity session offered in its place. If it's torrential rain and you would like to collect your child from their sports club at the normal end of school time, please inform the School Office in advance. As I write this, Cricket Club is being washed away.

Flu vaccination reminder

Registration closes 7 days before the nurses visit on Tuesday 3rd November. For consent forms, please visit: <https://www.nhft.nhs.uk/flu>. Once the deadline closes you'll only be able to access the vaccination from a community catch up clinic. If you don't want your child to receive the flu vaccination you aren't required to submit the consent form.



Uniform

Winter is coming! So please make sure that children have school hats, gloves and scarves. These should be the St Peter's stock, available from the school shop. Also, please remember your football boots and shin pads for every Games session.

Given the extraordinary times, we're all looking forward to one week's half term soon. This will help children and staff recharge their batteries and be prepared for the dark nights and cold days of Michaelmas 2. I have spoken to lots of Head's this week in schools that have had positive cases of COVID and we are working with them to ensure we are fully prepared. Thank you, everyone, for working together to keep all of our children safe and in school. Depending on how things develop over the next months, we may need to revert to Home Learning for some groups at some point during this term. I hope this doesn't happen, but rest assured that we are ready.

Finally, next week is the finals of the St Peter's Conker Championships. Make sure your child has their best six-er, ten-er or even twelver-er freshly strunged and ready to go. It may even upset the current House Point totals as pupils are competing for their house:

- Barnwell - 136
- Brigstock 133
- Stanwick 112
- Sywell - 146

Have a lovely weekend.

Regards,

Mr Thomas

Headteacher