



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the second half of Trinity Term. I hope you remain healthy and well. It's been a strange week as we welcome back some, but not all, of our learners into school. There's a feeling of uncertainty and the St Peter's school community has been working hard to create as much normalcy as possible. I'm incredibly proud of our teachers and key workers who have come together, adapted and set aside personal issues to create a safe learning environment, despite flawed and unrealistic government guidance.

As our school opens more widely, it bears little resemblance to pre-Covid. I appreciate this means everyone is adapting, whilst our school continues to change and improve.

We need to work together on caring for those around us and connecting to them like never before. For schools, this is vitally important. I want to see our school at the centre of this community, doing the right thing. We're making children our sole focus, and finding ways to help each other. The world is a scary place; St Peter's is and will always be a safe place.

Returning to School

This week we welcomed back some of our Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 children. We have outdoor learning environments, smaller classes and we're getting used to language like 'bubbles' and 'socially-distanced'. Red dots and bold arrows around the school help remind children and parents about staying alert. Regular hand-washing is now the norm and picnics in the school grounds are universally enjoyed. We continue to work online with the children who can't be with us in school and we miss those who are staying away for medical reasons. Next week we'll continue as we have this week and we'll review our arrangements daily. I'm afraid I don't have any more information regarding other year groups returning or when we'll be able to increase our capacity but we'll keep you informed as and when arrangements change. I'll be monitoring the national and local picture closely and listening daily to evolving government advice.

It's good to see you

For those of you still doing your school work at home, I know your teachers like to see you and it's healthy for you to see your classmates, so please try and login each week to your Google Classroom and join your class hangouts when you can. I know that everyone works in different ways and now more than ever we must find flexible ways of working. Please do discuss with your class teachers what works for you and encourage your child to join the daily or weekly meets.

William Tell Bucket Challenge

It's amazing to see how we have all overcome our technical difficulties (even though I struggled to get my sound working in my YouTube assembly this week!) as the children have managed to work out how to submit their music challenges online and Mrs Palmer has made another fantastic montage of their drumming talents. Please see all of the wonderful videos on our YouTube channel. There you'll also find our weekly hymns, songs and assemblies.



Nursery

It's been a busy week in Nursery as we officially re-opened our doors on Tuesday. Three of our wonderful Nursery Staff have returned to work and immediately thrown themselves into a new way of working. Spaces in Nursery are currently limited due to the government guidance and we are only able to accommodate 15 children across the whole week. These spaces have been prioritised for vulnerable and key worker children and those transitioning up to primary schools, all in accordance with government advice. We understand that it's frustrating for you that we can't have more children onsite and we wish we could have more of you here. I hope in time that we're able to increase our capacity and welcome more of you back.

The Nursery has been closed for the last 10 weeks and we'll adapt as quickly as we can to this new way of working. I know that our dedicated staff will be very busy. They have already started putting suggestions of activities onto the Nursery Facebook page, and started making contact with some of the parents. They're preparing Learning Journeys and transition reports ready for primary schools, as well as looking after our small but energetic bubble of children in school. It's been lovely to hear the sounds of the children filling the school grounds and I know that they're enjoying being back together.

For those who are leaving us, we'll collect all personal belongings and creative work and make sure these are kept safe for collection at the appropriate time. We want to help all of our children and support you as much as possible whether you're in school or at home, transitioning to primary or just starting your nursery journey. If you need support with anything in particular, please email the school office, which is now open during the day.

Finally, can I remind all of those who are coming to school to arrive at the correct time and respect social-distancing outside the school. We must work together, stay alert and keep safe. Thank you for all you're doing, and for your support and consideration at this time.

Warmest regards

Mr Thomas

Headteacher