



Dear Parents and Carers,

With the onset of colder temperatures this week, it's clear that winter is here. To keep our students warm, children should all wear school hats, gloves, and scarves, which can be purchased either directly from the School Office or through ParentMail. We want to ensure that all children are well-prepared for the chilly weather, as our outdoor activities continue daily. So, please remember to bundle up your child in these essentials to keep them comfortable during this cold season.

Preschool Press

Preschool has been filled with hedgehogs and foxes this week! The children have been developing their gross and fine motor skills whilst winding wool around cardboard to create foxes, modelling hedgehogs with playdough and attaching matchstick spines and making hedgehog pictures by painting and printing with their hands and using spatulas and gloopy glue. In cooking the children worked together to make potato hedgehogs by cutting cheese and pineapple and placing them onto sticks. They looked amazing but they didn't stay around for very long! During outdoor learning we were all fascinated to hear about the hedgehogs which visit Mrs Wildman's garden and to look at her hedgehog feeding box. The children learnt that hedgehogs have very good hearing and smell but can not see very well and that during the winter when the ground is frozen we can all help by leaving out cat or dog food and bowls of water.

PTA News

Another busy week behind the scenes of the PTA. Zoe Blackhall, our fabulous Treasurer, has been working very hard over the last few months to enable the PTA to obtain its charity status. We are extremely pleased to announce that we have now achieved this and St Peter's School PTA is now a registered charity! It won't change how the PTA operates on the frontline, it just gives us formal recognition of our status and ensures our standards as a PTA are maintained to a high level. If anyone has any questions or would like to know more information then please speak to a member of the PTA Committee. In other news, the PTA Sponsored Sing Along will be launched from Monday. The Sing Along will take place on Friday 9th February during the school day. All children from Reception to Year 6 will be bringing home a sponsorship form and posters will start to be circulated. This promises to be a really fun event for the children so if you are able to support them with getting sponsors we would be extremely grateful – any amounts are welcome. The funds raised from this event will be used to purchase some items for Mrs Palmer and the music department.

Tracksuits Information

Tracksuits are a mandatory item, especially during cold weather, and children are required to wear them to fixtures and have them when participating in outdoor activities. They should definitely be worn to and from swimming in the winter months. We are aware that our current stocks are low, but we do have some left in stock. We have new navy blue tracksuits on the way, with changes in supplier to enhance quality and availability. They will be with us later this term. While we understand some parents may want to wait to purchase new tracksuits, we do have limited stock of the current tracksuit which is cheaper than the new one and still completely appropriate (and the same colour) for the children to wear. We also offer an optional base layer thermal top through the school shop.

The Crescent

I want to address some concerns that have been raised by parents regarding drop-off and pick-up on the Crescent. I want to assure you that safety is our top priority, and I have taken proactive steps to address these concerns. I have met with various authorities, including wardens, police, highways, planning officials, and our local MP, and this week, I walked the Crescent with our local councillor to further discuss these issues. Our councillor has encouraged me to ask you to log any

concerns or complaints you may have. If it relates to road or footpath conditions (potholes, tree roots, lifted curbs etc.), please use <https://fixmystreet.northamptonshire.gov.uk/>, our postcode is NN15 6DJ. For concerns related to driver safety and speed limits, I am more than willing to forward these to the local councillor directly, who has committed to sharing them with the council complaints department. Please send them to the School Office. While promises have been made by the council in the past, tangible changes have yet to be seen, and I will continue to advocate locally to make the Crescent a safer place. I kindly ask all of you to contribute by driving cautiously and parking responsibly in the area. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

A huge congratulations to our U11 boys hockey and girls netball teams who performed exceptionally well this week in bitterly cold conditions. Good luck to our runners, representing the school and district at the county cross-country event tomorrow. Finally, please see the attached flyer for free music sessions in Corby happening over the coming weekends.

Have a great weekend.

Regards,

Mr Thomas

Headteacher

Here is next week's menu: <https://www.st-peters.org.uk/menu>