



Dear Parents and Carers,

Someone commented this week that my weekly updates are sent around 8pm during lockdown, why so late? I responded that this was my early Friday finish! I'd previously hoped that today would've been a prompt finish, as I was due to be travelling straight from school to Worthy Farm, Somerset. Sadly though, this year was not meant to be and I'm thankful that I won't be in a tent in the rain. I'm convinced that everything will return post-Covid bigger and better than before and I'm looking forward to events returning to 'normal'. This week, Prime Minister Boris Johnson said people should remain 2m apart where possible but a "one metre plus" rule would be introduced. The government's chief medical adviser, Prof Chris Whitty, said the relaxation represented a "reasonable balance of risk". As a school we'll continue to maintain 2m where possible and in many cases it's much more.

Communication

Please can I remind all parents to direct all communication through the school office. All absences should be reported as normal through ParentMail, in advance, and any questions can be dealt with or passed on through Ms Wills in the office. The office is manned throughout the day and the answer machine service is checked regularly. Subject- and Classroom-specific questions about work online, plans and virtual meets can be sent to the class teacher via Google but all administrative matters should go via the school office. The school email address is st-petersschool@btconnect.com

Nursery

What a super week weather wise! Sunnylands Nursery have taken every opportunity to be outside in the fresh air, enjoying our outstanding gardens. Lots of photographs of the children joining in with activities (most involving water) have been posted on the Sunnylands Nursery Facebook page. Despite the current measures, the nursery is still able to offer virtual or out of hours visits for prospective parents. If you know anyone who's interested in the education and experience we offer, ask them to contact the school office for further details and to arrange a tour.

Welcome Year 2 & 3

This week we welcomed back most of our Year 2s and 3s. It was lovely to have more children in school. Although they may not be in their normal classrooms or with their usual teacher, the smiles and sounds fill the grounds and we're pleased to see them. This meant the opening of a new bubble and I'm pleased that Reception students were able to return to their own classroom. It also meant the return of a few more grown-ups. Mr Burgham and Miss Perkins were just as pleased to return and shrieks from the children confirmed they'd both been missed. Parachutes, water games, hoppers, building blocks and balls have created a colourful backdrop to our school and I certainly hope there are elements of this way of working we can keep every summer. Picnic time is my particular favourite as the children find shade under giant trees, sit on the grass, chat quietly as the breeze keeps them cool; there's something idyllic and picture postcard about this pace of school.



Year 4 & 5 Picnic

For one night only! We also welcomed back some of our Year 4s and 5s for a socially-distanced picnic. Spread across the field, the children were able to catch up with familiar faces, play games and be in the real-world, even if it was just for one hour. We hope to organise more of these events over the coming weeks.

New Reception Meeting

On Tuesday evening, we held a socially-distanced meeting in the school hall for our new parents in Reception class 2020. It was lovely to have them here onsite, even if it was from a distance. I know that they must be apprehensive about September, as we all are at the moment, but I know that our whole school community will welcome them all with open arms. We must support each other at this difficult time and together, we can achieve things unimaginable. Please reach out to these new parents and show them what being part of our St P's family is about. I remain optimistic that the media are correct and school will return more normally in September. That is what we're planning and hoping for.

Returning Books & Resources

Please can all school books, equipment and resources be returned over the next week. For those of you in school, that will be straight forward. We'll organise an event for Year 4 and 5 to bring theirs in. For others, who may not be returning to St Peter's or who are shielding at the moment, please liaise with the school office on a mutually acceptable time to drop off or delivery. This includes NMPAT instruments, school instruments and music resources of those children who'll be leaving at the end of the year. Thank you.

Sun Protection

It's imperative that children are sent into school wearing suncream. We have put up 3 marquees, 2 gazebos and a cargo net to add to other shade provided by our trees and orchard, but we must look after our young ones in the sun. They are not in direct sunlight during the middle part of the day and all of our outdoor learning areas are shaded but your assistance is appreciated. Don't forget hats and water bottles too.

I welcome the rain that is due over the weekend, as does the school lawn. Have a lovely weekend.

Warmest regards,

Mr Thomas

Headteacher