



Head's Update Michaelmas 1, Week 3, 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The weather has been kind to us again this week and it's been lovely watching the children playing in our beautiful grounds. Fingers crossed this continues a little longer as we start clubs next week with lots of sports and outdoor learning planned!

Nursery

Nursery have embraced the warm weather and enjoyed lots of outdoor play. The children are gaining confidence in kicking, rolling, throwing and catching the big balls as well as balancing on the stilts. They've been enjoying water play, trying to get the boats to move down the sloping pipes by pouring water, although some of the buckets have holes in, so a lot of problem solving has also been done! We've explored our school grounds and found lots of treasures; leaves, acorns and even tasty apples which we washed, chopped and shared for a healthy snack.

Please look out for the regular updates on our Facebook page showing which activities the children are busy with. On Fridays, we'll publish the key words, colours and topics for the following week which will help you to know what your child's focussing on in Nursery. Our weekly lunch menus are published on our website here <https://www.st-peters.org.uk/page/?title=Weekly+Menus&pid=112> and you can also find this displayed in the office window as you pass.

Clubs

We're aware that ParentMail may have displayed differently on some devices whilst you submitted your options for clubs. We have sent confirmation of club choices to you. If any are incorrect, please email the school Office directly by Monday morning so that we can make any necessary changes. Clubs do start on Monday with the introduction of String Ensemble, Dance Club and Rounders after school and Library Loungers and Sports Practice at lunch time. We apologise if the spacing on the ParentMail App has mixed up any of your choices but we should be able to fix any errors for you. We have an exciting variety of clubs for older and younger children this term, all of which are COVID-safe. Tennis this term is a continuation of the Trinity Term's group who sadly lost their sessions. We'll offer more tennis sessions in the future once these have been completed. Children should wear appropriate clothing to clubs (i.e. come into school in Games kit) and may bring a pair of trainers into school to change into if they're in school uniform.

New Website: www.st-peters.org.uk

I'm pleased to announce that we have launched our new website! It contains lots of information for you, your children and our community. It has a calendar of school events, weekly menus, curriculum information as well as the history of the school and what we offer. It also offers direct access to all of our social media and has galleries for photos of events. For those who don't use social media, the latest feed is on our homepage so you can always



see what's going on from our daily updates. There's a Parent Portal which contains useful links to websites that you may need, and this will grow over time. There's also a Children's Portal full of useful links to sites and resources they may need for homework. If you'd like to know what lessons your child has each day, all of their timetables have been uploaded as well as term dates under the Parent Information tab. We know that the website will evolve over time and we hope, now that we're all back in school, that we'll be able to update some of the photography. This was difficult during lockdown. Please familiarise yourself with the site, share it with friends and family and help us make it even better.

Music

We have two spaces for woodwind lessons with NMPAT and loan instruments are available. If you'd like your child to have lessons in flute or clarinet and they have their second front teeth in place, please contact the School Office for further information.

Baseline Assessments

Years 1 to 6 have been sitting baseline assessments in Maths, Reading and Spelling. You don't need to worry about these and you don't need to prepare for them. Many children won't even remember doing them. Teachers may have called them quizzes or done them as part of their daily work. Their sole purpose is to help us identify any gaps in learning from lockdown and give us a starting point for this term. I know that teachers are very busy marking these and analysing the data and we'll give you a short summary of your child's scores. I have already seen some of the results and it's interesting. Our children, in almost all areas, are ahead of their equivalent cohorts in state schools. In some areas, there's clear evidence that excellent progress has been made despite children not being in school. This is thanks to the hard work of our whole community, especially teachers and parents together supporting home learning. I'll supply all of you with a full summary when all of the baseline assessments are complete and for any children with gaps we've already planned a series of interventions in school to catch them up. The message I want to convey to you and your child is "don't worry"!

Finally, please can I ask you to return your Data Check sheets as quickly as possible to make sure we have all the correct details on our system.

The weekend ahead looks bright and clear so I hope you can all enjoy the autumnal sunshine.

Regards,

Mr Thomas

Headteacher