



Newsletter

8th January 2021

Number 15

Update from Mr. Hunter-Whitehouse

First I would like to thank all of our parents and carers for being so supportive of my decision to partially close the school before the country went into National Lockdown. As we all feel, it so important for us all to protect our frontline critical workers in the hospitals, and unfortunately with infection rates at their highest, it was the only decision I felt I could make.

I also want to say a massive **well done** to all the children for accessing the home learning on Purple Mash, and of course to the parents who are supporting them doing this. I understand the drain this is putting on family technology, and if you are struggling with access to devices, please contact us.

The transition to partial closure and only opening to vulnerable children and children where both parents are critical keyworkers means that just under 20% of the St. Peter's pupils have remained in school. We need to ensure that these numbers do not rise, as the creation of more classroom bubbles takes staff away from the home learning system, of which just over 80% of pupils are relying on.

Therefore, if your circumstances change over the lockdown period, and despite being a critical worker, you are able to keep your child at home, we ask that you do so and make us aware. If your circumstances change and you do require critical worker childcare, your application will go to the Senior Leadership Team who may require evidence of your situation. This may seem harsh, but we must ensure that numbers in school do not rise further, as I do not wish to take staff away from the majority learning at home.

Due to the number of children in school and to ensure we do not have any contact between the keyworker bubbles (who remain separate at all times), we have made the decision not to offer wraparound care at this time. There is no breakfast club, after school clubs, or extended day service available until lockdown measures change.

It is not the start to the New Year that we all wanted, but we remain positive that there is light at the end of the tunnel and we hope for a much better spring!

Yours, Tim Hunter-Whitehouse

Free School Meals Update

For all those parents who are in receipt of Free School Meals, the voucher scheme will be available again very soon. We are waiting on further updates from the Department for Education on how the system will be running this time.

We will update you on this next week.

Support offer from Thanet Food Bank

The Thanet Food Bank will be opening from this Friday (8th Jan) in the Baptist Church St Peter's.

The opening times are, Friday mornings between 10.30am-12 noon.

If any families are in need of additional food, as children are not in school for lunches, please call 07385290358 and they will try to help you.

Support with Technology

If your child is struggling to learn on a phone device, or your leaning device breaks, please contact the School Office who may be able to help by offering the loan of a school device.

The Test and Trace Support Scheme

Test & Trace Support Payment Scheme:

If you are asked to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace and you're on a low income, unable to work from home and will lose income as a result, you may be entitled to a Payment of £500 from the local authority, under the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme.

The scheme will run until 31 January 2021. For more information and check your eligibility, please click here or

visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/test-and-trace-support-payment-scheme-claiming-financial-support/claiming-financial-support-under-the-test-and-trace-support-payment-scheme>

Spare Exercise Books Available

If your child requires writing paper, we have the red A4 exercise books available in the school reception, which you can pick up at your convenience and no contact with anyone.

The school gates are open for you to drive in and park in the laybys.

The Schoolwear Centre Margate



Working under the
Covid-19 Pandemic Regulations

We are Open for Collections

**Monday, Wednesday 8.30am to 5 pm
and Saturday 9am to 4pm**

We are aware that some children of key workers are still at school and will need uniform and even trousers & skirts

The Shop will be Open for collections only.

Under the new Government regulations

We are not allowed to take payment in the store.

Parents can order on our website and select collect from the store or phone us, order and pay for anything they need then collect from the shop

or have their order delivered paying the delivery charge.

Our Number is 01843 293555

You may get an answer machine message,
but we will get back to you.

For School Enquiries please either Phone this number or email us
on margate@schoolwearcentre.net

Or for Sophie sales@schoolshop.uk.net

One of us will get back to you and give you our private number

We will be working from home, when and where possible,
to keep all our staff as safe as possible.

If there is any way, we can help we are here.

Dates for your diary Terms 3 and 4

12th Feb – last day of term 3

15th -19th Feb – Half term

22nd Feb – Start of term 4

1st April – last day of term 4

2nd – 16th April – Easter holidays

19th April – Start of term 5

Inset Days for School Year 20/21

Mon 7th June 2021

All school events can be found on our website under 'events' –
please check back weekly for additions and changes to our
events – we are a busy school!

Information for parents from National Online Safety

What Parents Need to Know About Call of Duty: Black Ops Cold War.

Parents can access a free online safety guide on Call of Duty: Black Ops Cold War. Follow the link <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides/cod-cold-war>

Call of Duty: Black Ops Cold War (CoD) is an online first-person shooter. It is available on PC, PlayStation and Xbox. CoD allows players to select from different game modes including campaign, multiplayer and 'zombies'. Players can customise their character and weapons in the game.

In the guide, you will find tips on a number of potential risks such as graphic violence & language, in-game payments and talking to strangers.

Webinar for resilience

In addition, there is a free webinar for parents and carers to learn what resilience is, how to support your child to build resilience and how to become a resilient parent/carer. This is available from the Own Solution website: <https://bit.ly/33KVoWO>