



Newsletter

29th January 2021

Number 18

Message from the Headteacher

We've all made it through another week of lockdown learning! Each day we have around 60 children in school, mostly key workers' children where parents are out at clinics, hospitals and offices, and around 310 children at home and completing the remote learning with you.

I know from talking to the teachers just how fantastically well the children are doing with their learning and that almost every St Peter's child is completing work on Purple Mash each week. Well done them - and well done you! I also know how much the teachers and the children have enjoyed their class zoom meetings each week. We are sending out a quick survey on our home learning today - please do take a few minutes to complete it, as it will help us continue to refine what we do.

It isn't easy running schools right now, and I think we all acknowledge that it can't be easy running the country now either! I don't think it's quite the job that Prime Minister Johnson was hoping it would be. This week he gave us a little more information about what we can expect for schools over the next few weeks and months - though not perhaps with the certainty that the headlines suggest. We now know that schools will not reopen to all children after half term or for at least the first two weeks of the new term. We know that if the roll out of the vaccines goes to plan and the lockdown proves effective in bringing down the infection, hospitalisation and death rates, that the government hopes to begin to reopen schools from the **8th March**.

But of course we don't yet know how those numbers will change or indeed how schools will be told to begin to reopen when we are allowed. My hope is that the government keeps to its promise of giving schools and parents two weeks' notice of their intentions so we can all plan properly for what may come next. If they do keep to this then I expect that we should all find out more about when and who can come back into school by the Monday after half term. Let's all hope that we finally turn a corner and we can begin to get back to life - school life, home life and family life - as normal.

Mr Whitehouse

Parent/ adult mindfulness free courses

Below are a list of dates you may be interested in for courses in mindfulness.

4th Feb '21 – 4th March '21 | 10am Start | Adult Course | ZOOM Session | Spaces Available

16th Feb '21 – 23rd March '21 | 10am Start | Adult Course | ZOOM Session | Spaces Available

19th February '21 – 19th March '21 | 1pm | Adult Course | ZOOM Session | Spaces Available

24th March '21 – 21st April '21 | 10am | Adult Course | ZOOM Session | Spaces Available

Please click the link below if you would like to book

<https://www.maidstonemind.org/free-virtual-mindfulness-sessions/>

Support with home learning

Our home learning page on our website has been updated.

On there you will find some useful guides to help you with Purple Mash and also FAQ's to answer more general questions you may have. Please follow the link below to access the webpage.

<https://www.stpetersthanet.co.uk/page/?title=Home+Learning+via+Purple+Mash&pid=191&action=saved>

If you do need further assistance with Purple Mash please call the school office on 861430 and a teacher from your year group will be on hand to assist you.

Free School Meal Voucher Scheme

If you believe you are affected and have not heard, please contact the school office who will be able to advise you.

Arts Challenge!



A really well done to Matilda and Bertie for their news report about all things dramatic - it was epic, and really nice to see you using your acting skills. Another thumbs up to Mariella for her equally dramatic but fun news report with equally good acting skills. Thank you to the three of you for completing Websper's Weekend Challenge, you did an amazing job of creating confident, well prepared versions of happy news.

Well done, you are my winners for this week.

Watch out on Purple Mash (in the drama file) this weekends Websper challenge - 'Family Fairy Tale Freezes'. I'm really hoping more people will get involved this week and am looking forward to seeing what you upload.

Have fun –

Ms Websper



Keyworker / Vulnerable Child Spaces in School

As expected, the requests for keyworker places in school continues to rise each week. This could be for a variety of reasons and that is why all requests are taken to the Senior Leadership Team (every Monday).

These requests are viewed against the government guidance on a case by case basis, alongside a number of factors – numbers in class bubbles, number of staff available in school versus available to teach online, and family need. If we request further information from you, it is not because we are prying; it is because we need to ensure that families where parents are critical keyworkers get those places.

We don't enjoy turning children away, especially if we know it will help our families, but we must treat every family under the same guidance and criteria, so please bear with us.

Thank you.

School lunch menu for week beg 1st Feb

For the keyworker children that are attending school, we are still offering hot meals. Next week the menu is as follows:

Mon – Macaroni cheese **or** Jacket potato with Beans/Cheese.

Strawberry whip **or** Fruit pots

Tues – Chicken Curry and rice **or** Jacket potato with Beans/Cheese

Fruit loaf **or** Fruit pots

Wed – Roast Chicken **or** Quorn Fillet with roast potatoes

Jacket potato with Beans/Cheese

Fruit jelly **or** Fruit pots

Thurs – Cottage pie **or** Jacket potato with Beans/Cheese

Mr. Nourish biscuit **or** Fruit pots

Fri – Chicken goujons and chips **or** Jacket potato with Beans/ Cheese

Flapjack **or** Fruit pots