Embrace excellence through God, to build a better world.

***"Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with your God."* – Micah 6 v. 8**

Newsletter 5th March 2021

It is difficult to believe that it is almost a year since we were catapulted into such turbulent times – I know there is still a way to go yet until life can begin to return to any form of normality, but hope is most certainly on the horizon. We just cannot wait to welcome the children safely back to school this Monday 8th March – and I am sure that many of the parents and carers will echo that sentiment too!

I would like to say a huge well done to our wonderful pupils, who have embraced all of the challenges of remote learning so beautifully. The children will come out of this having learnt so many valuable skills: independence, resilience, compassion, and not to mention their incredible progress in their digital literacy skills! Oh, and one more skill they have definitely shown progress in – the ability to use emojis. They are all superstars, each and every one.

It has not been easy, by any stretch of the imagination, but we have worked through this crisis together, and thank you all for your unwavering support – it has been greatly appreciated.

So, St Peter's, I would like for you all to give yourselves a huge silent cheer in 3…2…1…!

World Book Day

Lockdown certainly cannot stop St Peter's from celebrating a love of reading! In fact, what better time to pick up a good book? On Thursday 4th March, we celebrated World Book Day and our theme for the day was 'Bedtime Books', where we celebrated all things picture books. The children in their classes explored a number of books which have been nominated for this year's Kate Greenaway awards, including: 'My Hair' by Hannah Lee and Allen Fatimaharan; 'What I Like Most' by Mary Murphy and Zhu Cheng-Liang; 'How the Stars Came to Be' by Poonam Mistry and 'Hike' by Pete Oswald, to name a few. The children also took part in a DEAR moment, where they Dropped Everything And Read. In the afternoon, the teachers swapped virtual classrooms and read a picture book to a different class.

To top it all off, our dressing up theme for the day was pyjamas, as there's no better time than bedtime to read a good picture book! Our staff also all took part, with Mr Thomas wearing a Spiderman onesie. I'm sure that Mr Rob was tempted to ask him to climb up onto the roof and collect all of the tennis balls for us.

We hope that the children had a lot of fun, and enjoyed a day dedicated to the joy of books and reading.

Online Safety Workshop for Parents

Just a reminder that on **March 16th,** Childnet will be hosting a virtual Online Safety Workshop for parents at St Peter's, which is completely free of charge.

The session promises to be informative, aiming to equip you with practical advice and resources to help you support your children in a digital age. When we have hosted this session previously, we have received excellent feedback, and we hope that as many parents and carers as possible are able to make it.

Please do let us know via the ParentMail form if you are able to attend, and feel free to get in contact in advance with any specific questions that you may want them to cover.

Poetry Award

It is lovely being able to share good news, particularly at the moment, and we would like to say huge congratulations to Esme in Year 4. Esme entered a poem into the prestigious Oxford University Under-18's poetry competition and she was the runner-up! This is a phenomenal achievement, and she will get to read her poem at the Zoom prize-giving in March. Well done Esme.

Her poem is called 'Riddle', and I wonder if you can guess what the answer is?

Riddle

I am... the colour of the dead of night,

My song is like a cloud and it floats on the breeze,

My eye is a telescope.

I am the flute of the heavens.

I sing to attract mates,

I sing to protect my territory,

And I sing a summer's evening.

What am I?

A Few Reminders about Safety Measures

We hope that you have found the communications regarding the school's re-opening plans over the past two weeks useful and informative, and we would just like to give the following reminders:

- We kindly ask that all adults, unless exempt, wear a face covering when dropping children off and picking them up.
- During drop off and pick up time, we request that all adults follow social distancing guidelines, and form orderly queues using the social distancing lines on the pavements to help.
- We kindly ask that parents and carers avoid driving down the sections of St Peter's Road and Beavor Lane, which are immediately outside the school, during drop-off and pick-up times (8:30am – 9:30am and 2:45pm – 3:45pm).
- We ask that children only bring scooters and bikes to school if they are travelling independently, or using them to avoid public transport.
- All bikes and scooters should be taken home at the end of every day; please do not leave them in the playground overnight.
- Finally, please do not leave dogs tied up on the railing directly outside of the school gates; we are finding that when cute puppies or dogs are being tied up on the railing, children are crowding together to have a closer look and stroke, and under the current circumstances it's not something which they should be doing. We also have a number of children who are scared of dogs and do not like passing them.

Thank you all for your support and co-operation.

Acting Headteacher's Award

	26th February	5th March
Reception	Tom and Alicia	Jossi and Surafel
Year 1	Zoe and Bowen	Amie and Tom
Year 2	Ethiopia and Susannah	Zac and Oskar
Year 3	Ted and Charlie	Ariella and Brooklyn
Year 4	Sara and Riley	Amara and Sophie
Year 5	Nosike and Aimee	Matylda and Eliona
Year 6	Ammanuel and Matilda	Todd and Max

Citizenship Award

Children can be nominated for a Citizenship Award by other pupils, parents and staff members. Currently, we are looking for nominations for children who have displayed acts of **wisdom,** as this is the Christian Value as a school we are focusing upon this half term.

26th February – Oskar (Year 6)

5th March – George, Amber, Freddie, Orly, Surafel and Lennox (Reception), Alexander (Year 2), Mia (Year 5)

Medicines in School

If your child is required to take prescribed medicine during the school day, please ensure that it is given in via the school office; we need parental permission in order to administer any medication. For health and safety reasons, children are not allowed to keep any medications in their bags.

Website

Please remember to log on to our website to view your child's class page at www.stpetersce.lbhf.sch.uk

The blogs are updated weekly by the class teacher, and even though they won't give you too much more information about what the children have been learning about this week (you already know all about that!), they are being used as a space to celebrate success, and share with you what will be learnt next week.

Class webpages are updated weekly by your child's class teacher.

We also have a Twitter account which you can find here:

https://twitter.com/St_Peters_CE

Please do give us a follow!

Finally

If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to speak to myself, Mrs Noonan or your child's class teacher. We are always here to help and believe greatly in the importance of good communication between home and school.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Zalar

Acting Headteacher

Dates for Next Half Term

16/03/21	6pm – 7pm	Online Safety Parent Meeting (Virtual)
22/03/21	4pm – 7pm	Parents' Evening (Virtual)
23/03/21	3.30pm – 6pm	Parents' Evening (Virtual)
25/03/21	9am	Year 6 Class Assembly (Virtual)
30/03/21		Winning House Reward
31/03/21		Easter Egg Rolling
01/04/21	9am	Easter Service (Virtual)
01/04/21	2pm	**End of term**