

Bank Road
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St Peter's Anglican / Methodist VC
Primary School
Head Teacher
Mr Rhys Buckley



“Unlocking our potential for life-long learning”

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Friday 8th January 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Well...what a week! From beginning on Monday with a staff INSET, the purpose of which was for staff to share their planning for the term ahead for our new 'Curious Curriculum' with all children in school, to today where we held our traditional Celebration Assembly online as children came together from their homes to see their friends and staff.

For the second time in less than twelve months, we are now part of a national partial closure of schools. St Peter's is still open, but only to children whose families fall into the category of being 'key workers' or 'vulnerable' (as defined by the Local Authority and government). Due to this significant reduction in pupils attending school, our staff team is now working on a two-week rota system that ensures we have enough staff working in school each day to keep those pupils safe while the rest of the team works from home.

This rota system for staff means that each staff member will be working in school with our key worker/vulnerable pupils one week and working from home the following week; please anticipate that, when your child's teacher is in school teaching pupils, they may not be able to provide the same amount of communication with your child and yourselves. As a staff team we have agreed that from this week onwards the following learning will be provided for all children who are at home:

- A daily English & Maths lesson, with a pre-recorded video from the teacher explaining the work set
- A range of wider curriculum activities linked to your child's History, Geography & Science curriculum; there will be two supporting videos from teacher's each week to support with these activities
- A weekly class assembly taking place on either a Wednesday or Thursday on Zoom

I would ask that, if you haven't done so already, you make contact with your child's class teacher via Google Classroom this week so that they are aware how things are going for you and how your child is accessing work. While attendance at school is no longer compulsory, it is vital that all children are continuing to learn at home. We are here to support this in any way we can.

In addition to the home learning offer on Google Classroom, we will also continue with our weekly collective worship, following the timetable below:

- Monday – Mr Buckley's Assembly, 9.30am – Zoom
- Tuesday – Rev.Rowe's Assembly, 9.30am – Zoom
- Wednesday/Thursday – Class Assemblies – Please check your Google Classroom pages for confirmation of time
- Friday – Celebration Assembly, 9.30am – Zoom

“St Peter's is a dynamic school where children are nurtured, valued and challenged to reach their full potential in a caring, stimulating environment, in which Christian values underpin all our expectations.”

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Many of you have contacted me to pay tribute to the staff team for their work this week, both in setting up online learning via Google Classroom and the level of care they have shown in continuing to work for our community. Please be assured that this level of dedication and care will continue this term while we are in this situation; the team deserve all of our thanks for this effort, it's been inspiring for me to watch them go about their new tasks with such positive attitudes.

I'd also like to say a huge 'thank you' to all of you for how you have supported your children with their learning this week; it is not lost on me how much of an impact this has on your lives, particularly for those of you who are still required to work from home. The time and care you are putting in already is fantastic to see and will ensure that your children continue to make progress while they are unable to attend school.

I realise that having your children at home can add to the pressures that come with parenting at any time. Please do not worry about whether you **have** to do all of the work that is assigned; we know you will all be doing your best and that is all we can ask for. What that looks like will be different in every home and will often be different from one day to the next.

Try to do some Maths, Writing and Reading every day if you can. Some days it just won't happen and, with the current situation we all find ourselves in, that's completely ok. We are all dealing with new information every day that affects our own family and friends, and this comes with its own pressures.

Finally, **I will be holding a Parent Forum on Wednesday 13th January at 7pm; this will be held on Zoom** and will be an opportunity to feedback on how the first week of home learning has gone for your children and raise any questions/concerns. Log-in details for the forum will be sent out nearer the time.

In the meantime, please do not hesitate to get in touch with either your class teacher via Google Classroom or with myself via the school office (office@stpetersprimary.co.uk) if you require any further support.

Best wishes,

Rhys Buckley
Head Teacher