

Bank Road
Pilning
South Glos
BS35 4JG

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



“Unlocking our potential for life-long learning”

Tel: 01454 631137
E-mail: office@stpetersprimary.co.uk
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Friday 11th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you to provide several updates on key areas of school life, to remind you of some of the processes we currently have in place and how you can play your part in keeping our school community safe during these strange times.

Children have now been back at school for over a month and it would be remiss of me not to pay tribute to them all for returning, some of them after a six month break, in the way that they have. Their hard work and kindness towards staff and each other has been inspiring to see; I think we are sometimes guilty as adults of underestimating children's resilience and the last month has proved that again.

Drop-off/Collection Reminders

Our processes for drop-off and collection of pupils have worked well so far and your co-operation is supporting these is very much appreciated by myself and the team. Please keep in mind the following:

- In the morning, please do not arrive at the main gates until your eldest child's given start time
- If possible, walk or cycle to and from school; Bank Road is extremely busy as always and we must do all we can to keep it accessible to all
- Do not come through the gates to line-up with your child/children until you have been called forward by a member of staff
- In the afternoon, please do not arrive at the main gates until your youngest child's given finish time
- **After drop-off and collection, please do not remain on-site or gather on Bank Road to talk;** we realise it's important to catch-up with friends, however our new systems depend on parents/carers spending as little time on-site as possible
- Please ensure your child comes to school with a coat & a water bottle that has their name on it
- On days that your child has PE, please ensure they come to school wearing their PE kit

“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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Communication with Staff

At this week's Parent Forum, several parents raised the issue of not being able to speak briefly with staff at the end of the school day. This is an issue that also affects staff, particularly at the start of the school year when it's important to build relationships between home and school.

Unfortunately, the current situation dictates that staff cannot be available at the start or end of the day for conversations with parents. However, there are other means of communication that can be used in order to bridge this gap:

- Email or phone the school office requesting a call back from the class teacher and this can be arranged at a mutually convenient time. If preferable, video calls with staff can also be arranged
- Email or phone the school office with a message for a member of staff and this will be passed on by the office team

If your child has any additional learning needs that you would like to discuss in detail, you should contact Mrs Margea, our SENCO, via the school office. Myself and Mr Hunt are also available via the office should you wish to speak to either of us regarding general concerns or queries.

We will also be communicating plans for Parents Evening meetings later this term; these will take place after half-term & will need to be held remotely. However, this will still be an opportunity for a 10 minute meeting with your child's teacher as before.

Homework

You may be aware that class teachers have been using Google Classroom to set homework for their classes. If you are having any issues accessing this, please contact school via the office and we will be able to provide assistance. Please do not use Google Classroom to communicate directly with teachers; these messages should go via the school office as normal.

It is vital that children are accessing learning at home, in particular reading and maths. Your continued support with children's learning at home is much appreciated.

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INSET Date Change

As part of our series of INSET days for this academic year, we had agreed that Monday 7th June 2021 would be an INSET day. However, having been notified that the week beginning the 7th June will be used to carry out the Year 1 Phonics Screening Check, **we are having to change the date of the INSET day to Wednesday 21st July 2021.** This means that the last day for pupils to attend school this academic year will now be Tuesday 20th July 2021; **pupils will now need to attend school as normal on Monday 7th June.**

Finally, thank you for continued support of our school this academic year. As always, if there is anything we can do to support your children or family, please don't hesitate to get in touch via the school office.

Best wishes,

Rhys Buckley
Head Teacher