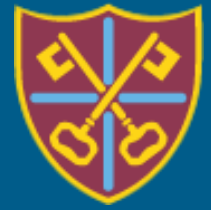


St Peter's News



20th March 2020

This week in school...

Dear Parents and Children,

This week in school has been quite unprecedented! In all my years in education, we have never faced a situation like the one we face now. Thank you for all your supportive messages and kind words—they are much appreciated.

Following the Government requirements, we shall be closing today - Friday 20th March, until further notice.

Although today will be the last time that we may see you and your children for a little while, it is vital to remember that you still belong to our school community. We are all in this situation together, and we will get through it together. The Staff and I are all as sad and worried as you are about the situation, but are confident that if we all work together and follow the Government advice on isolating and social distancing, we are sure we will be back up and running in a faster time.

Please make sure that you visit our website regularly: <http://www.stpeters-leatherhead.co.uk/> it will be our 'virtual school' while you are away. On the website, you will find links to a wealth of activities and resources to use with your children at home, as well as specific activities and tasks for each year group. These will be updated regularly with new learning tasks for the children. A big thank you to the staff, who have spent a considerable time working very hard to get resources out to parents to help with learning at home.

As the weeks go on, we plan to develop our online offer so that children can share what they are doing at home and sustain the wonderful sense of community of which we can be so proud.

In case you were not already aware, the Government have stated that all statutory assessments in primary school, including end of Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 assessments, phonics screening checks in Year 1 and multiplication tables checks in Year 4 will be cancelled.

We will continue to keep in touch with parents by sending updates, and newsletters with important information via ParentMail each week, or more regularly as needed. Staff are available for you, if you need our help, please get in touch with us.

If you have a question or concern about:

- Your child's work then you should contact their teacher. Emails can be found on our website.
- The safety or wellbeing of a child - contact our Designated Safeguarding (DSL) team head@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk or Children's Services (more information overleaf)
- Financial concerns - contact Mr McKenzie, Mrs Shabankareh or Mrs McDonnell who can refer you to sources of support (see more information overleaf).
- For any other query, our school office email is the best way to contact us office@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk

I look forward to seeing you all again as soon as is possible. Take care of yourselves, and each other:

*Keep us, good Lord,
Under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncertainty.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful and lift up all who are brought low,
that we may rejoice in your comfort
Knowing that nothing can separate us from your love.
Amen*

Yours sincerely,

Richard McKenzie
Headteacher



Reduced School Provision for 'Critical Workers'

As advised by the government, we will do all we can to stay open for the children of "Critical Workers" (formerly Key Workers) and our vulnerable children. The most recent scientific advice on how to further limit the spread of the virus is clear. If children can stay safely at home, they should to limit the chance of the virus spreading. That is why the Government has asked parents to keep their children at home wherever possible and schools are to remain open only for those who **absolutely need** to attend.

The fewer children making the journey to school, and the fewer children in educational settings, the lower the risk that the virus can spread and infect vulnerable individuals in wider society. While they are with us, the children will be in mixed aged (year) groups, with mixed ability. The focus will be to supervise them carrying out the work set in the Home Learning packs and to care for the children within a structured day.

The Government has issued further clarification of who is classed as a "critical worker". The list is extensive. The guidance states that this support is **only to be used if urgently required** and for those who have **no alternative childcare** arrangement.

We have made offers to the families of children who we are able to offer care for.

No other children should come to school.

We do not have enough space to care for the children of every parent who has self declared as a critical worker, especially with a reducing number of staff available to supervise children.

We know that you will support and work with us to ensure that the frontline families and vulnerable children that really need the care can be helped.

Families in Difficulties/Crisis - Foodbank Vouchers & Diocese Crisis Fund

If, as the weeks proceed, you feel that your family are in crisis, or would benefit from a Foodbank voucher or other support, please contact us. We may be able to direct you to support and can advise on what is available. When you contact us to request support from the Foodbank, we need to know:

- which day you are going to attend a centre?
- how many people are in your family?
- do you have any allergies?
- do you have pets?
- do you need nappies?
- do you need feminine hygiene products?

The link to our local Foodbank network is [here](#). Please note that Banstead Foodbank is currently closed. The Foodbank will pre-pack the food and have it waiting at the appropriate centre.

Contact: Mrs Shabankareh (senco@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk), Mr McKenzie (head@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk) or Mrs McDonnell (deputy@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk)

Safeguarding

If, during the school closure, you have any safeguarding concerns for your family or another family, then please use our dedicated safeguarding email - head@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk. We will then endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible and offer any support we can.

Contacting Children's Services

If you are concerned about the safety of a child or young person you can contact the Surrey Children's Single Point of Access (SPA). <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/childrens-social-care/contact-childrens-services>

The SPA is based at County Hall and acts as the front door to children's services in Surrey. The SPA provides residents and people who work with children in Surrey with direct information, advice and guidance about where and how to find the appropriate support for children and families.

Availability: 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday

- Phone: 0300 470 9100
- Out of hours phone: 01483 517898 to speak to our emergency duty team.
- Email: emails are dealt with during normal office hours
- For concerns for a child or young person: csmash@surreycc.gov.uk
- For concerns for an adult: ascmarsh@surreycc.gov.uk
- SMS: 07527 182 861 (for the deaf or hard of hearing)
- VRS: Sign Language Video Relay Service
- Fax number: 01483 519862

If you are concerned that a child may be at imminent risk of significant harm please call 999 for police.