

# St Peter's News



27th March 2020

## This week in our school community ...

Dear Children and Parents,

We hope that you have had a good first week learning at home and have also been enjoying this lovely sunshine. If you have been unwell, we are thinking of you and hope you feel better soon. All the staff send you their very best wishes, we miss you and are looking forward to seeing you when our school is open again.

The first line of our school mission statement is 'We achieve our best' and this week, I know that you have all been trying to do your best at home. I have heard and seen lots of examples of the wonderful learning activities that you have been sharing with your teachers. I am very proud of the way that you are trying your best to keep up with your activities at home. Please carry on trying to do this, it might not be possible every day, especially if your parents are also working from home but even if you just do a little bit of reading then that would be fantastic.

I am also really very proud of the examples of things that you have been doing that are not school work. I have heard lots of examples of children being kind and considerate at home and helping their parents and younger brothers and sisters. One of the nicest things that I have heard is about the children who have happily telephoned, emailed, video called and sent pictures to their grandparents and other family members who may be missing them. These are lovely ways to show our school mission statement 'We care for others' in action. Please keep on doing this.

The last part of our Mission Statement is 'We grow in Faith'. This Lent and Easter will be unlike any other you and your families have experienced before. I would encourage you to still take part in Mass from home if you can, why not watch it together on Sunday morning.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

**Richard McKenzie**

Headteacher

## Remembering Grace

On Thursday last week, the children in Ash class remembered their special friend Grace and celebrated her birthday with a special party.

They had some special party food and games and activities.

"We love you lots Grace"  
from everyone in Ash Class.



## Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to everyone whose amazing achievements were featured in this week's Celebration Assembly.

You can see their work in the gallery here:

<http://www.stpeters-leatherhead.co.uk/gallery/?pid=9&gcatid=3>

## Next week in our Virtual School

Remember to check in with our Monday Values Assembly and our Wednesday Worship.

Try the [Now>Press>Play audio](#) experiences at home. The password to log onto the site is: **nowpressplay**

## Sunday Mass - Live

While we may not be able to attend Mass at the moment, we can still share in the Mass together online.

**Our Lady & St Peter's will be live streaming week day and Sunday Mass each day from 9.45am .**

Click on the picture to visit their YouTube channel.



# Behaviour and Well Being

I am sure that you have seen many posts in the media recently about schooling at home, or home schooling and many of them have very valid points. I just wanted to draw your attention to some points taken from one of these posts which talks about the link children's emotional well being and their behaviour:

'Our children not only hear everything going on around them, but they feel our constant tension and anxiety.

They have never experienced anything like this before.

Although the idea of being off school for weeks on end sounds exciting for some, they are probably picturing a fun time like the summer holidays, not the reality of being trapped at home and not seeing their friends.

Over the coming weeks, you may see an increase in behaviour issues with your children.

Whether it's anxiety, or anger, or protests that they can't do normal things - it will happen.

You will potentially see more meltdowns, tantrums, and oppositional behaviour.

This is normal and expected under these circumstances.'

If you are starting to find your children are, understandably, communicating their anxiety through more challenging behaviour we would ask you to remember that above all, children need to feel loved and secure and have lots of positive attention and praise.

Mrs Latham, our ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) has asked me to share the following resources which may help children who are feeling anxious.

Many are available for free here: <https://www.elsa-support.co.uk/category/free-resources/coronavirus-support/>



**ELSA SUPPORT 14 day Home Challenge**

Click the BLUE writing to take you to a resource which you can download and print.

<p><b>Happy fab Booklet</b></p> <p>Look at the five things you can do each day to help you feel happier. Developing relationships with others can be done by telephone or video chat. It could also be done by writing a letter or by making a card for someone.</p>	<p><b>Jar of Courage</b></p> <p>Make a jar of courage with help from an adult. Put the labels on your jar and fill it up with the positive quotes. Take one out each day and read it. Believe it!</p>	<p><b>Hug in a Mug</b></p> <p>Give yourself a hug in a mug. Decorate the mug and add all the things that make you feel happy in the pieces of marshmallow</p>	<p><b>Star Breathing</b></p> <p>Learn how to do star breathing so that you feel nice and calm when you feel either anxious, angry or upset. I bet you could draw your own star too. See if you can copy the poster and draw your own.</p>	<p><b>Self-esteem Bookmark</b></p> <p>Colour your own self esteem bookmark and read it every day to remind yourself how amazing you are. You can use it when you read your book. You can do lots of reading at this time</p>
<p><b>Mindful Flip Flop</b></p> <p>Some lovely mindful colouring today. I wonder if you can manage to colour all the sections and think about the words. Can you find time to really relax today? Enjoy opening and closing your flip flop!</p>	<p><b>Happiness Challenge</b></p> <p>There are five days worth of activities here but I bet you could do them all in a day if you set your mind to it. Lots of lovely happiness fun!</p>	<p><b>Mandala Wishes</b></p> <p>Today you need to draw your picture in the centre of the mandala and then think about your wishes. Write them in the petals and then do lots of lovely mindful colouring.</p>	<p><b>Mindful Rainbow Walk</b></p> <p>You might only be able to go into your garden if you have one but you could do this around your house and by looking through the windows. What do you notice?</p>	<p><b>A- Z of Self-care</b></p> <p>What can you do to look after yourself today? Read through the poster and then make your own A-Z of self-care.</p>
<p><b>Doodle a Day</b></p> <p>Doodling is relaxing. Try filling this all in today. What creative doodles can you do?</p> <p></p>	<p><b>20 Faces</b></p> <p>Can you fill in all the faces with different expressions? Think about all the emotion words you know and try and put a face to each one.</p>		<p><b>Mindful Challenge</b></p> <p>There are five days of activities here but I bet you can do them all in a day if you set your mind to it. Have a lovely mindful time!</p>	<p><b>My Perfect Day</b></p> <p>What would your perfect day look like? Fill in this comic strip with all the things that would make it just perfect.</p>

Download the ELSA Support Challenge here: <https://www.elsa-support.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Coronavirus-home-challenge.pdf>

# St Peter's Virtual School

## User Guide

[Click here to visit the Virtual School](#)

### Children's Virtual School

#### Learning at home

- This is the area where you will find all the tasks that your child has been set for this week.
- Learning is organised by year groups and then by subject.
- Any resources needed will be downloadable from here and links to external sites have been checked before posting.
- Older children can access the website and navigate to the task of the day independently.

#### Pupil Zone

- This is the area full of links to the online learning platforms that we subscribe to as a school.
- We know that children sometimes mistype URL's, especially if they are using another family device. Through the Pupil Zone children can navigate to the school website and through the links provided navigate to:
  - Discovery Education/ Espresso
  - Purple Mash
  - Times Tables Rock Stars
  - NumBots
  - Now>Press>Play

#### Monday Values Assembly

- We begin every week at school with an assembly focused on one of our British Values.
- With the resources on this page, your child can still take part in assembly while they are at home.

#### Wednesday Worship

- Every week, children gather together for a liturgy based on the Gospel from the previous Sunday.
- With the resources on this page, your child can still take part in assembly while they are at home.

#### Friday Celebration Assembly

- Keep celebrating the wonderful work that children are doing while they are at school, at home.
- You can nominate your child for a mention in assembly by emailing Mrs McDonnell ([deputy@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:deputy@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk)) by 6pm on Thursday evening.

#### Keeping Safe

- Encourage your children to navigate this section of the virtual school to explore activities and videos to help them develop their understanding of
  - Keeping safe online
  - Road safety
  - How Childline can support children with worries.

### Children's Virtual School (cont.)

#### Now>Press>Play

- Is a immersive audio experience that we use at school with our wireless headphones.
- They have made some of their experiences available for children to enjoy at home.
- Try them - the children love them!
- To sign into the website use the password: nowpressplay

#### Keep Moving!

- Missed Joe Wicks or can't access the online PE lesson?
- Try these shorter workouts that can be done at home.

#### Fisherman's Friends Podcast

- Did you know that St Peter's had it's own radio show?
- Why not settle down with your children and enjoy all the past episodes of our very own podcast 'Fisherman's Friends'

#### KS2 Choir

- Singing is good for the soul and everyone is welcome to join the KS2 choir at home.
- Before school closed, we were learning the songs to Jake and the Right Genie. Why not carry on, or start, learning the songs at home.
- The words and music can be found in this section.

### Parent's Virtual School

#### Advice centre

- A place where we have gathered all the advice we have for parents trying to support learning at home, including
  - Teacher emails
  - Guidance on what to expect from children
  - How to talk to your child about coronavirus
  - Online safety guides for parents
  - Learning Platform 'How To' guides
- If you have a suggestion for something that you would like to see here, please email us and let us know.

#### Learning at home blog

- Ideas from staff for good resources you can use to enrich your child's time at home.
- Everything is optional, and for information only.

#### Key contacts

- Information on how to contact school and other services, especially if you are worried about a child.

#### Letters and notices

- A place where letters and information sent since school closed on 20th March can be found.