



# St. Peter's Newsletter

## Newsletter 8.1.2021

Happy New Year!!

I am sure that the last few days have been challenging in some small part for everyone. Adjusting to remote learning and becoming home teachers again. If this is new to you don't panic we are here to help. I am also aware how upset a lot of our families have been not to return to school this week. This week has been difficult for us all but I am extremely proud to see our remote learning take off this week throughout the school. Don't forget it is new to some members of staff too. They are learning new features every day!! Apparently, you can access Showbie via an x-box!!! We have hopefully solved a few queries and we are starting to get some laptops ready to loan out next week to those who have requested help. We will be in touch with these families once all this is sorted and the loan agreement has been finalised.



Since the first ever lockdown last March, St. Peter's has been a safe place to learn with effective routines in place. We have had a very low number of positive cases and only a limited amount of bubble closures. We are committed to keep safety at the forefront of all we do, and this is why we have had to be extremely strict with number of families in school currently.

The number of families making requests for a placement in school is understandably increasing. This is now creating challenges for all schools including St Peter's as we balance the need to support critical workers and vulnerable children against keeping school safe during this current lockdown.

Consequently, we have been required to limit numbers in class, based on our planning and risk assessments. Therefore, in the event of pupil numbers being too great in a 'class bubble,' the following priority criteria for places will be and has been applied already:

- vulnerable children
- children where both parents are key workers or children with single parents who are key workers. NHS and education key workers to take priority if needed.
- Children where only one of two parents is a key worker. NHS and education key workers to take priority if needed.

**"AS PART OF GOD'S FAMILY, WE AIM HIGH, ENJOY AND ACHIEVE."**

The responsibility for all of us is to reduce the spread of this pandemic through person-to-person contact in school. This is to reduce any potential spread of COVID to other children, staff and the wider community. The message is very clear, stay at home or work from home if at all possible. The only way to prevent these measures for allocating places is for all families to consider carefully the criteria above. I would still expect children to stay at home if there is an adult present at home. Thank you for your continued understanding at this time.

## Symptoms

**The symptoms in which you keep your child off school are:**

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature (37.8 degrees)
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

or if someone in your household is awaiting a test result.

We will also start taking regular temperature checks on children from next week as we are acutely aware that some children may be asymptomatic and not aware that they had COVID-19.



## Free school meals

If your child is not attending school, we hope to have further information next week from the DfE about food vouchers.

## Change to drop off and pick up.

With less children now in school the following will be in place from Monday.

Families A – I drop off 8.40-8.45am and pick up **3.05pm-3.10pm**

Families J-Z drop off 8.45-8.50am and pick up **3.10-3.15pm,**



Gates will now close at **8.50am** each morning. Also please be aware due to less staff in school there may not be an adult on the yard at the collection points. Please do not approach the classrooms if your child does not appear straight away - we shall keep a look out of the windows.

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### **Fruit and milk deliveries**

We are not currently receiving fruit deliveries so please send your child to school with a piece of fruit if you would like them to have one at breaktime. Milk is also not being delivered. I understand Cool Milk will be issuing refunds.

### **Learning Platform**

Showbie is our school learning platform and the children have made an amazing start using this remotely from home. Please remember this work mirrors what they do in school so please only complete the work on a daily basis. Most classes have one teacher and one teaching assistant assigned to each class. Some teaching assistants though are not full time and also we may have staff off from time to time. Please could I remind parents that at these times work will not be continually marked / feedback given throughout the day. Every class is slightly different with staffing.

### **Looking forward**

This lockdown is set to last six weeks. Next week, numbers in school should be more settled and we can then really start to explore remote learning and the work children are completing at home. This time we are expected to monitor work being completed at home more rigorously and also support families working at home as we know this is not easy, especially if you have more than one child. We will start then looking at getting stationery to you, reading books etc, support with IT!!!!

### **Email communication**

1. General school communication – [bursar@stpetersheysham.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:bursar@stpetersheysham.lancs.sch.uk)
2. Positive test communication – [positivetest@stpetersheysham.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:positivetest@stpetersheysham.lancs.sch.uk)
3. Change to days needed for school (by end of Thursday each week) – [daysneeded@stpetersheysham.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:daysneeded@stpetersheysham.lancs.sch.uk)

### **Worship Theme next week**

The Escape into Egypt Matthew 2.13-15



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## Christian Value this half-term

Love

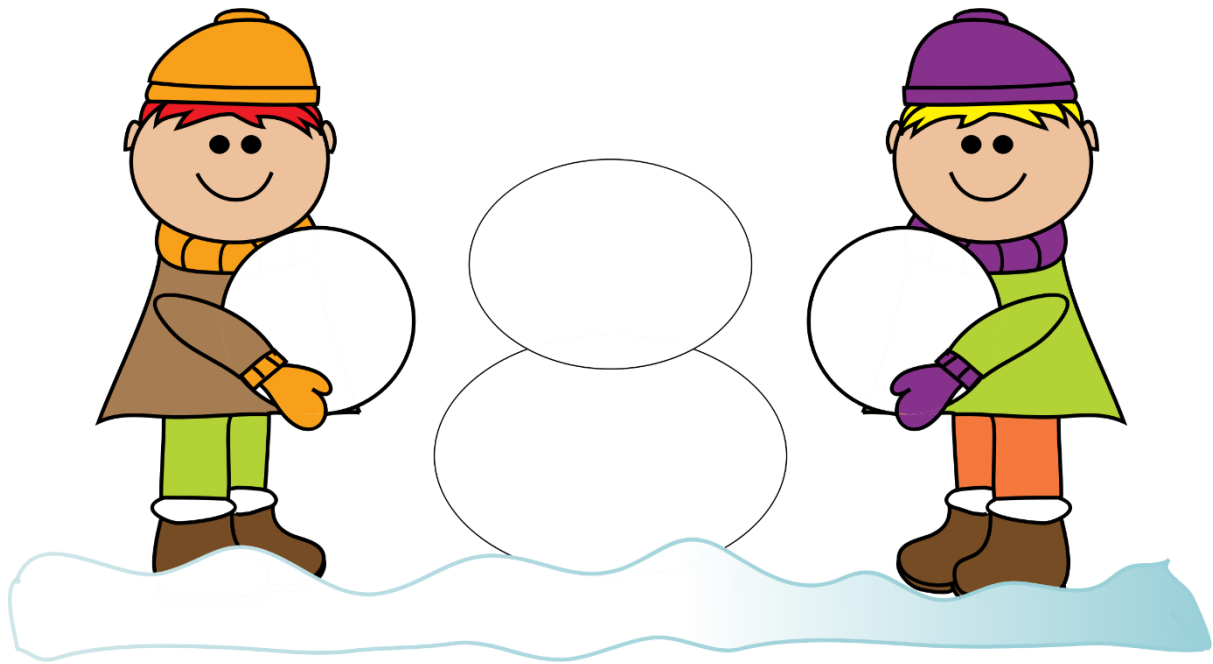


### Admissions 2021

Please note that the closing date for admissions to Primary Schools is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. This is the last day for any on-line applications and paperwork submitted to schools including any faith forms. Kind regards

### Snow!

This morning snow appeared in Lancaster and the surrounding countryside which caused an issue for some of our staff traveling in. This may impact on staffing within school so please keep an eye on emails etc. We have no problem children coming in wellies and changing into their school shoes once inside. This also means they can play comfortably in the snow on the field if it settles!!!!



Take care everyone and keep safe

Mrs Gomersall

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