



St Peter's CE Primary School

Bratton

NEWSLETTER

Friday 1st May 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I have a few updates and few bits of repeated information for you this week...

It's two years ago today that I started at St Peter's as Head Teacher. I wouldn't have believed anyone who'd predicted how things would look 2 years on!

I was delighted on Wednesday evening to be sent a link for the video that has been put together of children from school, sharing some of the things they have been up to since we closed. It was lovely to see and I immediately forwarded it to the staff team here. It's brought an emotional reaction across school and is really appreciated. Thank you to Gemma Everson for coordinating and bringing this together. Great stuff!

On a practical note, we would like to share this video and I understand those who contributed to it have shared on the understanding school could share this on our website and Twitter. Therefore, if your child is on this video and you don't want the image of your child shared, please can you drop us an email over the weekend so we can adapt the video.

I shall finish this section with this teaser though – you beat us to it!

Online/home learning:

As I've shared in our updates with you, we have a team working in the background on the updates to the online learning (our MCAS Team). There has been a lot more material available and where national resources become available our team review these and decide which ones we add to our online learning and which ones we don't.

Just to reiterate to parents, whatever you can do at home with your children is great! We all have different home set ups, time, work demands etc. and so what some families are able to do at home is different to others. I also need to be clear that whatever children produce is for you at home. It doesn't need to be returned to school whilst school is closed and there won't be feedback to children on what they have done whilst school is closed – there is simply too much to do that. We are very aware that when children do return to school, there will be lots of catch up work to do and gaps to fill – don't worry about this, we'll adapt to it when it happens.

Update from our MCAS team about home learning:

In a slight change to our home learning, we are suggesting that children complete their Maths learning from the resources produced by Oak National Academy. <https://www.thenational.academy/online-classroom>. These are good quality resources with a teacher on pre-recorded video, for every lesson, clearly explaining the concepts and skills which children will be learning or practising. Pupils have an opportunity to watch and pause the video at appropriate points to collect equipment or to complete some

independent learning to practice the skills. There is a new lesson for each day. It is very easy to use, simply click on the link and then on the appropriate subject and Year Group for your child. Answers will also usually be shared at the end of the video too. We hope that the children will enjoy doing their Maths in this way. It is intended that this will replace the Power Maths which teachers have been uploading onto MCAS so these will no longer appear from w/b 4th May (for all year groups except Reception and Year 1). All other learning will remain in the same format for now.

Reception and Year 1 will be completing a Power Maths unit of work during w/b 4th May. They will begin Oak National Academy Maths on w/b 11th May and will also begin completing activities from the Home Learning Project which other classes in school are following. Please look out for further details on your child's MCAS page next week.

Laptops:

We have offered laptops out across school now for Years 1-6. If you find you do have need of a laptop and haven't already asked for one, please get in touch with the office via email.

Free School Meals (same info as last week):

If your child is eligible for free school meals, you should have been receiving information by email on how to obtain your voucher for your chosen supermarket. School keeps its list updated and if you have become eligible you should quickly begin to receive this. This is run by Edenred. If you are not receiving your vouchers and are eligible for them, please contact us by phone or email so we can investigate. I know some of you have had some problems getting vouchers – it's a national issue.

If you have made a new application for Universal Credit, you can tell us and we will register you for vouchers. You do not need to wait to begin receiving Universal Credit before you can get a voucher.

Contacting school (same info as last week):

You can contact school by email – this is monitored daily by our office admin team who are working off site. Your email will be passed to the most appropriate person to respond to – so a little bit of detail will be helpful.

You can phone the school office and you will reach one of our Leadership Team who are also all Designated Safeguarding Leads. Those on the rota are: Miss Plowman, Mrs Barker, Mrs Lewis and myself.

Many families are finding this situation difficult, all for completely understandable reasons. If you need a friendly ear to talk to about school work, you are worried about your child's mental health or you want some advice about structuring learning etc. etc.... you are very welcome to give us a ring and talk this through. I can't guarantee we will have the answers! But, we may be able to help or signpost you to somewhere that can.

Key Worker Care booking:

Just a reminder for parents that you can book Key Worker Care on MCAS – any questions or queries please get in touch with the office via email. If you haven't already registered you must complete a registration form at your first drop off.

We do not currently have any bookings for the Friday 8th May – which is the VE Day Bank Holiday. If you need to book for this day please email the office over the weekend so that we know for Monday and can organise our staff rotas.

As always, can I thank you for your continued support of school. The feedback we get is always really welcomed and I know staff appreciate the thanks that have come in very much. If there is anything school can offer to support, please do let us know and we'll consider if we can.

Best wishes,

Mark Davis

Head Teacher