

The Keys Newsletter

Messages from St Peter's

3rd February 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parent / Carer,

This week, Year 6 went to Young Voices in Manchester. Young Voices is the largest children's choir in the world, and St Peter's has attended it for many years. Once again, it was a wonderfully inspiring occasion as over 8000 pupils performed at the Manchester AO Arena in front of a huge crowd. They even got to sing with Heather Small of M People fame, Beat Box with the World Champions and dance with professional dancers who have backed with the likes of Justine Bieber and Beyonce. A big thank you to Mr Badley, Mrs Wilcox and Mrs Bowles for taking the pupils. It was long day and my dad dancing has still not improved.

Well done also to the Year 6 Football Team who yesterday came agonisingly close to another St Peter's win at a football tournament. After nine games, they finished on the same points as another school, but goal difference put us into second place even though we didn't even concede a goal for the whole tournament. Year 4 girls play today and Year 5 boys on Monday.

On Tuesday, Year 5 went to Crucial Crew where they learned all about being safe on the road, Cyber Crime and Bullying, the emergency services, how to call 999 and how to put someone in the recovery position. They had a great time and learned a lot from the afternoon.

Next week, we will be taking part in Safer Internet Day, although we will be extending this and spending most of the week educating our children on how to be safe online. On Wednesday, we will be hosting The Code Show, which is an historical computing exhibition that celebrates how Britain entered the Computing and Digital Age. On show will be Sinclair ZX Spectrums, Video recorders, 1980's mobile phones, Sony Walkman's and we will have a 1985 Sinclair C5 on display. Children will be able to look at these items and after school **we are inviting parents to come in at 3.30pm and take a nostalgic walk down memory lane with their children.** We are also welcoming Merseyside Police Digital Media Intelligence unit, who will be working with Year 5 and Year 6 about Cyber Crime

Kids For Sport

Unfortunately, Kids for Sport will not be with us for a period of time. We are working on how to get them back and as soon as I have further information, I will inform you. The Half Term Camps are still going ahead.

Parent Governor

Attached to this newsletter will be information about an opening for a Parent Governor position. Please take the time to read what it takes to be Governor at St Peter's and if you would be interested in becoming a candidate.

Kind Regards

Mr Robinson



Celebration & Congratulations



GROWTH MINDSET

Reception: Charlotte G
Year 1/2: Dexter B
Year 2: Morrie E
Year 3: Liam E
Year 4: Lalitha S
Year 5: Harry J
Year 6: James M

STAR OF THE WEEK

Reception: Archie McD
Year 1/2: Roisin McG-J
Year 2: Verity F
Year 3: Jacob P-E
Year 4: Tilly C
Year 5: Lotti M
Year 6: Zayan A



VALUES AWARD

Year 5: Evie M

COURAGE AWARD

Year 5: Aoife O

HEADTEACHER'S AWARD

Archie McD - Reception
Freddie L-G - Year 1/2
Niall B - Year 3
Zoe G-D - Year 4



YOUNG VOICES TRIP – YEAR 6



PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY

Parent Governor Vacancy

Due to the resignation of one of our parent governors we now have a vacancy on our governing board.

You will be expected to attend at least two meetings of the governing board each term, these are held on various days at 4.30pm. We also hold termly governing board development session starting at 5.30pm. Meeting usually run for two hours.

An extensive programme of governor training is offered by St Helens Council in addition to the on-line training available through the National Governance Association. All new governors must undertake safeguarding training and complete the induction training within twelve months of their appointment.

Please consider this important role and put your name forward if you believe you have the time and skills to support the work of the governing board.

Nomination forms are available on the school website or from the school office.

Being a Parent Governor

The role of a parent governor is no different to that of the other school governors. They hold equal rights and status and your involvement is not limited to matters of parental interest. Instead, parent governors hold the unique position of being able to share a parental perspective into strategic discussions and decision making.

Through your children you will have first-hand experience of the daily life at St Peter's, what they think of the school from their point of view and you'll have experience of the curriculum we teach.

Parent governors are:

- Well placed to understand parent's views and to remind the governing board how matters being discussed affect parents
- Individuals who act according to their own conscience. How they vote on any decision is up to them
- In a good position to help the governing board to communicate effectively with parents
- Equal in all status to all other governors.

Parent governors are not:

- Expected to gather the views of other parents and take them to the governing board;
- Simply expected to represent the interests of parents
- Expected to vote as instructed by other parents.

How to fulfil your role

Being a parent governor involves achieving a delicate balance of roles; from sharing your experience as a parent to helping the governing board with the strategic management of the school. Some of the things you can do to help you in your role are:

- Learn all you can about the school; its policies, procedures, the curriculum, its teachers
- Give your time to prepare for and attend governing board meetings regularly and play an active role in committees and decision making.
- Regularly undertake governor training to ensure you understand your role and responsibilities and can effectively support the governing board.
- Arrange visits to school to see how the curriculum is being taught by teachers.
- Always represent the school positively.

As a governor you are one of a group, which means you can have your say on decisions in meetings and vote in the way you wish; but support the outcomes of votes – even if you disagree.

The role will also give you access to a lot of highly sensitive and confidential information – it's important you always observe confidentiality and don't discuss it with anyone who is not a governor.

How you can help parents

Parent governors are likely to have more visibility to other parents, from the daily school run, than other governors and there are ways you can help parents in your role.

- Be approachable to other parents, but make sure you are clear about your role.
- Consider how the school communicates with parents and how easy it is for parents to go into school to discuss things with the headteacher or teachers
- Consider how accessible the governors are and if parents ever get the opportunity to meet with governors; do they know how to get in touch with the chair of governors if they need to.

From time-to-time parent governors may be approached by other parents asking for help or wanting to make a complaint about something the school is or isn't doing. Direct parents to the school's Senior Leadership team can help with most queries and concerns and it's important not to raise expectations of being able to fix any issues – a governors' role is to help the board make informed decisions that balance all sides of every story.

Mr Kevin Smith has been the most recent governor to join the board and has written about his experience as a new governor.

When I was first asked to become Foundation a governor, I realised that although I was interested in the role, I wasn't too sure what it really involved other than knowing there were regular meetings to discuss what happens in the school. I learned more about what the governor role entails and found the National Governance Association website helpful for this. Once I knew more, I was still interested, and thought that my professional experience could be useful in the role. I agreed to being nominated by St Peter's Church as a governor and was appointed to the governing board in June 2022.

It has been really interesting learning so much more about the school our child attends and it feels fulfilling to be in a position to help support the school community. As you might expect, the role does involve a time commitment. I have learnt much more about the role and what I am required to do, completed a range of training courses, and regularly prepare for and attend different board and committee meetings. The full governor board typically meet once a term for a couple of hours, as does each individual committee. There are also ad hoc meetings that take place for a variety of reasons, for example we recently met with teachers to understand how they have weaved the main subject concepts into the COURAGE curriculum.

I've really enjoyed my time as a governor so far and would recommend that anyone who is interested in the role finds out more about it and considers applying. I've been able to see just how much hard work and effort goes into the running of the school behind the scenes to make it a safe and engaging place for the children to learn, and it feels rewarding to have a role in supporting this. I find it a really positive opportunity to contribute to the school and its longer-term development, helping to ensure that children across all year groups can achieve their full potential from their time at St Peter's.

PTA NOTICE - MOTHERS DAY SHOP



We are getting ready for the return of the very popular Mother's day shop, to make this happen we need your help. We are going to be getting things ready on *Tuesday 8th March* in school from 6pm and then to help sell the gifts to the Children on *Friday 10th March* from 1pm.

If you can spare any time to help at either or both dates please contact the PTA on stpeterspta@yahoo.co.uk

Your help as always is very much appreciated.

PTA NOTICE - READATHON



The Readathon is back!

In the run up to world book day we're once again running the sponsored Readathon where children are asked to get sponsored to read as many books as they can.

Sponsor forms will be coming home before half term. All children who take part will have a chance of winning a prize.

Thanks for your help

SPORT 4 KIDS – FEBRUARY HALF TERM

Booking is now open for the holiday camp at St Peter's during this February Half Term. *Please book with Sport 4 Kids.*

SPORT4KIDS FEB HALF TERM
WELLBEING WEEK CAMPS
MONDAY 13TH – FRIDAY 17TH FEB
AVAILABLE FOR AGES 4 – 12
8AM-6PM

S4K

We are delighted to announce that we will be running four S4K 'Wellbeing Week' Camps across the North West area during the February Half Term! Our camps offer a wide range of activities, provided by specialist coaches which are fun, engaging and designed to help bring high quality and technical sports development for all. Camps are sure to fill up quickly so book today to avoid missing out!



S4K

WHY ARE SPORT4KIDS DIFFERENT?
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MONDAY 23RD JANUARY TO RECEIVE A
15% DISCOUNT ON YOUR BOOKING!

Corpus Christi Primary School, WA11 8JF
Contact: mark.seary@sport4kids.biz



Birchley St Mary's Primary School, WN5 7QJ
Contact: rachel.anderton@sport4kids.biz



St Peter's C of E Primary School, WA12 9UR
Contact: charlotte.dodson@sport4kids.biz



St Peter & Paul Primary School, WA11 8AT
Contact: joshua.anderton@sport4kids.biz
(AGES 5-12)



Book your place via www.sport4kids.biz/camps or scan the QR code above the for your specific camp. Payment is made online by credit or debit card. If you have any questions, please feel free to give us a call on 0300 303 3866 or email enquiries@sport4kids.biz. It is essential you register online before the start of the camp so that we have an accurate record of all the children attending as well as contact details and medical records. This is to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all children in Sport4Kids care. We thank you for your co-operation.

S4K

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COMMUNITY NOTICES



CARERS TRUST
St Helens Carers Centre

ST. HELENS PARENT CARER FORUM

For parents and carers of children and young people (from birth to 25) with SEND (Special Educational Needs and/or Disability) in St. Helens

Forum meetings are a great way for you to meet other parents, find out about local services and share your views, so that local services meet the needs of your children and young people.

The forum is run by parent carers for parent carers

Thursday 9th February 2023

**Mercure Hotel St. Helens
Linkway West, WA10 1NG**

**Daytime
10.00 – 14.00**

Arrival from 09.30 for refreshments and a buffet lunch will be served at 13.00

**Evening
18.00 – 20.15**

Arrival from 17.30 for a light supper. Forum starts at 18.00

Parking is available at the venue. You need to log your car registration number at reception upon arrival.

IMPORTANT

Booking is essential, please ring the Carers Centre on 01744 675615 or email info@sthelenscarers.org.uk

If nearer the time you are unable to attend, please cancel your place. This will help us to keep costs down and continue to do what we do.

St Helens Local Offer Information Day

For Parent Carers of Children and Young People with SEND (Special Educational Needs or Disability) from birth to age 25

LA Education and School Ageservices

Play and Support Groups

Early Years Services

Post 16 Services

Social Care Services

Further Education Providers

Health Service Providers

Local Charities

Thursday 9th March 2023

Daytime: 10:30am - 2:00pm

Evening: 5:30pm - 7:30pm

At St Helens Town Hall, Victoria Square,
St Helens, WA10 1HP

No need to book!
Drop in anytime to find out how local services can support you and your family



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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 6th February 2023

- KS2 Girls Football Afterschool Club: 3.30-4.30pm (LAST SESSION)

Tuesday 7th February 2023

- Class Worship

Wednesday 8th February 2023

- Class Worship
- The Code Show in school – Parents welcome to attend at 3.30pm for a viewing of the items on display
- Reception Hearing Screening (AM) – Opt out letters previously sent via School Spider
- KS2 Netball Afterschool Club: 3.30 -4.30pm

Thursday 9th February 2023

- Year 5 – Swimming
- Year 3 & 4 STEM Club: 3.30-4.30pm
- Kidslingo Club: 3.30-4.30pm

Friday 10th February 2023

- School closes for half term.

Monday 20th February 2023

- School re-opens after half term

Please note some of these dates may be subject to change.



MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Please could we ask that you let the school office know in advance if your child has a medical appointment.

Could we also ask that provide the office with a paper copy or phone screen shot of the appointment and inform us what time you will be collecting/dropping off your child on the day of appointment.

HOLIDAY REQUESTS

Holiday Requests

Please note that all term time holiday requests will be unauthorised. Taking holidays during term time does have a detrimental effect on a child's education. Extended holidays in particular can be the difference between children achieving their year group objectives and not particularly if the pupil then is off for period of time with a sickness. Any pupil that falls below 94% attendance is classed as a cause for concern and will be contacted by the Education welfare Officer.

There are penalties, as set out by St Helens MBC, that could lead to up to £600 for a family of four
[Penalty notices - St Helens Borough Council](#)

OFFICE NEWS



DINNER MONEY

If your child wishes to change their lunch preference please advise the office via email giving **a week's notice**. Payment is taken through the School Money Online Payment System.

UNIFORM

Uniform can be ordered direct from Touchline UK Liverpool Rd, Warrington, WA5 1AE, 01925 413777

sales@touchline-embroidery.com

We also have a small number of items on the School Money site under SHOP which you can pay for then contact school to arrange for them to be sent home with your child.

ABSENCE

When reporting on the absence line, can we politely request that you leave a brief description of your child's illness rather than just saying they are unwell. If your child has vomiting or diarrhoea please note that they should not return to school for a period of 48 hours after the last incident. This is a local authority policy

Applications for Holiday Leave must be submitted to school at **least 4 weeks** in advance. Forms can be found on the school website or requested from the school office. In accordance with Government and Local Authority policy, holidays taken during term time will only be authorised in **exceptional circumstances**.

CHANGES

It is very important that if you change contact numbers, emails or addresses that you advise us as soon as possible. Any changes must be sent into school via email.

Thank you

Contact Details

St Peter's C.E. Primary School
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Newton-le-Willows
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01744 678630
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<https://twitter.com/NLWStPeters>
www.st-peters.st-helens.sch.uk

