

# St Peter's CE Primary School Bratton

# NEWSLETTER

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents,

It has been wonderful to see all the children back this week. They have all settled really well and we are very proud of them all.

There are lots of messages for you this week, so rather than begin to repeat myself I'll stop here. Please have a good read through and I hope you all have a good weekend.

Best wishes,

Mark Davis

**Head Teacher** 

### **Start and End of Day:**

One of the things that is difficult to get right with all children back in school is the start and the end of day. We have considered using staggered starts since May last year and kept this under review. We haven't done so because we have so many parents with children in multiple year groups and you would have to wait around to collect from or drop off different year groups. This just pushes the issues of social distancing onto neighbouring pathways. Feedback from schools who did take that option confirms what we suspected.

Nevertheless, we do need to make sure we manage the flow through the school during drop off and collection times. I want to set out below a few subtle changes from us that we think will help and a few subtle changes from you that will help as well. Some of you have made some suggestions to us about where the problems are or some practical steps you think will help. We really value these.

I need to remind parents about social distancing. Please ensure you leave space around you. Even if social distancing does not bother you, it does bother other people and by working together we can help everyone feel more comfortable around the school site.

#### Drop off:

We have the greatest number of pupils arrive on site for when the doors open at 8.45am. Our greatest pinch point on the site is where the two one-way systems meet, by the shipping containers. The drop off

window is 8.45am – 9.00am. By 8.50am the site is relatively clear, with no crowds. If you do not need to rush off to work, it would help us if you dropped off around 8.50am.

### From Monday, we will...

Open the back gates at 8.43am. Once the initial queue has gone through the back gate we will open the front gate (which we can radio through to the office for and control remotely from there). Experimenting this week we have found that takes between 1-2 minutes. Those queuing at the front gate can then enter the site. This will avoid the two initial queues meeting at the pinch point.

Arriving before 9am is arriving on time.

Please make sure your children wash their hands between arriving on site and entering the building.

#### End of day:

Collection is a little harder to manage than drop off. Children will be in place for 3.10pm as they are now. We've always asked that children are collected by 3.20pm. If you collect your child before 3.20pm, you are on time for collection.

# From Monday, we will...

Open the back gate just before the bell at 3.10pm followed by the front gate, once the initial queue has gone down.

We recommend children wash their hands before leaving the school site at the end of the day.

#### Arthog 2021

When I looked earlier this week we had 41 children signed up for current Year 5 visit to Arthog in September 2021, which is great. I'm really pleased so many of you have booked. To book your place please go to this <u>link</u> and complete your booking <u>before the end of March</u>. Please see the previous letter we sent out about Arthog for further information.

# **School Uniform**

Just a note on school uniform to add to what we have previously said; we know that children have grown during lockdown and with non-essential retail not open, this creates some challenges! There is a big stock of school uniform available in an outdoor store by the main entrance doors. If you need something, please help yourselves. A lot of it is hardly worn. If you've got something you no longer need and would like to donate it, please put it in the cupboard. With this arrangement we hope everyone can access the uniform they need without difficulty.

What we don't have available is shoes and so we will be adaptable on shoes if your child has outgrown theirs. It would be helpful if you let us know about this if your child if affected. An email to the office or the year group email will be fine. What we want to avoid though is children wearing something other than school shoes because someone else in their class is. So, can we ask everyone to be sensible with this please.

I do need to remind parents about tech watches, which have been appearing in school – we don't allow those. We have also been seeing some dyed hair and earrings coming in. It is best children don't wear earrings to school at all.

We have copied the summary of uniform from the school website.

#### SCHOOL UNIFORM

School Navy Logo Sweatshirt/School Navy logo Cardigan/Plain Navy Sweatshirt/Plain Navy Cardigan Grey or Navy Trousers / Skirt / Pinafore Dress School logo white polo shirt/White Polo Shirt / Shirt / Blouse Black School Shoes

#### PE Kit

Plain white T-Shirt Plain Navy Shorts Plain Navy Sweatshirt Plain Navy Jogging Bottoms Training Shoes

All uniform should be labelled clearly with the child's name.

Logo school uniform can be purchased from Baker and Sons Ltd in Wellington

www.bakerandsonschoolwear.co.uk

#### Personal effects, including jewellery.

<u>Earrings</u> – Ideally, children will not wear earrings to school, however, if they are unable to remove the earring a plain stud may be worn.

<u>Watches</u>- children can wear a watch to school as long as it only a watch which tells the time. The watch cannot have access to the internet, a camera or technical additions e.g a fitbit.

<u>Hair</u> – Children cannot have extreme haircuts or extreme hair decoration. Children may wear small navy/blue gingham hair clips or small navy/blue gingham bows in their hair.

### **Covid testing and Informing us of positive Covid cases:**

If someone in your household is showing one of the main symptoms of coronavirus, the household must isolate and the symptomatic person must get a PCR covid test. Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) Children must not attend school in this circumstance. Isolation continues until the result is received. You will then be told what you need to do if the test is positive.

If your child tests positive, please let us know at school straight away. If this is in the evening or over the weekend please email: <a href="mailto:stpetersholidaycovid@gmail.com">stpetersholidaycovid@gmail.com</a> so we can take the appropriate action for school.

By following this, we've been able to act more quickly that if we waited for track and trace to inform us, which limits the potential for the virus to spread.

Telford and Wrekin infections are down 62% on last week, let's keep them heading in the right direction!

#### Wrap around care and Easter holiday:

I just need to flag with parents that there are still restrictions from government guidance on wrap around care. Wrap around care can only be used because parents have to attend work or seek work. It cannot be attended for enjoyment or social reasons.

We have restricted attendance in wrap around care to one of the bubbles in each year group, following reorganising the classes for this last summer. If your child is in the non-wrap around class and you have a need for wrap around in order to attend work, please could you phone the school office and have a conversation with us about this and we will look at what we can put in place for you.

We have been able to organise some holiday club care for the Easter holidays, following the latest guidance. Indoor holiday clubs are again restricted in who can attend (same as wrap around). Outdoor provision is not restricted. However, because we need to be able to operate regardless of weather, we cannot make our provision outdoor only.

Therefore, we are offering:

Tuesday 6th April – Friday 9th April

9am - 4pm each day

Flat rate of £17.00 per child / day

On the stipulation that your child only attends in order for you to attend work or seek work

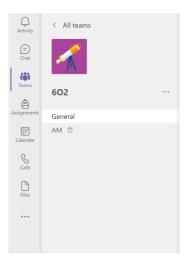
If you would like to book your child in, please email Miss Wyatt on <a href="mailto:Bratton.pack1@taw.org.uk">Bratton.pack1@taw.org.uk</a> by 26<sup>th</sup> March. She will then send out further information to those attending, based on numbers. No bookings will be accepted after 26<sup>th</sup> March.

# Red Nose Day 2021- Friday 19th March

Next Friday it is Red Nose Day, and we would like the children to take part in a joke-a-thon. Please can you help your child find a suitable joke for them to tell in class. They might want to have it written down or perhaps they can memorise it if they are able to. There will be time given for them to perform their joke, and we will be making a video of the funniest ones from each class. The children are free to wear non-uniform next Friday, and if you would like to make a voluntary donation to Comic Relief, please do so via our Just Giving page <a href="St.Peter's Bratton is fundraising for Comic Relief: Red Nose Day (justgiving.com)">justgiving.com</a>). We will not be able to accept cash donations in school during this time. Many thanks for your continued support.

#### **Chat on TEAMS**

The chat function on TEAMS is being disabled over the next few weeks. This is a decision made by Telford and Wrekin. This has been a useful tool for staff to communicate with pupils during 'Home Learning' and we will be replacing this with a channel for each child.



When the child is in their class TEAM you will see their initials with a little lock next to it. This is your child's individual communication with their teacher. When there is a comment there will be a notification in the 'Activity section'. Click on the initials to see the conversation. Nobody else can see the comments. It will be continued to be monitored by the filters that Telford and Wrekin (TAW) provide.

Parents can still communicate with the teacher through the year group emails.

As we are all now back in school, we hope that we will not have to use TEAMS for teacher feedback for home learning. It will only be used if your child is at home self-isolating.