



St Peter's CE Primary School

Bratton

# NEWSLETTER

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of the school year and what a year it has been! Who could have predicted everything that has happened, even when everything started!

It has been lovely to see the 140 or so pupils we have had back at school each day and we look forward to September, when if all goes to plan, we will see all 410 children back in school. Of course, we won't see our Year 6s back in September, as they move on to their various secondary schools. They have not had a normal end to primary school and missed out on the usual events we would do. It has been great to see so many of this year group back, who we originally thought we wouldn't be able to have back, when we opened more widely on 8<sup>th</sup> June. We wish our Year 6s every success for the future.

I want to say a big thank you and well done to you as parents. I know that through lockdown, so many of you have taken on the role of home schooling, in a lot of cases whilst also working yourselves. I know there will be a combination of relief and nervousness for how school returns in September. But, thank you for doing such an excellent job. I also want to thank parents for their patience and kindness to us over the last 5 months. At what has been a difficult time for everyone, this has been so appreciated and your kind messages of support and thanks have really helped us when we've been struggling a bit!

Our staff team have gone above and beyond this year. They've done a great job both before school closure and since. I do want particularly thank a large number of our teaching assistants, who have been launched into leading bubbles, in some cases full time and on their own. It's enabled us to spread children more widely around school and be safer as a result. Many of our staff have swapped holidays around for us to remain open and in some cases have worked through holidays. We are all at that point, as many of you will be, that we need a break, a rest and a reset in preparation for September.

I hope you all have as good a summer as you are able to in the current circumstances and I look forward to seeing you in September.

Best wishes,

Mark Davis

Head Teacher

**Reminder:**

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September is a training day and school is closed. We are open on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

**Goodbyes:**

As you'll know, we contract Crossbar sports coaching to work in school and Mr O'Neil has been with us about 18 months through Crossbar. He is moving to a new role as lead for further education provision for Crossbar. We wish him every success in his new role and thank him for all he has brought to St Peter's. We will have another sports coach from Crossbar joining us in September.

**September welcomes:**

We are welcoming some new staff for September and have some staff taking up new roles.

Mr Richard Wilkes has been appointed to our Pastoral Support role. Many of you will already know Mr Wilkes from his work in school. He'll be a great asset to our school in this role. September looks a little different and Mr Wilkes won't be able to work with children from different bubbles at once. As things settle down, we will be able to have this role working as we would like. You can contact Mr Wilkes via the school office.

We have also appointed Mrs Gwen Aston-Maxwell as a Teaching Assistant for Reception (moving from a different role in school)

We welcome Miss Katie Row as TA, working in Year 4 and Miss Kate Bradley as TA, working in Year 3.

Miss Katie Lowe, who has been a temporary TA with us is now permanent and will be in Year 4 next year.

I think I have previously shared that we have appointed another teacher for September, Mrs Helen Jones, teaching in Year 3. We haven't made this appointment because someone is leaving, but have increased the numbers of teaching staff we have.

**Covid update:**

Mr Davis will send you any updates to arrangements for September and arrangements for collecting children at the end of day, before we return in September. Please use the information we have already sent out to prepare for September.

In the information I shared previously, I said we would be able to learn from what happens in Scotland for the opening of schools, as schools there open on 11<sup>th</sup> August. Scotland announced yesterday that schools will be returning full time, with all pupils, as they hoped.

**Contact over the summer:**

You can reach the Bratton Pack wrap around team via [Bratton.pack1@taw.org.uk](mailto:Bratton.pack1@taw.org.uk) over the summer holiday.

The school office is closed until Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September.

**School uniform:**

We have got lots and lots of school uniform that has been left in school, along with coats and various other bits and pieces. In time we are going to have a second hand uniform exchange station – but the place where it's going is currently full of all the spare furniture from around school!

However, we are really mindful that some of you are suffering financial hardship at the moment and school uniform adds to that. All the spare uniform in school has been washed and has been bagged up and labelled on the front. These are being put in storage boxes outside the front entrance of school – where we have had office drop boxes.

We also have rails with unnamed coats on them.

You are welcome to come and collect from these boxes over the summer. The rails of coats will be outside if it is dry. There will be a bottle of hand sanitizer next to this area – please sanitize before and after looking in the boxes.

The site is open:

Week 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the holidays each day and Week 6, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Please note the office isn't open.

**Accounts:**

We are required to share audited accounts for our school fund account that we hold – this is the account we get income from you through and we pay into our school budget to pay for trips, fruit and various other things. These are attached for your information.

As you know, wrap around care transferred to school on 1<sup>st</sup> April. However, the Bratton Pack charity do have to go through close down processes which will take some time. Their accounts for the 2019-2020 financial year are also attached.

**Attachments and further announcements:**

The Local Authority have asked us to share a statement about attendance from September with you – which you will find on our website as well.

Yesterday, the Department for Education (DFE) released transport guidance for schools and LAs. The LA will be writing to all parents next week about this – we will distribute the information on Parentmail for you.

Expect an update before we come back with any final arrangements or changes for September and end of day collection arrangements. Our risk assessment will be on the website before we return.

