

The Keys Newsletter

Messages from St Peter's

6th October 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parent / Carer,

Another week has flown by with a hectic timetable of events. A big thank you to Mr Badley for organising the weeklong book fair. The book fair is a win for everyone, the children are able to access good quality books to read and the school gets coupons to buy books from Scholastic for holding the event. Mr Badley is our English Co-ordinator and has a passion for providing our pupils opportunities to read and be read to in school. Reading is the foundation of everything we do and learn, with our library being the heartbeat of the school.

A reminder that we are looking for people who would like to join our parent forum. This is an opportunity for you to work with the school in driving school improvement. Please send me an email if you are interested.

I have received some lovely comments over the past week about our pupils. On three separate occasions, visitors who have visited the school for various reasons said that they were the best behaved and presented children they have ever seen in a school. They also noted how happy and polite they were. Sometimes we take these things for granted with our pupils, so it is always lovely to hear it from professionals coming in to visit.

Well done to our Year 5 football team who came fifth in the St Helens Schools Football Tournament.

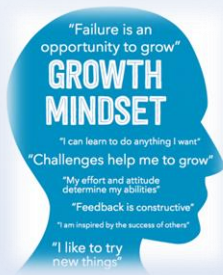
Finally, a reminder that from next week, we are expecting the start of delays during rush hour due to road works at the junction of Southworth Road/Mill Lane/Church Street with the petrol station on it. The work will last until December.

Have a lovely weekend

Mr Paul Robinson



Celebration & Congratulations



GROWTH MINDSET

STAR OF THE WEEK

Reception: Max D
Year 1: Leo L
Year 2: Dominic B
Year 3: Rebekah S
Year 4: Alanna N
Year 5: Emilia W
Year 6: George A

Reception: Rowan C
Year 1: Eddie P
Year 2: Elodie A
Year 3: Mia P
Year 4: Archie S
Year 5: George A
Year 6: Danica W



VALUES AWARD

COURAGE AWARD

Year 5: Sophie Ec

ORACY
Archie S
Harry C
Arthur R
Tilly C
Emily E
Loki S
Alex Z

GUARDIAN ANGELS





WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY 2023

TUESDAY 10th OCTOBER



WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY 2023

Wear something **yellow** to school and enjoy a day looking after and promoting our mental health.

World Mental Health Day is celebrated annually on October 10th. The theme for 2023 is "Mental health is a universal human right". This day aims to raise awareness about mental health and promote positive change for everyone's mental well-being. It provides an opportunity to discuss mental health, the importance of taking care of it, and the significance of seeking help when needed.



Please note: Year 6 to wear full uniform due to trip to Byrchall High School



CAKE SALE

TUESDAY 10th OCTOBER



For mental health awareness day on Tuesday we are having a cake sale (allergies will be provided for), **please could children from Years 3, 4 and 5 bring in cakes for the stall on Monday. As we are a nut free school please avoid sending in any cakes that contain nuts.** The stall will be open for all year groups so please send in a pound if you wish for your child to purchase a cake.

Remember to wear yellow on Tuesday.

WHEREVER YOU ARE,
SUPPORT WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

HELLO YELLOW

We want #HelloYellow to be a positive and fun way for people to share the message that it's okay to reach out for help.



SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS



Well done to our Year 5 football team who came fifth in the St Helens Schools Football Tournament.

COME AND JOIN US AT THE

NEON DISCO PARTY

THURSDAY 26TH OCTOBER

INFANTS 6:15 - 7PM
JUNIORS 7:15 - 8PM

TICKETS £1.50 VIA PTA EVENTS

Glow sticks £1 Face Paint £1 Hot Dogs £1 Drinks from 50p
Sweet counter from 5p (Veggie options available)

To buy a ticket or volunteer, please visit the PTA events website or scan the QR code:

www.pta-events.co.uk/stpeters-pta



PTA AGM Announcement

Monday 16th October

7pm

In school

Everyone is invited to join us for the PTA's Annual General Meeting where we will review the results for the year and appoint the Committee for the year ahead.

All Committee positions are open for re-election each year:

- **Chair**
- **Secretary**
- **Treasurer**

For further information on the roles and applications or if you have any questions, please email:

stpeters_pta@yahoo.co.uk

The PTA holds fun events and raises funds for our school community. If you would like to volunteer, support with dedicated fund raising and planning for the Environmental Hub, be a PTA class representative or be the first to know the dates for this year's events, please come along! Refreshments will be provided.

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 sessions starting at 5.30pm. Meetings usually run for two hours.

Every governor is also linked to at least one of the subjects that the children study. You will be expected to meet twice a year with the teacher leading that subject to learn how it is taught and assessed in our school and then write a brief report of your visit for our records.

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. We would particularly welcome nominations from parents with experience of working in education.

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

Nominations close at 12pm on Tuesday 31st October 2023.

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 who 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 recently joined 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 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.

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024 - 2025

Please see below term dates for 2024 – 2025. This information can also be found on the school website.



ST. PETER'S C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

HOLIDAYS 2024/2025

AUTUMN TERM		
	School opens	Tuesday 3 rd September 2024
	School closes	Friday 25 th October 2024
	School opens	Monday 4 th November 2024
	School closes	Friday, 20 th December 2024
SPRINGS TERM		
	School opens	Tuesday 7 th January 2025
	School closes	Friday 14 th February 2025
	School opens	Monday 24 th February 2025
	School closes	Friday 4 th April 2025
SUMMER TERM		
	School opens	Wednesday 23 rd April 2025
	School closes	Friday 23 rd May 2025
	School opens	Monday 2 nd June 2025
	School closes	Friday 18 th July 2025

Easter Bank Holidays:

Good Friday: 18th April 2025

Easter Monday: 21st April 2025

Bank Holidays during term time

May Day: Monday 5th May 2025

INSET days:

Monday 2nd September 2024, Monday 6th January 2025,

Tuesday 22nd April 2025, Monday 21st July 2025, Tuesday 22nd July 2025



A joint Catholic & Church of England Academy



TO SERVE ONE ANOTHER THROUGH LOVE

OPEN MORNINGS

Wednesday 18th October 2023 9:15am – 10:00am

Wednesday 25th October 2023 9:15am – 10:00am

Online booking required as spaces are limited



01744 671930
www.hopeacademy.org.uk

[LINK TO BOOKING](#)

Hope Academy
Ashton Road
Newton-le-Willows
WA12 0AQ

COMMUNITY NOTICES



YEAR 6 TRANSITION FREE ONLINE PARENT / CARER SESSIONS

If your child has an SEN or significant worries and is due to transition to secondary school in September 2024, we would love you to join us on our online sessions to share preparation tips and advice.

By 31st October 2023 you will have submitted a secondary school application to name your 3 preferred schools.

We are delighted to offer you some advice and support to be able to effectively plan the next steps of your child's journey.

Many of the strategies will work for most children who require that little bit of additional support.

Sessions will be delivered online through TEAMS directed to parents/carers (not to children); if you can attend all four it would be more beneficial.

For further information please email us on LASCstransitions@sthelens.gov.uk so we can send you a TEAMS link to the sessions

Session One - The Year Ahead	Friday 17 th December 2023 12:30 - 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Differences between Primary & SecondaryIndependence & PreparationTravel to schoolNext Steps
Session Two - Building Blocks	Friday 20 th February 2024 12:30 - 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">What is a transition?Managing changeDeveloping independence
Session Three - A Helping Hand	Friday 22 nd March 2024 12:30 - 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Managing worries & nervesEmotions ScalesLooking for the positives
Session Four - The Finish Line is in Sight!	Friday 10 th May 2024 12:30 - 1:30pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Being PreparedOne Page ProfilesCommunicationPreparation & Practice

GIRLS RUGBY IS COMING TO STORM!

Girls Y4, Y5 & Y6
Saturday mornings
10-11am
Newton Sports Club
Contact the inbox for more details



S4K
OCTOBER HALF TERM CAMPS
FOR CHILDREN AGED 5-13
30TH OCT - 2ND NOV 2023

15% OFF
USE CODE "S4KEARLY15" AT CHECKOUT
OFFER ENDS: 22ND SEPT 2023

0300 303 3866 | WWW.SPORT4KIDS.BIZ

S4K
FOR CHILDREN AGED 5-13
30TH OCT - 2ND NOV 2023

BROOK LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL, RAINFORD

ST PETER'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL, NEWTON

Book individual days or a week at a time, our flexible and convenient holiday childcare gives children the opportunity to try new activities, meet new friends and make lasting memories. From themed arts and crafts and team games to sports and outdoor splash activities, there is something for all children to enjoy at our October Holiday Camps.

0300 303 3866 | WWW.SPORT4KIDS.BIZ

S4K
SPORT4KIDS
OCTOBER HALF TERM CAMPS
FOR CHILDREN AGED 5 TO 13 YEARS!
30TH OCT - 2ND NOV 2023

Ofsted REGISTERED

0300 303 3866 | WWW.SPORT4KIDS.BIZ

BROOK LODGE PRIMARY SCHOOL, RAINFORD

USE CODE: 'S4KEARLY15' AT CHECKOUT FOR 15% OFF YOUR CAMP BOOKING

ST PETER'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL, NEWTON

Ofsted REGISTERED

S4K

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 9th October 2023

- Cake Donations to be brought into school from Year 3, ,4, 5 only
- Afterschool Sports Club: YEAR 5 & 6 (3.30pm – 4.30pm)
- Girls Football After School Club: YEAR 3 & 4 (3.30pm – 4.30pm)

Tuesday 10th October 2023

- World Mental Health Day – Pupils to wear yellow to school (With the exception of Year 6 who should wear full uniform due to trip to Byrchall High School.
- Cake Sale in School – All children are welcome to bring in a £1.00 to buy a cake at the cake sale.
- Year 6 - Trip to Byrchall High School
- Harvest Service at St Peter' Church (Re-arranged from last week) – **PUPILS ONLY**
- Afterschool Sports Club: YEAR 4 (3.30pm – 4.30pm)

Wednesday 11th October 2023

- Flu Vaccinations to take place in school
- Afterschool Sports Club: YEAR 2 (3.20pm-4.15pm)
- STEM Club: YEAR 5 & 6 (3.30pm – 4.30pm) – **CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

Thursday 12th October 2023

- Afterschool Sports Club: YEAR 3 (3.30-4.30pm)
- Kidslingo Afterschool Club (3.30pm-4.30pm)

Friday 13th October 2023

- Afterschool Sports Club: YEAR 1 (3.20pm – 4.15pm)

PLEASE NOTE THE PLAYGROUND GATES WILL BE OPEN FROM 3.10pm EACH DAY.

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



SCHOOL OPEN DAY TOURS 2023-2024

Parent Open Tours will take place on the following dates:

Monday, 16th October 2023 at 5.00 pm
Wednesday 29th November 2023 at 5.00 pm

Please email school at stpeter@sthelens.org.uk to book a place.

THE RAINBOW TEAM



The Rainbow Team
Safeguarding Nurture Wellbeing Behaviour
When the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between me and all living beings on Earth.
Genesis 9:16



Mrs Colley: RainbowTeam Lead

Mrs Colley:	Senior Mental Health Lead Behaviour Lead Designated Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Vinyard:	SENCO
Mrs Harrison:	EYFS / KS1 Deputy Safeguarding Lead
Mrs Davidson:	Pastoral / Nurture

Our Early Help approach

If you feel your child could benefit from some pastoral support,
do not hesitate to contact us.

Our Senior Mental Health Lead ensures that all our pupils who require pastoral care for issues such as bereavement, friendship issues, home issues and anxiety, receive time each week with our pastoral staff who offer over 8 hours of individual and small group sessions.

If you feel that your child could benefit from this offer, please contact Mrs Colley.

The team has regular meeting to discuss and measure the progress of pupils who fall into specific categories, including attendance, wellbeing issues, SEN, behavioural issues and safeguarding.

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 you 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
Birley Street
Newton-le-Willows
WA12 9UR
01744 678630
stpeter@sthelens.org.uk
<https://twitter.com/NLWStPeters>
www.st-peters.st-helens.sch.uk

