



ST PETER'S
C.E. Primary School



The Keys Newsletter

17th December 2021

Message from St Peter's

Dear Parent / Carer,

We started in September with great hope and optimism as most school Covid -19 restrictions were removed. This term has been full of enriching activities for the children to take part in and we have welcomed a lovely new cohort of children and families into Reception. As the year draws to an end, the current situation is now moving fast and in the wrong direction, however, just like this time last year, we are prepared for any eventuality. Last year we had predicted a full lockdown before even the Government had and we moved smoothly into remote learning. Unless something drastic happens, I don't predict a lockdown in January, however going back to bubbles is an absolute possibility. Whatever happens, we will be ready with a contingency plan that is already in place.

Over the holidays, I will be monitoring guidance being sent to Head teachers and if anything changes, we will let you know. Hopefully, it won't be one days' notice like last January.

I would like to thank you for all the support and positive comments we have been receiving over this term. I know what the impact of asking for a PCR has on a family, especially if this disrupts work, however the vast majority have been totally supportive and have understood our need to be extra sure, especially as the symptoms are now far more diverse than the three we are used to. Migraines, itchy eyes, sore throats and poorly stomachs have led to positive tests recently, so we need to be vigilant.

With regards to the amount of lockdowns and isolations we have had over the last two years the school has put a tremendous amount of effort and money into ensuring the children are able to recover both academically and mentally. It is imperative that children are not taken out of school for holidays during term time as they will fall further behind despite all of the interventions and additional staffing that we have put in place. We have had a number of children who have missed their assessments this term due to unauthorised holidays.

It was an absolute pleasure this week watching four school nativity productions. The children were fantastic and performed with great enthusiasm, energy, and confidence. Performing in front of an audience is never easy and they literally brought the joy of Christmas to us all with some great acting and lovely singing. Watching your child in a nativity doesn't happen often and they are lasting memories that you won't forget.

This week, we published our Safeguarding Newsletter. This will come out termly and inform you about what's going on school. Safeguarding is not just about child protection; it's about educating children about how to look after themselves and what to do in certain situations. We ensure that all our children know what to do with regards to Cyber safety and we invite organisations such as the Dogs Trust and the Police into school to reinforce how to stay safe

May I take this opportunity on behalf of all the staff, to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr Robinson



Celebration & Congratulations

GROWTH MINDSET

Finn B YR
Jorja M YR/1
Kian F-S Y1/2
Audrey L Y2
Emilia W Y3
Rowan P Y4
Charlie F Y5
Thomas F Y6

STAR OF THE WEEK

Imogen C YR
Callen T YR/1
Roisin M Y1/2
Jakob P-E Y2
Joseph B Y3
Fynden A Y4
William Mc Y5
Holly J Y6

HEADTEACHER'S AWARD

Sophie R Y2
Aiden B Y5
Amelia F Y3
Beren E Y3
Savannah H YR/1



PTA Lottery

Congratulations to the winners in the PTA Lottery. Thank you for your support. The PTA will be in touch with your prize money shortly.

DRAW			
SEPT	1st	14	H Scambler
	2nd	4	R Fuller
OCT	1st	24	A Chan
	2nd	29	B Verrider
NOV	1st	28	E Fainhurst
	2nd	23	L Smith
DEC	1st	18	L Wearing
	2nd	20	V Molyneaux

Christmas Dates

20th Dec Christmas Party Day-Party clothes-
still need a coat and sensible shoes

21st Dec Breakfast with Santa

Break up for Christmas Holidays

6th Jan Back to School



We have a new Tiger Woods in our midst!

Congratulations to Harry Francis who is now competing on the World Stage in Golf
In 2020, Harry started to take an interest in golf, and after some practice, he decided to try his luck against other children of his age. Before he knew it, Harry was competing in the European Junior Tour U6s. After a 2-day event in Shropshire, he won. After his second round the tour director Roger Shutt commented “we could have a special player on our hands here.” Following this Harry had the bug, golf was his new number 1 sport and he began planning events on the path to winning the U6 European Junior Tour Order of Merit.

Harry played in 8 different tournaments placing 1st in 6 of them and 2nd in the other 2.

Despite missing 3 or 4 tournaments due to Covid restrictions Harry managed to seal 1st place in his U6 order of merit, by a considerable distance and rack up enough World Qualifying Points to receive an invitation to play at the **Champion of Champions World Championships at Loch Erne in Northern Ireland**. An event that has 250 children ages 5 to 18 from 40 different countries around the world competing.



Contact

Can we please ask that if you change your address, contact details or emails you need to advise school as soon as possible.

Also if there are any changes to your child's medical needs you must contact the school office and complete the relevant forms.

PCR Test

If any children have a positive PCR test over the Christmas holidays can you please send a copy of the test result to the school email address:-
stpeter@sthelens.org.uk

Many thanks.

Reminder that there will be no after school sports clubs next week. But there will be intervention mornings on Monday and Tuesday for the relevant children.

What Parents Need to Know about SQUID GAME

AGE RESTRICTION

15+

Suitable only for 15 years and over.

With themes of horror and violence, it's important for parents and carers to understand the potential risks posed to young audiences by the nine-episode Netflix-exclusive TV show, *Squid Game*. The series, rated 15+, is about a world where contestants who are deeply in debt play children's games in order to win cash prizes. The losers, however, are violently killed. The show's popularity has meant it has spread in various guises across online platforms, with a heightened risk of children and young people potentially viewing unsuitable content. That's why we've created this guide to help parents and carers understand exactly what *Squid Game* is all about.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some might argue that *Squid Game* contains content that might not even be suitable for older teens, let alone young children. Characters are brutally tortured and killed through stabbings or getting shot as a result of rules developed and enforced by a masked game master. The show also features sexual content and threats of sexual violence, as well as a strong theme of gambling that runs throughout the whole show.

APPEAL TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Whilst the content is very much adult-themed, some features of the show seem to appeal to young children at face-value. The name "*Squid Game*" may be interpreted as a programme aimed at children rather than adults. The content itself, such as the bright and childish aesthetics, may also appeal to young children, particularly as there's a focus on playground games to go with it.

SIMILAR CONTENT SUGGESTIONS

When using social media and streaming sites, content is recommended based on what is the user has consumed i.e. what they have watched or searched for. Therefore, there is a greater chance of your child being exposed to similar violent or horror-themed content on social media after watching a show like *Squid Game*.

VIRAL SPIN-OFFS

As well as Netflix, *Squid Game* has grown in notoriety and prevalence on other platforms, like TikTok and YouTube, with clips of the show going viral. On YouTube Kids, a number of successful channels have taken advantage of the *Squid Game* trend, creating content such as "How to Draw *Squid Game* Characters" videos. Its popularity has also led to the creation of app games that put the player in the role of a contestant who is killed if they lose a game.

SCENE RE-ENACTMENTS

Squid Game's pervasive presence on social media has encouraged many content creators to re-enact scenes from the show, which has led to reports of children wanting to also imitate those scenes displayed on social media at home and in school. Much of this content stems from the "Red Light, Green Light" game from the first episode, where contestants attempt to make it past a giant animatronic girl before she shoots them.

Advice for Parents & Carers

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Netflix has easily accessible built-in parental controls that allow you to set up a profile for your child with a specific age rating, block them from watching certain shows and even lock their account so it can't be accessed by anyone else. Netflix also allows you to access your child's viewing history to make sure they're not watching anything inappropriate for their age.

CHECK AGE RATINGS

Age ratings on TV shows and films are a way to gauge what is suitable for audiences of different ages. If you are unsure about the content your child is watching, check the age rating to see if the TV show or film is deemed suitable for their age group. If not, try watching the show yourself or talking to other parents who have seen it before to get a better understanding of why it's been rated a certain way.

MONITOR ONLINE ACTIVITY

Squid Game has become a social media craze and it's possible your child will see some content related to the show on various platforms. Therefore, it's important to be aware of which websites your child has visited on their smartphone, tablet or laptop, and to also keep an eye out for which accounts they are following on social media platforms, such as Instagram and TikTok.

HAVE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Making sure your child is comfortable telling you about what they see online can go a long way to ensuring you are kept in the loop about their online use. Showing an interest in what your child is doing online gives you the opportunity to discuss what is and is not appropriate for their age group, and how they might recognise their own feelings towards content they see.

MONITOR BEHAVIOUR

Due to the viral nature of the show, even if your child has not seen *Squid Game*, it's important to keep an eye on their behaviour. There have been reports from schools of children "playing *Squid Game*" in the playground and acting aggressively towards the losers as a way to replicate the consequences of losing in the TV show. Viewing content that makes your child feel uncomfortable could also cause them to feel distressed or distracted, so it's important you can easily spot the signs.

WATCH THE SHOW

If you're trying to figure out whether you should let your child watch *Squid Game*, it might be a good idea to watch the show yourself first. Doing so will allow you to get a better understanding of the show's content and themes, as well as help you decide if this is something you'd feel comfortable with your child being exposed to.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced and highly respected freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The INQUIRER*, Carly now works as the news editor for *Computer Shopper* and *IT Pro* and writes for a number of publications including *Forbes*, *TechRadar*, *Tes*, *The Mirror*, *uswitch* and *Wired*.



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#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2021/oct/11/squid-game-netflix-children-parents-should-be-aware-of>
<https://www.bbc.com/news/health-58413641> | <https://www.nos.com/what-is-squid-game/> | <https://www.nos.com/what-is-squid-game/>

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

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01744 678630

stpeter@sthelens.org.uk

<https://twitter.com/NLWStPeters>

www.st-peters.st-helens.sch.uk

Covid-19

Can we please stress if you or a member of your household show any symptoms of Covid-19 **you must remain at home and get a test.**

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/or> by phoning 111

If you or your children have any symptoms you MUST take a PCR test not a Lateral Flow Test

To arrange a test call 119 or go to the website <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test>

Further information is available on <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>