



SAINT PETER'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL



National Teaching School
designated by
National College for
Teaching & Leadership



St. Peter's Catholic School
Whitefields Road, Solihull B91 3NZ
Tel: 0121 705 3988
E-mail: office@st-peters.solihull.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs M.E. Murphy

Friday 1st May 2020

Dear Parent,

Summer Term 2

I hope you and your families are keeping safe.

Wellbeing

This is a really challenging time for our pupils, yourselves and your wider families. As a school, we continue to offer our support to you. Please contact school on 0121 705 3988 or via email on office@st-peters.solihull.sch.uk, if you need any help or advice. We have also received information on support services that are available to you. These have also been added to the website, for you to refer to, in the communication section.

We have received Newsletters from the Social, Emotional and Mental Health Team, which you will find [here](#), along with the document detailing support for students and parents.

Year 11 Pathways

With effect from Monday 4th May, staff will be contacting all Year 11 students to discuss their future pathways. This will include admission to St Peter's Sixth Form, advice on other colleges and apprenticeships. Our school website provides lots of information about our thriving and successful Sixth Form. For anyone needing any further information, please contact school.

Teaching and Learning

Following my email last week, we have successfully trialled Microsoft Teams for Year 12, and will now start to roll this out as an option to this year group initially, with the aim for pupils to receive one of these lessons per week, per subject. Teachers will be putting the dates and times of the Microsoft Teams lessons on PARS to advise the pupils as to when these will take place. Please note, work will still be set on PARS each week to be completed. We have also attached the Microsoft Teams Guide for Students.

Centre Assessed Grades

We continue to liaise with Ofqual and the exam boards with regards to 'Centre Assessment Grades' for Year 11 and Year 13. The consultation is now closed, I will report the outcomes to you in due course.

May we remind you that this is a confidential process, and we would appreciate it if parents and pupils would refrain from contacting the school on this matter.

Bank Holiday – Friday 8th May

Please note, school will be closed on Friday due to the Bank Holiday for pupils who are still attending.

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As the Bank Holiday takes place next week on VE Day, and is a celebration of 75 years since the end of World War Two in Europe, here are some helpful resources for children who are at home.

Some local information about celebrating VE Day in these very unusual circumstances can be found at <https://solihullbid.co.uk/news/how-to-celebrate-the-75th-anniversary-of-ve-day-in-your-own-home/>.

The BBC has also produced resources and templates which can be found at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/4TrqYDyf4PMdLypxzyTwGDg/great-british-bunting>.

Tackle child abuse campaign

During these difficult times, The Department for Education has launched the 'Tackle Child Abuse Campaign'. Please visit <https://tacklechildabuse.campaign.gov.uk/> for further information.

Online parenting groups

During the current lockdown situation, the online parenting courses remain available to Solihull residents free of charge. Please see attached for further information.

Think Active

School Games Organisers (SGO's) have been working hard to create content that is versatile and beneficial to children and young people of all ages. Over 26 working days, the CSW SGO's will be bringing you challenges linked to the School Games. There are pdf's to print/share. These contain challenges and links to videos. You can access the documents here <http://www.thinkactive.org/wethinkactive/kidsactive-learning/a-z-challenge/>

Solihull Council – Here2Help

Solihull Council has published information to help families on a range of issues, including shielding, help with food and foodbanks, money advice, how to stay well, how to stay safe and how to volunteer safely. Please visit the website [here](https://www.solihull.gov.uk/here2help).

Information on future careers – Construction

For pupils who are looking at their future pathway, we have received information regarding a career in construction. Please read further detail [here](https://www.solihull.gov.uk/here2help).

Online outreach initiative

We have received details from University of Oxford – Keble College regarding a new online outreach initiative they have launched for pupils aged 13 upwards. This facility allows pupils to chat online to some of the trained student ambassadors at Keble College in regards to making an application to the university, but they can also assist with general questions in regards to university in general. Pupils can register and start an online chat using this [link](https://www.solihull.gov.uk/here2help).

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The service has been provided through technology provided by The Access Platform with is embedded in the Keble College website. All messages are monitored and recorded so that all safeguarding responsibilities are fulfilled. If you have any queries in regards to the service, please contact them directly.

Address and telephone contact details

If you or your child have changed address, or are staying at a different address during the period of lockdown, please make sure the school is notified of your full contact details.

Message from Father Jonathan

'During Eastertide we rejoice in the promise of the Risen Christ to stay with us until the end of time. This promise takes on a special significance this year as we live through the consequences of the pandemic, the isolation it has brought to many, sickness and suffering and the disturbance to the pattern of our everyday life. As Catholic schools, we so often speak of *Christ at the Centre*, or *Christ at the heart of our school community*. The times in which we now live prompt us to be more aware of this reality. In Jesus we discover love and life that is stronger than suffering and death, and a hope that can enlighten the darkest moments of our lives and experience of the world. It is the Risen Lord that we turn to with humility and confidence at this time. This truly makes sense of our belief of Christ being at the heart of our lives.

The appearances of Jesus after his resurrection instil fresh hope into the lives of his disciples and friends. The promise and gift of the Holy Spirit inspires and transforms their lives to be living witnesses of his resurrection and the gift of everlasting life. This hope has been poured into our lives by our Baptism and the gift of the Holy Spirit. It enables us to be living witnesses and carriers of hope in our word today, summoning us to be missionary disciples who make Christ known by word and deed. At this time the work of all schools has dramatically changed, and we still don't know what the immediate future looks like or when we will be able to resume our work together. In these challenging circumstances we ask Our Lord to strengthen our faith in his presence with us through prayer and our common concern for one another. We ask for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to guide our words and action at this time for the children and families in our care, as well as preparing for the time when we will be able to live and work together as Catholic school communities.

With prayers and good wishes for Eastertide.

Father Jonathan'

As previously communicated, on the [BDES website](#) and on our Twitter feed, you will find an invitation to a 'Weekly Worship' from Dan and Emily from One Life Music. You will find information [here](#) to signpost some of the parishes in the Diocese which live stream their Masses.

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World Day of Vocations

This Sunday is the World Day of prayer for Vocations. We pray especially for people to answer the call to vocations in the Church. Please click [here](#) to access a letter from the Pope where he thanks priests and supports their ministry.

Charity begins at home (or in the garden)

Our local homeless charity SIFA Fireside has sent details of a charity initiative they are encouraging families to take part in. Their message reads here.

'The Big Brummie Campout is happening in under two weeks and we are very excited for everyone to get involved.

On Friday the 8th May we are asking friends and families to set up camp in their back gardens, build make-shift dens on balcony's or cushion castles in their front rooms to raise money for SIFA Fireside.

To sign up as a 'camper' we are asking supporters to donate a minimum £5 to the appeal, in return for access to an exclusive Activity pack filled with fun activities including stargazing and leaf printing. The pack will have everything needed for an evening under the stars, including family-friendly recipes and craft activities. The evening will also help bring people together, with a hosted live stream, music performances, and the chance to share camping experiences on social media.

<https://www.sifafireside.co.uk/pages/181-big-brummie-camp-out-2020>

The campaign is being launched as part of our emergency #SIFASurvives appeal, launched in response to a reduction in support due to the Coronavirus epidemic. We're looking to raise £50,000 over the coming months so that we can continue providing homeless and vulnerable adults access to key services such as showers and health clinics, whilst also helping them to work towards a brighter future.

*Thank you so much for your support to SIFA Fireside and the work that we do.
If you'd like to find out more and donate to this very worthy local cause please see here...*

<https://www.sifafireside.co.uk/pages/181-big-brummie-camp-out-2020>

We continue to pray for everyone in our school community during this difficult time.

Yours faithfully

Mrs M. E. Murphy
Headteacher

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