



St. Peter's Roman Catholic Primary School



Brentford Avenue, Whiteleigh, Plymouth, PL5 4HD

Tel. 01752 217010 Email: admin@st-petersrc.plymouth.sch.uk

www.st-petersrc.plymouth.sch.uk

Through Jesus we love, we learn and we grow together

14th September 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

WELCOME BACK

We are delighted to welcome you all to the Autumn term at St. Peter's. We have had an amazing first week back—all children have made a great start to this academic year. We will continue to make regular contact with you and provide you with updates about your child's progress. This will be achieved by being present at the gate each day, class dojo updates and invitations to parent assemblies and consultations. Our whole school liturgy is on Monday's at 9.00 am, and celebration assembly is at 2.45 pm on Friday's; parents are warmly invited to join us. The staff are looking forward to a busy, hard-working and enjoyable term ahead, and greatly value your continued support.

Mrs Archer

Headteacher

Lord Jesus, we ask for your help as we begin this new school year. Allow us to experience your presence in the many blessings you put before us. Open our eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings. Amen.

SCHOOL DINNERS

CATERed are the school lunch provider at St. Peter's. From Tuesday 5th September, the cost for a hot, two course meal is £2.60 per day. You can pay daily or in advance to the school office (cash only). Our meals are popular, and freshly made on the school premises each day using materials which are locally sourced. Please view the current menu on our website.

Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free universal infant free meal. If you think you may be entitled to a free school meal based on household income, we would

DON'T BE LATE, GET THROUGH THE GATE!

BE HERE, EVERYDAY, READY AND ON TIME

A reminder that children can arrive from 8.30 am each morning at the Newcastle Gardens gate. School starts at 8.40 am. The gate closes promptly at 8.50 am.

OUR CLASSES THIS YEAR:

Reception / Year 1:	Rosen Class	Mrs Bishop & Mr Flynn
Year 2:	Seacole Class	Miss Harding & Mr Flynn
Year 3 / 4:	Rashford Class	Mrs Balfour & Mr Flynn
Year 4 / 5:	Thunberg Class	Mr Farr
Year 6:	Ormrod Class	Miss Butler

ATTENDANCE

At St. Peter's we continue to improve our school for all children and as well as them coming fully equipped and in the correct uniform; we would like to raise your attention to attendance and punctuality.

As a school, we expect a minimum of 95% attendance, to enable the children to make good progress both academically and socially. **Good attendance at school is not just beneficial it is essential**

If your child is absent, we will be asking for you to supply a form of medical evidence (doctors note / medical card or copy of the prescription) to support this illness. We will also be reviewing the patterns of absence where appropriate. The Educational Welfare Officer visits our school monthly to inspect every child's attendance. If medical evidence is not provided, the absence will be unauthorised and if there are more than 8 sessions of unauthorised absences, this could result in the EWO being notified.

There are always exceptional circumstances, including long term illness and bereavement, and we will continue to take these into consideration on a case by case basis.

LATENESS

Did you know that being 15 minutes late each day is the same as missing two weeks of school over the year. Lateness is just as serious as non-attendance and could also lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice. The start of the school day is an important time for children to develop their social skills with their peers, as well as preparing them for their learning. We start our school day at 8.50 am; our school gate is opened from 8.30am, the whistle is blown at 8.40 am in order to settle children for teaching to begin at 8.50 am.

Again - we do understand that there are reasons as to why a child may be late but all children, where possible need to arrive on time from the playground entrance as lateness does have an impact on the other children in class. Many thanks for your support with both attendance and punctuality.

PARKING

It is clear from many conversations on the gate that parking is a real source of frustration and concern for many parents. We appreciate that not having the use of a car park, or a place to stop to drop-off or collect your children, causes issues for you. However - for the safety of your children - **please do not park on the pavement or wait in the road**. Parking on the pavement forces families, sometimes with pushchairs, out into the road and this is very dangerous.

We would ask that if there is not a place to park outside school that you park nearby and walk back. Alternatively, you could circle around and try again a few minutes later. **Please do not park on the pavement**. Thank you very much to our families who are following these rules to help keep everyone safe.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS:

Please avoid booking doctor and dentist appointments during the school day. These times away from school cause disruption. If your child has a hospital appointment during term time, please bring the letter to the school office as evidence, prior to the appointment—thank you.

CONTACT DETAILS:

Please can I remind you to keep the school informed of any changes to your contact details, i.e. mobile numbers, and home addresses. In case of emergencies, or if your child is unwell, it is vital that we have up to date information.

YEAR 6 PARENTS—SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

All information around secondary school applications can be found at:

<https://new.plymouth.gov.uk/apply-secondary-year-6-year-7-school-place>

You can apply online from Monday 4th September to Tuesday 31 October 2023

PARENT ADVICE AND SUPPORT

Advice and support is available from our SENDCO and PSA. If you would like to arrange a meeting with Ms Caldwell, our SENDCO, please email alisoncaldwell@st-petersrc.plymouth.sch.uk or call the school office. Ms Caldwell is in school each Tuesday.

Miss Cork our Parent Support Advisor is available daily by calling the school office, via Dojo, or by email: scork@st-petersrc.plymouth.sch.uk

COLD WEATHER

As we move towards the colder months, please ensure your child has a warm waterproof coat to wear each day with their name clearly marked.



Please check Class Dojo on a daily basis.

A lot of information is communicated through the app to ensure parents/carers are updated regularly.

Please ask your child's class teacher if you need any assistance with Dojo.



UNIFORM

All children are looking fantastic in their uniforms, thank you to Parents / Carers for your efforts with this.

All children: Grey trousers (short or long)
Navy blue pinafore or skirt
Navy and white check dress (summer)
White shirt
School tie
V-neck navy blue jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
Black or grey tights / socks

Reception class: Grey trousers and or navy blue pinafore or skirt
Navy blue polo shirt with school logo
Red sweatshirt with school logo
Black or grey socks (boys), navy tights or white socks (girls)

Footwear: Plain black shoes only, suitable for playing outside, not 'slip-on'.
Trainers can worn (plain black no logos or branding)

PE and Games Kit:-

Black shorts and plain red T-shirt (with or without with school logo), and trainers.

In winter, children can wear plain black tracksuit bottoms. Strictly no football shirts.

For external school sporting events, your child will be loaned a St. Peter's tracksuit.

Jewellery: Children are permitted to wear single, plain studs on days when they do not have PE. Ear-rings such as loops, patterned studs are not allowed. Children can wear a watch, but no other jewellery, of any kind, is permitted.

Hair: Long hair to be tied back using navy plain, single coloured headbands or bands etc. Children should not come to school with designs / logos cut into their hair.

No makeup or nail varnish

Our school logo uniform is available to buy from the National School Wear shop, 105 Mayflower Street, Plymouth City Centre, PL1 1SD, telephone 01752 252025.

DIARY DATES (more to follow)

SEPTEMBER 2023

5th: Term starts

13th CATERed Roald Dahl Day

15th Whole School Mass 9.05 am

20th CAFOD Sleep on the Floor Assembly

25th Annual Fire Safety Talk to Year 2 and Year 5

OCTOBER 2023

2nd Open Morning for prospective Parents

Week commencing 9th NSPCC Pants Week

11th Parent / Teacher Consultations

13th Whole School Mass 9.05 am

20th Finish for half term

30th Non Pupil Day

31st First day back after half term

NOVEMBER 2023

6th Parent Session 'Read With Me' KS1

10th Remembrance Assembly

17th Children in Need fundraiser

20th Road Safety Week

20th Year 5 Swimming Instruction (3 weeks)

21st Tempest Photography

28th Flu Immunisations

DECEMBER 2023

6-7th Christmas Infant Nativity

Christmas Carol Service at St Peter's Church (date to be confirmed)

19th Christmas Parties / end of term

JANUARY 2024

4th First day of spring term

FEBRUARY 2024:

MARCH 2024

APRIL 2024

MAY 2024

13th May: SATS Week

JUNE 2024

JULY 2024

TERM DATES

AUTUMN TERM 2023

Monday 4 th September	Staff Professional Development Day
Tuesday 5 th September	School re-opens
<i>23rd October – 27th October</i>	<i>Half Term Holiday</i>
Monday 30 th October	Staff Professional Development Day
Tuesday 31 st October	School re-opens
Tuesday 19 th December	End of autumn term
<i>20th December – 2nd January</i>	<i>Christmas Holiday</i>

SPRING TERM 2024

Wednesday 3 rd January	Staff Professional Development Day
Thursday 4 th January	School re-opens
<i>12th February – 16th February</i>	<i>Half Term Holiday</i>
Monday 19 th February	Staff Professional Development Day
Tuesday 20 th February	School re-opens
Thursday 28 th March	End of spring term
<i>29th March – 14th April</i>	<i>Easter Holiday</i>

SUMMER TERM 2024

Monday 15 th April	School re-opens
Monday 6 th May	School closed – Bank Holiday
<i>27th May – 31st May</i>	<i>Half Term Holiday</i>
Monday 3 rd June	Staff Professional Development Day
Tuesday 4 th June	School re-opens
Tuesday 23 rd July	End of School Year