



St Peter's News

17th April 2020

Doing all the good we can through faith, love and excellence

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you had a good Easter and managed to enjoy some of the sunshine over the Easter weekend.

Home learning

These are certainly strange and unprecedented times that we are all experiencing. We have now been informed that we have another three weeks of the isolation rules to help each other through. I have not got any news about when schools will re-open but would like to reassure you that I am working alongside other Head Teachers in Kent to make sure that when this happens that it is done in the safest manner possible.

I am hearing that parents and carers are finding home-schooling really hard. This is absolutely understandable. This is not a situation that anyone really wants, my teachers and I are desperately missing your children too and we would much rather they were back at school with us, learning with their peers.

The teachers and I totally appreciate that the current situation is challenging. It is challenging for different reasons for different people; many of you will be trying to balance home-schooling and entertaining your children alongside the expectation that you will be working from home, most of you are not teachers or experts in educating children and are learning as you go, children have a very different relationship with their parents to the relationship that they have with their teachers and, maybe more significantly, working 1:1 with children is very different from teaching together as part of a group activity.

No one expects you to become teachers and we acknowledge that the children will not be learning in the same way as they do at school. We appreciate whatever you can manage to keep the children going until school is back up and running.

I hear that parents are worried that their child will be behind after this is over. It is true that as a result of the current pandemic your child will be about 2.5 months behind the learning that they would have done at school. However, we must remember that this is going to be the same for children nationwide.

When St.Peter's returns you have our 100% commitment that everyone here will work with the children to get them back on track. If you can do a little bit of reading, writing and some maths each day then this will certainly help. Follow the guidelines sent weekly by your class teacher. These are also found on the website.

I have also been asked if we can teach your child via video. In all honesty, probably not. We are a small school that lacks the infrastructure to do this successfully. The teachers are also trying to juggle looking after their own families and are home-schooling their own children – it would not be fair to expect them to teach via live stream lessons.

There have also been a lot of reported safeguarding concerns over live video streaming via some of the more publicly used video conferencing tools. Until KCC or the DFE can provide us with a tool, which guarantees our children will not be exposed to inappropriate images or have their videos recorded by a third party, I am not sure that I want to be using them for broadcasts.

I hope that you will support me with this and I will keep you updated each week if there are to be any changes to this.

Stour model boat boredom buster!

Lauren at the Stour Project has been trying to think of some activities which children could have a go at whilst at home but also link into the River Stour and she came up with the idea of creating a model boat to be raced down the Stour later in the year!

There will be two race days; one in Canterbury & one in Ashford, later in the year when safe to host events. There will be prizes for various categories! Guidelines on how to create the model boats are provided as we do not want bits of boats falling off into the water or paints polluting! *(we will send the pdfs in a separate email with more info)*

Continuing to communicate

As a school, we will continue to keep you updated and informed as regularly as we need to. We are all still here for you. Please do not hesitate to contact the school on headteacher@st-peters-canterbury.kent.sch.uk or phone 01227 464392. Mrs Pearson is available on dpearson@st-peters-canterbury.kent.sch.uk or 07522 922088.

We are also updating our Facebook page regularly. Please follow/like our page>
<https://www.facebook.com/StPeters/>

Once again, we would all like to say a big thank you to all our key-workers; we value and applaud you.

Keep safe, stay healthy and keep smiling.

Best wishes

Kristina Dyer

Head Teacher

Our St.Peter's family photos

If you would like to share photos of activities your children are enjoying at home then please email them to headteacher@st-peters-canterbury.kent.sch.uk (please also provide written permission for me to put these photos on social media). Thank you to those parents who have sent some already. I would love to see photos of some of the work that you have been doing; especially your art work!



Affia's activities : gardening, reading by using the online book, a project using the recycle items (car and Westgate)

Affia really misses her school, friends and of course the teachers. Hopefully, all these difficult times will end very soon and all of us can continue our life like before.
Thank you and stay safe all.



Freya enjoying lots of creative writing.