



St Peter and St Paul Catholic Primary School

Clerkenwell

Diocese of Westminster

Headteacher: Miss Tracey Peters



Friday 21st October 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a very busy start to the new academic year. This half term Fantastic learning has taken place along with some great class visits. I am sure the children are looking forward to their half term I know the staff are.

We have some lovely to news to share with you all.

Congratulations to Mrs Gormley and her husband Mr Gormley on their new arrival - a baby girl 7lb 5oz.

Year 6 visit to the Wetland Centre

As part of their science year 6 visited the Wetland Centre in Barnes. They had a very informative day. They are also to be congratulated on the way they conducted themselves when faced with transport difficulties on their return to school. They wore their school badges with pride.



Attendance and Punctuality

We as a school have worked hard over the years to improve our attendance and punctuality. Pre – Covid we were over 96%. Since our return to school there has been a dip. We understand there will be circumstances that are out of your control and we do take that into consideration. We as a school have always offered our support and guidance. So please do come and speak to us if there you and your family need support with attendance and punctuality.

The school's attendance for this half term was 94% which is a concern. Our aim is 96% and above. As you can see from the chart a pupil's attendance which falls below 96% has a detrimental effect on their learning as well as becoming a safeguarding concern which the school has a statutory duty to report.

Punctuality for some families is also becoming an issue. We are looking at strategies in order to improve punctuality and the disruption it causes to those who are in on time as well as those who are late with regards to their learning.

From Monday 31st October the bell will ring at 8.40am as a reminder that school starts at 8.45am.

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Please be reminded that we operate a **soft start from 8.30am** and **school starts at 8.45am** and **finishes at 3pm** (Nursery 2.45pm).

Letters will be sent out on our return to school to those families who are meeting the thresholds of persistent poor attendance and punctuality

Any requests for leave of absence will be considered on a case-by-case basis taking into account individual circumstances and should be made in writing using the school template. This can be obtained from the school office.

| | Percentage of attendance | Days of Absence | Impact |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|
| Good Attendance | 96-100% | 0-8 days absent over the school year | Best chance of success in education |
| Poor Attendance | 80-90% | 19- 29 days absent over the school year | Reduced chance of success in education |
| Very Poor Attendance | 75-80% | 38-47 days absent over the school year | Safeguarding Concern |
| Extremely Poor Attendance | Below 75% | More than 47 days absent over the school year | Serious impact on education and life chances |

Thank you for your support and understanding with regard to this matter.



Congratulations to Year 4 with 97% attendance and Year 3 with the highest punctuality.

Year 5 Assembly

Year 5s assembly was about the Bible and how the teachings of the Bible can help us in our daily lives. The things that go well but also when we face difficulties. Year 5 were very articulate in their presentation and sang with great gusto.



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Harvest Liturgy

We will be having a harvest liturgy of thanksgiving. Date to be confirmed. We are living in difficult and uncertain times. We as a school are thinking of ways in which to help and support those who are having difficulties in our community. So we are asking for only one item per family of non-perishables. Your donations will then be sent to the local food bank or St Luke's community centre.

Thanking you all in advance

Book of Remembrance/Poppy Appeal

November is a time of remembrance. The book of remembrance will be in main reception of the school for you to sign on the 1st of November.

Poppies will be on sale from Monday 31st October

First Holy Communion/ Children's Liturgy

Families in Year 3 and above have been enquiring about First Holy Communion. Fr Chris sent this information for all families who attend St Joseph's

First Holy Communion

Registration forms are available at the 11.30am Sunday Mass for First Holy Communion preparation, commencing in early January 2023 and leading to the First Holy Communion Mass in June. This is for all St Joseph's families with children in Year 3 or above. The deadline for registration is Sunday 27th November. Please speak to Fr Chris to find out more.

Children's' Liturgy

This takes place during the 11.30am Sunday Mass every weekend in term time, and all children are very welcome to attend. There are stories, prayers and craft activities for the children, and Liturgy leaders are all appropriately trained and DBS checked.

For our Eritrean Families - Fr Ephrem's Annual Eritrean Gheez rite Community Retreat

This retreat takes place at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, Commonwealth Avenue, White City, London, W12 7QR from Thursday evening to Saturday evening. Mass 5 - 7.30pm on Thursday & Friday and then from 6.30pm on Saturday. All are welcome.

Collection time

For health and safety reasons. Please be reminded children should not be coming to school by themselves even for booster classes. There have been several occasions when children who are late for booster classes are left waiting outside the school because staff have already collected and started the lesson. We will also not be handing over any of our pupils to older siblings who are not 16 and above. We have changed it from being 18 in order to support some of our parents and carers.



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Year 6 will have the opportunity in the last term of the summer term to come to school and go home by themselves only with the permission of their parents as they prepare for their transition to secondary school. No mobile phones will be permitted.

Secondary School applications

Please be reminded that the deadline for secondary school applications is the 31st October 2022

Sports Lessons with Kieron KidsIn2Sports

Cost £4.50 per one hour lesson

| | |
|--------|------------|
| Monday | Gymnastics |
| Wed | Tennis |
| Friday | Football |

If you would like to sign up for Autumn term please email Kieron our sports tutor at info@kidsin2sports.co.uk or telephone **07507 718793**. Lessons will be billed half termly in advance on your parent pay account.

Dates for your diary:

Flu Vaccinations - Important date for your diary

It is expected that this winter there will be high levels of flu. **Flu vaccinations for reception to Year 6 will take place in school on Monday October 31st**. Please check classlist as the link to sign up for the vaccination is on there.

Assemblies

- Thursday 10th November Year 3 – 9.15am
- Thursday 17th November Year 2 – 9.15am
- Thursday 1st December Year 1 – 9.30am (Christmas)
- Tuesday 6th December Reception 9.30am (Christmas)
- Thursday 8th December Nursery 9.30am (Christmas)
- Monday 5th December Year 2/3 Christmas Production 2pm
- Year 4/5/6 Carol Service date and time to be confirmed

Cake Sale dates

- Friday 25th November Year 4
- Friday 27th January Year 3
- Friday 4th Feb Year 2
- Friday 28th April Year 1
- Friday 26th May Reception
- Friday 7th July Nursery



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Old Hallows Eve

Old Hallows Eve is on the 31st October. If you are planning to go 'trick or treating' at the weekend or on the day please ensure you go with an adult. Please keep safe

PTA Parent Representatives

Representatives for all classes are now filled. Thank you for your continuing support.

Uniform

Please ensure that you have labelled every item of your child's uniform. We have been at school for 7 weeks and already there are lots of new jumpers, cardigans and other pieces of uniform that have been left behind with no name on them. I have a sweat shirt with no names waiting to be collected from my office.

Please remember that our school has a **no jewellery** policy and that **includes all earrings**. Children are permitted to wear a watch but any smart watches or Fitbits must be left at home.

Fruit Scheme

Please note the fruit scheme is only funded for EYFS and Key Stage 1. We encourage our children in Key Stage 2 to bring their own fruit to school. They normally have their fruit at break time. Please ensure fruit like grapes are seedless and cut in half and the stones are removed from fruit like cherries and plums to avoid choking incidents.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Word on Wednesday

The theme explored in this Sunday's Gospel (23rd and 30th October) are being humble and generous.

"When we live humbly, God takes our small efforts and creates great things." Pope Francis

"May we learn to be generous in giving - to love without limits." Pope Francis

Have a good half term

Remember the clocks go back at the weekend. British summer time is officially at an end. Enjoy your extra hour.

We look forward to welcoming you back on the 31st October 2022

Kind Regards,

Miss T Peters and Mrs F Gormley