

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to begin by wishing you all a very Happy New Year for 2024 and that as a school community we hope that you have had a wonderful break and managed to spend some quality time as a family. As we begin the new school term tomorrow, I would like to share some of our many successes in the autumn term as well as remind everyone of our school expectations alongside some reminders for the term ahead.

Over the course of the autumn term, we have had many successes including trips and visits for every year group; school discos; a tree decorating service; a carol concert and nativities for our younger pupils. For these activities it has been so heart-warming to welcome so many grown-ups back into school and to see so many pupils supported by their adults enjoying being in our church. In relation to school improvement, we have been able to recruit new members to our governing board which is now fully established and offers a range of skills to be able to effectively challenge the leaders in the school improvement journey. Over the course of this year, I am sure that you will get to meet our newest governors as they attend school events. We have also introduced a new curriculum in science, history, geography, design technology and art and design. We have reviewed our provision for early reading and phonics and managed to secure £6000 in funding to buy new reading provision for school. Our subject leaders have also received training and are now playing a more active role in supporting the development of the subject in which they lead. During autumn term, we have visited a number of schools both locally and regionally across Greater Manchester. This has supported us to improve our environment within school, this is an on-going project, however, it has helped us to research and prepare for the implementation of a new reading and writing curriculum which will be implemented over the course of the spring term. This has been an initial investment of about £10,000. Approximately, £6000 in books to supplement the curriculum. At the end of the spring term, I will update you with our progress as it happens.

## ***Attendance***

Attendance and Punctuality remain a focus for this term. Our school day starts at 08:53am. The gates open at 8:30am and the pupils are welcome on-site, but we would ask that pupils are supervised and do not use the play equipment. The gates close promptly at 8:53am and after this point the entrance is via the Main Entrance. I would encourage a strong start for everyone and want to emphasise the importance of being on time and attending school every day. Our attendance target this year is: 96%. Our current attendance this year is 94%. ***Please support your children by being in school every day and by helping them to be on time.***

## ***Behaviour***

Our pupils' behaviour has transformed over the course of the last 9 months with your support – our renewed behaviour policy was introduced last year on the 6<sup>th</sup> March. We will share a reminder of our expectations in assembly on Thursday morning as we do at the beginning of each term but please speak to your child before tomorrow about what it means to: 'be ready', 'be respectful' and to 'be safe'. It is vital that they know what is expected from them each day.

## ***Uniform***

Our full uniform policy is available on the school website under the parent menu or by clicking this link: <https://leighsaintpeters.wigan.sch.uk/general-information/uniform/>. I would like to remind parents, however, that it is expected that **ALL PUPILS** from Reception upwards wear plain black shoes and that plain black trainers are to be worn for PE lessons. Some pupils had started to wear trainers for school, and it needs a reminder as we start the new term so we are consistent and fair with all pupils.

It is also an expectation that no jewellery is to be worn for school – please support us in this matter. This is not an addition to the uniform expectations, but it will be reviewed for the coming academic year.



## After School Provision

Over the course of autumn term, we ran extra-curricular activities on a Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evening. This is to develop pupils' interests and talents, not as wrap around care.

Provision for after school clubs will start from Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January between 3:15pm and 4:15pm. There are certain clubs which have a limit and this will be allocated on a first-come-first serve basis.

	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Reception up to Year 2	<b>Art Club (up to Y3)</b> Led by: Mrs Metcalfe & Mrs Unsworth (20 pupils)	<b>Spanish Club</b> Led by: Miss Shorrocks	<b>Sewing Club</b> Led by Miss Warburton & Mrs Allison (20 pupils)
Key Stage 2 (Y4-Y6)	<b>Football (Y4-Y6)</b> Led by: Mr Travis 20 pupils)	<b>Choir</b> Led by Mrs Dring & Mr Robinson	<b>Times Table Club</b> Led by Miss Hill
In addition:	Year 1 Phonic Boosters (from 8am) Year 6 SAT Boosters (after school) (Information on these two clubs is shared as appropriate)		

## Important Dates for Spring Term

Date	Time	Event
07.01.24	9:30am	Family Worship at St Peter's Church
13.01.24	10:30am	Messy Church at school
15.01.24	N/A	<b>Reception Applications close</b> – if you need any support with this please come and drop into the school office and we will arrange for someone to support you with your application.
15.01.24	TBC	Year 1 Parent Phonic Workshop
19.01.24	9:10am	Parent Coffee Morning
04.02.24	9:30am	Family Time Worship
10.02.24	10:30am	Messy Church at school
11.02.24	2:30pm-4:30pm	St Peter's Church Bingo in the School Hall
06.02.24	All Day	Safer Internet Awareness Day
08.02.24	2:30pm-3:15pm	Spanish Parent Enrichment
08.02.24	5pm-6pm	Year 6 SAT Booster Parent Meeting
16.02.24	3:15pm	School Closes for Half Term
26.02.24	8:45am	Pupils return to school
28.02.24	N/A	Year 6 'Mad Science' Experience
29.02.24	TBC	Year 5 HH Kidz (Puberty sessions)
07.03.24	All Day	World Book Day (information to follow)
11.03.24	Visitor to School	Beekeeper Experience for Year 1 pupils
22.03.24	TBC	Year 4 Recorder Concert
28.03.24	3:15pm	Pupils finish for Easter
11.04.24	8:45am	Pupils return to school

I look forward to working with you over the course of this term and if you have any questions or need any support please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Best wishes,



Mr K Robinson  
Headteacher

