

Welcome Back – Information and Updates

4th September 2023



Dear Parents/Carers and Children,

We hope that you have all had a very enjoyable summer season and are enjoying the sunshine that has finally decided to make a consistent appearance! I have seen several familiar faces around Portishead over the last couple of weeks, and it is great to hear that so many of you (children and parents) are excited about the start of the new school year!

You may have heard, in the media, that some schools in the country are not able to reopen due to issues with the safety of the buildings. I am delighted to inform you that this is not the case at St Peter's. Further information, confirming this, can be found, in the LSP letter attached to this Parentmail.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming the children back into school on **Wednesday 6th September** following 2 days of INSET training for staff. We will be continuing to build on all the successes of last year and ensuring that the year ahead is filled with excellent learning and a wide range of enrichment opportunities for all our pupils. Further information about our key school development priorities, and full details of parents' evenings, share sessions, learning exhibitions, performances and PSA community social events (and lots more) will be shared at our 'Welcome to Year Group' meetings.

As always, there is a lot to communicate to ensure that you can support your child to have the best possible start to the new school year. Please take the time to read through this letter carefully as there is some important general information and reminders to ensure that everyone gets off to a flying start this week.

In the meantime, enjoy the last few days of the holidays and we look forward to seeing you on the playground on Wednesday morning!

With Best Wishes,

Catrin Battista

Welcome To Year Group Meetings

Our first very important parent meetings of the year are our 'Welcome to Year Group' meetings. These meetings will provide you with the opportunity to put names to faces as you will meet the phase leader and the teaching teams within your child's phase. We will also be sharing reminders of key policies and routines and communicating key information for the year ahead. We will be running these in the afternoon and evening to ensure that as many parents as possible have the opportunity to attend. We know that we may not always be able to find days and times that suit all families and will always send out the slides, and key information, after the session.

Welcome To Year Group Meetings – Pier Hall at 2.30 and 6.00pm

Years 5 & 6 (Upper KS2)	Tuesday 12th September
Years 3 & 4 (Lower KS2)	Wednesday 13th September
Years 1 & 2 (KS1)	Thursday 14th September

First Week Back: Routines and Reminders

Please note: If your child is in reception, you will have details of the different timings for their induction programme for the first 3 weeks of term.

Start of Day:

Doors open: 8.40am

Morning Session Starts: **8.50am**

End of Day:

Reception 3.10pm

KS1 (Years 1 & 2) 3.15pm

KS2 (Years 3 – 6) 3.20 pm

Please note that both sets of green gates (back gate and main playground gates) are locked at 3.35pm and we ask that you leave site swiftly after collection so that we can secure the site.

Please see below for information about your child's drop off and collection points. There will be lots of staff on hand to direct you so please just ask if you are not sure.



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Year Group	Classroom	Teacher	Morning Drop Off	End of Day Collection
Reception	Butterfly	Mrs Nash/Mrs Weston	Main Reception Doors	Main Reception Doors
Reception	Honeybee	Miss Marsden	Classroom Door	Classroom Door
Reception	Ladybird	Mr Gillam	Classroom Door	Classroom Door
Year 1	Caterpillar	Mrs Doheny	KS1 Cloakroom Doors	KS1 Cloakroom Doors
Year 1	Firefly	Mrs Shier (nee Crichard)	KS1 Cloakroom Doors	KS1 Cloakroom Doors
Year 1	Beetle	Mrs Lerner	KS1 Cloakroom Doors	Beetle Classroom Door
Year 2	Dragonfly	Mrs Wilmott	Classroom Door	Classroom Door
Year 2	Damselfly	Mrs Bailey & Miss Bunney	Classroom Door	Classroom Door
Year 2	Mayfly	Miss Ovington	Classroom Door	Classroom Door
Year 3	Hedgehog	Miss Brown	Classroom Door	Classroom Door
Year 3	Red Squirrel	Mrs Baskerville	Classroom Door	Classroom Door
Year 3	Otter	Mrs Armitage & Mrs Russell	Classroom Door	Classroom Door
Year 4	Snapdragon	Mrs Soper	Classroom Door	Classroom Door
Year 4	Foxglove	Mr Kilcoyne	Classroom Door	Classroom Door
Year 4	Dandelion	Miss Patterson	Classroom Door	Green Gates by the side of the Pier Hall
Year 5	Green Woodpecker	Miss Jones	Pier Building Main Doors	Pier Building Main Doors
Year 5	Golden Eagle	Mrs Rodrick (nee Cockburn)	Classroom Door	Green Gates by the side of the Pier Hall
Year 5	Kestrel	Mr Brown	Classroom Door	Green Gates by the side of the Pier Hall
Year 6	Oak	Miss Dane	Pier Building Main Doors	Pier Building Hall Door
Year 6	Willow	Mrs Gomes	Pier Building Main Doors	Pier Building Hall Door
Year 6	Maple	Miss Taylor	Pier Building Main Doors	Pier Building Main Doors

Keeping Pupils Safe

End of Day Handover

We have robust procedures in place to ensure your child's safety at the end of the school day. Please help us to ensure smooth and safe handovers by doing the following:

- Reception & KS1 parents/carers – please wave & step forward when you see your child at the front of the line so that you collect directly from your child's teacher
- KS2 parents/carers – please wave/make eye contact with your child & child's teacher when you see them at the front of the line.

Your child's teacher will not hand them over until this contact has been made.

If your child is being collected by someone different from usual, you must contact the welcome desk to let them know as we will not be able to release your child without your prior permission.

Teachers have registers of all children who are attending after school clubs and these children will be accompanied to their club by a member of the year group staff team.

If your child is in year 5 or 6 and you are happy for them to leave the site without an adult, please give permission for this by completing the short MS Form (link below). Please complete this as soon as possible and please note that this form will close on Friday 15th September. Without this permission, we will not be able to let your child leave the site without an adult.

[Permission to leave site without an adult](#)

If you are picking up your child from an extra-curricular club, all children will now be dismissed from the main school entrance or the main green gates. (This will be confirmed to you when your child starts their club.)

The collection point remains the same for the children in PH 'After School Club' provision.

Equipment Reminder

We have VERY limited storage space in school and we aim to provide as much equipment as possible for your child's learning so that they only need to bring minimal kit with them.

Bags

If your child needs a bag to bring items to school, the only bags that we will permit are drawstring sports bags (any colour is fine). These can be bought for as little as £1 and are more than sufficient for holding equipment that your child will need to bring in the school day.

We will NOT be permitting backpacks so please support us with this. We do not have enough cloakroom space to store these. We have noticed that these are creeping back into school but from the start of September, we ask that you respect our request so that we can keep our school cloakrooms tidy and safe spaces for all children.

Book bags

Your child will need a book bag so that they can bring their reading book & reading record book, to and from school. For older children, they may like to use their drawstring bag for this purpose.

Stationery

We provide **ALL** stationery for every child throughout the school and all the equipment that children need for learning. This includes provision of a pencil case for every child in KS2.

Water Bottles

Every child needs to bring their own water bottle to school. Please ensure that this contains only water as squash and other soft drinks are not permitted in the classrooms.

Lunch Boxes

If your child has a packed lunch, they will need to bring this in a clearly labelled lunch box. Please remember that we are a NUT FREE school.

Finally, please LABEL EVERYTHING so that we can reunite items with their owners.

PE Days Reminder

Every child in St Peter's will have 2 hours a week of PE coaching.

PE will start for all year groups in the week beginning Monday 11th September.

On PE days, your child should come into school wearing their PE kit. PE kit compromises of:

- Red t-shirt
- Black shorts/leggings/joggers
- School jumpers/fleeces may be worn over the top of PE kit
- Trainers/sports shoes (Velcro please for younger children)

Year Group	PE Day
Reception	Wednesday
Year 1	Friday
Year 2	Thursday
Year 3	Wednesday
Year 4	Monday
Year 5	Tuesday
Year 6	Thursday

Absence Procedures

To report your child's absence please leave a message on our absence line on 01275 843124 or email attendance@spps.school.uk by 8.30am. If your child is off for more than one day please call/email each morning.

The LSP's full Attendance Policy is [HERE](#)

Further information about attendance will be shared at the Welcome To Year meetings.

Travelling to School and Parking

Last year, many of our families signed up for our 'WOW' (walk or wheel to school) pledge and we saw an increased number of children walking, cycling and using the park and stride points. We hope to build on this, over the coming year, as we strive to make our travel to school:

- Safer
- Healthier
- Eco friendly
- Community friendly

If you do need to drive to school, please use the park and stride points whenever possible, and always park safely and considerately of our neighbours and other road users.

Please also remember that the car park on Hallett's Way is for staff only. The only exception to this is for blue badge holders who have an arrangement with the school. This applies to all times of the day including before and after school hours.

School Uniform Exchange

We have lots of pre loved uniform which has been washed and ironed by our wonderful volunteer. With the cost of living, and with the importance of reusing and recycling, we do hope that new homes can be found for this uniform.

We have uniform available in most sizes and is as good as new. You can find a small selection of this in the foyer at the welcome desk but we also have an extensive stock in storage in school. If you are looking for particular sizes or items of clothing to start the new school year, please pop in to the welcome desk and let us know