

SS Peter and Paul Catholic Primary Academy and Nursery

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I pray and hope you had a restful Easter break and that this letter finds you and your families well, coping with the unusual circumstances we face.

We have all had to adapt to new ways of living, working and learning, so I wanted to take the opportunity to thank you for the great job you are doing supporting your child's wellbeing and learning during this time.

We acknowledge this challenging period for our community and humankind. We hope that there have been opportunities for you to stay connected as a family and as a community to support each other. Staff at SS Peter and Paul are here for you every step of the way as we continue to find ways of working together and supporting one another. Remember, if you have any concerns about helping your child learn or you need any other support from school, please let us know by contacting us via email or telephone in the usual way. A member of staff will get back to you.

We all miss our vibrant, talented and happy pupils very much, but we must continue to follow the Government's guidance to keep our community safe. So whilst we await both medical and scientific guidance about when it will be safe to reopen, I now write to welcome you to our very first remote summer term.

Daily Lessons

The daily lessons set by your children's teachers will start again today. You can access the learning in the same way as you did before Easter. Go on to the school website, click on student classes in the students section. You need to input the password SSPP2020 before going in to the folder for the correct year group. Staff have shared work that is dated in folders for your children to access each day. We are setting work that does not require the capability to print, simply to copy or complete on paper. Now established, in addition to daily Mathematics and English work, you will also find weekly RE and Science lessons. To broaden the skills your child is continuing to access further still, staff have prepared work that is cross-curricular, linking subjects together. This first week of term involves an opportunity to study art and artists and we are looking forward to seeing the work your children produce. I am very pleased to inform you that staff will resume reading books daily to your children to maintain the personal contact that this gives.



You can share pictures of your children working from home by emailing them to homework@sspeterandpaul.co.uk These pictures will be made in to a film each week that we will share on our website as one of the ways we aim to remain connected while apart. Children's Easter pictures and gardens can be seen in a film on our website in the latest news section. It was uplifting to see children taking part and getting involved in the activities suggested and lovely to see some familiar faces.

We value the entitlement for learning for every child and therefore request your ongoing support in monitoring your child's work, encouraging them to complete and praising all of their efforts. Accessing core learning daily will help your child continue to develop and maintain skills whilst also helping them to be able to settle back in to school when we are able to open our doors as usual again. Please do remind your child to take breaks away from screens, to read a book for pleasure and to make time for physical activity, having fun and connecting with friends and family. Mental health and well-being is the most important thing to keep in mind when supporting your child in their learning.

If your child wishes to access additional learning and other resources, the Government have published guidance for recommended online learning which you can access by following this link: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-online-education-resources-for-home-education

You may also have seen that the BBC is launching its own <u>education package</u> across TV and online, featuring celebrities and teachers – helping to keep children learning and supporting parents.

<u>Dual Languages:</u> For families who speak a different language at home please can I encourage you to spend some time each day communicating in English with your children. Read stories and listen to television in English daily as this will help them be confident communicators when this situation is behind us.

The Government will advise all schools about when we can open in the future. I will contact all parents directly with accurate and updated information should the current situation change. For now, we continue as usual. Please remain in communication as a joint partnership to support your child, we will always respond to messages sent to school. We continue to offer prayers of thanks not only to those within the NHS, social and care services but also to all those providing vital services for us all.

Yours sincerely,

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Mrs J Byrne – Principal and all the staff at SS Peter and Paul.

