

THE PEAKE POST

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Message from the Head Teacher

Across the country this year, for many people, Christmas will not be the same as it usually is. For many elderly people, celebrating Christmas with their families is simply too much of a risk, due to coronavirus. I think that if you asked any of them what they will miss about Christmas the most, none of them will say "the presents". This strange year has perhaps taught us to think about what we value the most. Whenever we think of Christmas: the presents, the food and drink, and the decorations are what most people think of first. But it's not really what we value the most. The best thing about Christmas is spending time together. The best part of presents is giving a gift and watching the recipient unwrap it. The best part of decorations is putting them up together. The best part of Christmas dinner is eating together. These are the things that we will miss the most. But these are not things that can only be done at Christmas time. If you cannot spend time with family this Christmas time, how about arranging a date in the spring or summer to be together, to celebrate how much you love each other. The true meaning of Christmas is love, whether you are a Christian celebrating the birth of Christ as a sign of God's love for all people or not. It's a celebration of love - and we should celebrate that every day.

Miss Z.J.Linington

STAFF NEWS

At the end of term, it is always with mixed emotions that we say "Goodbye and thank you" to some of our staff as they move on and "welcome" or "congratulations" to others as they join us or our promoted to new posts.

Goodbye and thank you to:

Mr Scheid, Teaching Assistant

Subject Consultation Evenings 11, 13 and 19 January

Please book an appointment with your child's subject teachers to discuss their attainment and progress during the first term of school. Appointments will take place via video calls and can be booked via our parents evening booking system:

<https://edwardpeake.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Further details on how to book your appointments and how to access the video calls are in a letter which accompanies your child's end of term report. A video guide is also available on our school website:

<https://www.edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk/parents/parents-evening-booking-system/>

Bookings open at 8 am on Monday 4 January and close at midday on Wednesday 19 January. If you require any assistance in booking your appointment please contact the school office.

LIVE LOVE LEARN #TEAMPEAKE

THANK YOU!

Covid 19 protective measures have required all schools to increase the level of cleaning over the last term. Our wonderful cleaning team have gone above and beyond to make sure our school can stay open. We want to send them a very special thank you!

Ms Brunt
Mr Crole-Rees
Mr Darvill
Mrs Dennis
Miss Freedman
Mr Jakes
Mrs Linka
Miss Mowbray
Mrs Presland
Miss Ranger
Mrs Shaddock
Mrs Talbot
Mrs Vale



SCHOOL VISION

The community of Edward Peake C of E Middle School share a vision for our young people.

We work hard to make sure that our faith supports each individual at Edward Peake to flourish and challenges us all to live life to the full. We believe that pupils should enjoy their learning as much as their teachers enjoy teaching them and that everyone should strive to do their very best.

Live, love, learn - our guiding principles that children should be educated for life, contributing to their community regardless of their background and loved unconditionally, able to love others in return.



'Live, Love, Learn'
"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my loving eye on you."
Psalms 32:8



Together we learn how to put our relationships first and reconcile if things go wrong. Moments of silence, prayer and reflection are golden times in a busy day when we deeply consider our values and how to live them.

We are determined that by the time Edward Peake pupils leave us, they will be confident and proficient in the core curriculum, independent learners, curious about the world around them and with a well-developed sense of personal responsibility.

Our vibrant sense of community and our values-driven education really come alive on a daily basis.

LIVE LOVE LEARN #TEAMPEAKE

SCHOOL VALUES

SAFE

CARING

LEARNING



LIVE LOVE LEARN #TEAMPEAKE

I will *Instruct* you
and *Teach* you
in the *Way*
you should go;

I will *counsel* you
with my *loving*
eye on you.



Psalm 32:8



LIVE LOVE LEARN #TEAMPEAKE

Uniform and basic equipment reminders

Please ensure your child arrives to school with the correct uniform clearly named and a range of basic equipment suitable for their lessons.

Full details of uniform and equipment expectations can be found on page 10 and 11 of the pupil planner. A high standard of personal appearance is expected of all pupils.

Thank you in advance for supporting the school.



Technology tips

Mr Coverdale has issued some top tips for buying and using phones or tablets over the holidays.

Set boundaries

-Our advice is to set some ground rules and ensure they understand them.

Apply Screen Time Limits

Agree a time limit or number of games beforehand, to avoid repeated disagreements around how long they can spend online.

Sleep comes first

We advise that phones or tablets stay out of the bedroom overnight to charge. This avoids those night time distractions.

Ask for access

If you're concerned about something happening or want to take a look at the games and apps they are on, ask them to allow you access to the phone.

Monitoring vs having a conversation

It is possible to install software onto devices that monitors online activity on devices. Instead, why not have a conversation about the types of things they are doing online, and create a family agreement to set out expected behaviour.

ROAD SAFETY



Tips for Being a **Safe Pedestrian**



Be Bright at Night



**Cross Safely When
Exiting the Bus**



Walk Facing Traffic



**Watch for
Turning Cars**



**Pull the Plug and
Pay Attention**



**Be Careful
in Parking Lots**

Job vacancies



We have a number of job vacancies listed on the school website

<https://www.edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk/join-us/job-vacancies/>

Parent information

Young Leaders Award

Year 8 pupils continue to strive to be the change they want to see in the community by litter picking in school and our local community; tidying our school garden; tidying and weeding the alleyway leading to our school; planting trees in our school tree nursery in preparation for replanting in Spring.

Two new groups have just started the award and will be deciding on their three personal projects, school and local community projects. Watch this space for updates on what our Year 8s achieve in being the change they want to see.



THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK
YOUTH TRUST
Be the change you want to see

The Big Draw

As part of our reward system pupils gain credits for excellent, work, effort and contributions. For every 10 credits received the pupils will gain a raffle ticket that is then entered in to The Big Draw at the end of watch full term to win a £25 Amazon voucher.

Autumn 2020 winners are:

Year 5 - Dylan

Year 6 - Oliver

Year 7 - Leo

Year 8 - Victoria

Congratulations to all.

Remember you have to be in it to win it!

Parent information

Attendance information

At Edward Peake, we strive to maintain high standards in every aspect of our lives. Excellent attendance and punctuality are attributes that help us to be positively contributing members of society.

This term 170 pupils across school have managed to be in school 100%.

Key stage 2: 91 pupils

Key stage 3: 79 pupils.

For each key stage, a draw took place to win a £25 Nandos voucher (donated by Vision for Education part of TES)

Autumn 2020 winners:

Key stage 2: - Reece

Key stage 3: - Will

Congratulations to both of you. We hope you and your families enjoy the meal.

Our wonderful new facilities!



LIVE LOVE LEARN #TEAMPEAKE

Competition updates

Well done to all those who entered the stained glass window competition.

As there were so many entries, Year 5 and 6 were judged separately.

Year 5

1st Skye

100 points

2nd Isla Rose 75 points

3rd Teddi 50 points

Year 6

1st Madison 100 points

2nd Heidi 75 points

3rd Kai 50 points

Keystage 3

1st Riley 100 points

2nd= Grace 75 points and Amelia 75 points

3rd Anna 50 points

Competition updates

A selection of the winning designs



Wellbeing support

BEDFORDSHIRE WELLBEING SERVICE

Holiday opening hours

Thursday 24th December
9am - 1pm

Thursday 31st December
9am - 1pm

Friday 25th December
CLOSED

Friday 1st January
CLOSED

Monday 28th December
CLOSED

Monday 4th January
Normal hours resume

Tuesday 29th December
9am - 5pm

Wednesday 30th December
9am - 5pm



To self refer to our service, visit
bedfordshirewellbeingservice.nhs.uk
or call us on 01234 880400 today.



Wellbeing support

Food banks

- **Biggleswade Baptist Church** – www.bbchurch.org.uk or call 01767 312667
- **Preen (Biggleswade)** - www.facebook.com/PreenCIC or call 01767 600332
- **Dunstable Foodbank** – www.dunstable.foodbank.org.uk or call 07874 200056
- **Leighton Linlade Community Foodbank** - www.llhsblackhorse.org.uk or call 01525 381129

Looking after yourself

The pandemic is a worrying time and it is natural to feel overwhelmed. You may feel lonely, low, worried, anxious, or be concerned about your health or that of those close to you. These are all common reactions to the difficult situation we face.

The NHS website Every Mind Matters has lots of advice, tips and guides on how to deal with stress and anxiety. www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters

Tips for looking after your mental health

- **Stay connected** – keep in touch with your friends and family by phone and video call if you cannot meet them
- **Be active** – physical health can have a big impact on how you feel. Simply going for a walk can help lift your mood.
- **Get your sleep** – good quality sleep makes a big difference to how you feel mentally and physically
- **Focus on the present** – try not to worry about what might happen in the future, focusing on the present can help manage your feelings
- **Help others** – helping someone else can help you as well as them, it can give you focus and purpose

Need help right now?

There is always someone you can talk to. The following websites and helplines may be helpful to you.

- **NHS** – call 111
- **Samaritans** – www.samaritans.org or call 116 123
- **MIND** – www.mind-blmk.org.uk or call 0300 330 0648
- **Bedfordshire Wellbeing Service** - <https://bedfordshirewellbeingsservice.nhs.uk> or call 01234 880400
- **Shout Crisis** (text line) – text Shout to 85258
- **Silverline** (older people helpline) – call 0800 470 8090
- **Child and Adolescent Mental Health Support (CSMHS)** – <https://camhs.elft.nhs.uk> or call 01234 310800 (north) or 01234 893300 / 01234 893301 (South)
- **CHUMS** (children and young people) – <http://chums.uk.com> or call 01525 863924
- **Kooth** - www.kooth.com
- **National Domestic Abuse Helpline** 0808 2000 247. If you suspect domestic abuse and don't want to reveal your identity, call CrimeStoppers on 0800 555 111 or complete an online form at <https://crimestoppers-uk.org/domesticabuse>
- Information and support for carers is available from **Carers in Beds** <https://carersinbeds.org.uk/> or call 0300 111 1919

Information for parents/carers

Medicines and injuries

All medicines sent in to school must be clearly named and labelled. Only medicines prescribed by a doctor will be permitted in school, and a School Medicine Record form must be completed by the parent/carer to give consent for the medicine to be administered. Children who suffer injuries or who are suffering from an illness may require a PEEP (Personal Emergency Evacuation Plan) when they return to school. Please contact the main office who will be able to issue further guidance on this.

Keeping in touch

Don't forget to check the school websites for daily updates, the latest news articles and upcoming event information. Twitter is our main social media channel. Thank you to all members of our community who are following our wonderful school.

Visit our school Twitter page to see news items, photographs of our wonderful community and daily updates.

Follow us @EdwardPeake

Visit the school YouTube channel for key videos and information

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTOrvP_wKMrceb8pFbXNgeA



LIVE LOVE LEARN #TEAMPEAKE

Information for parents/carers

Winter weather advice

According to the met office, we are in for a cold and snowy winter so we thought it a good opportunity to remind everyone of our severe weather procedure.

https://s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/smartfile/edwardpeake.realsmartcloud.com/uploads/2020/12/02164228/Severe-Weather_Emergency-Closure-Letter_2-Dec-20.pdf

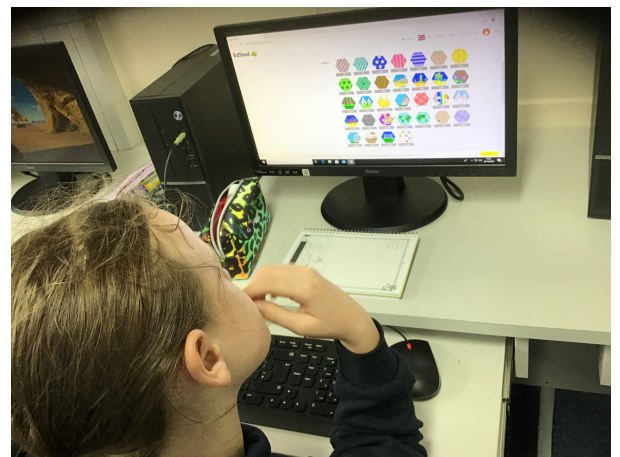
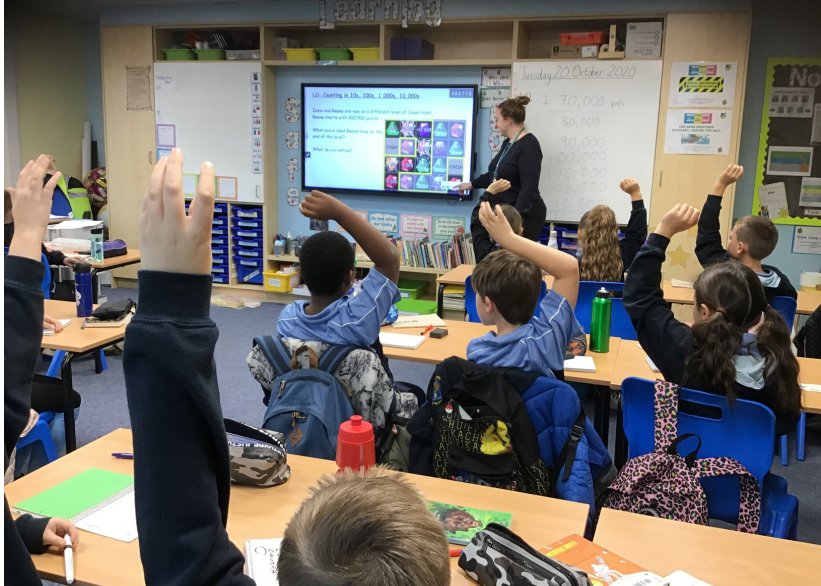
Collective worship

Unfortunately, we were not able to go to St Andrew's Church this year for our Christmas Service. Instead, Key Stage 3 pupils are presenting a Christmas celebration and worship video for all classes to enjoy on the last day of term.

Amelia, Sam and Jim are performing guitar pieces, and Kalin and Matteo will be playing music from 'The Snowman'. Corbin, Henri, Lily and Noah are presenting readings and prayers along with some of the instrumental performers.

We hope this will bring at least a little Christmas joy to the whole school when we share it on Friday.

TEACHING AND LEARNING AT EPMS



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YEAR 6 NEWS

Year 6 pupils were mentioned in Prime Minister's Question Time on 25 November. Year 6 pupils had been asked by their teacher, Miss Twitchett, to consider the positives from lockdown.

The pupils felt that the reduction in human activities had lowered the levels of pollution and that the impact on the environment was the main positive. They were quite passionate about this topic and some carried out their own research at home. In order to give their writing a real audience and real meaning, they addressed their letters to Richard Fuller, MP for North Bedfordshire. Mr Fuller brought the correspondence to the attention of the Prime Minister during Prime Ministers Question Time.

*Mr Fuller wrote to Headteacher Miss Linington to say:
"I was very impressed by the letters from the Year 6 pupils
and
by the initiative of Miss Twitchett to give purpose to their
writing
by having their letters sent to someone, rather than just as an
exercise."*

*He went on to say:
"My hope is not only to highlight the good works of the school
but to provide the class with a sense that their thoughts and
actions can have a real impact with people, such as the Prime
Minister, who are in powerful positions of authority."*

YEAR 6 NEWS

The video can be viewed on the Edward Peake Middle School Media Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ArDdPfbEndE&t=4s>

Congratulations to 6CT and Miss Twitchett!



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FUNDRAISING

WE RAISED

£1028

FOR CHILDREN

IN NEED!



LIVE LOVE LEARN #TEAMPEAKE

KEY DATES

05.01.20

Term starts

11.01.21, 13.01.21 and 19.01.21

Parent subject consultation evening

01/02/20-07/02/20

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

15/02/20-19/02/20

Half term

26/03/20

Term ends





Christmas message from the Church of England

Christmas this year will feel different. The family gatherings may well be smaller. For at least some of us, we may be joining in the familiar carols online rather than in church. But it will still be – as always – a time to care for one another and to be together. It will be a time to look back on a year when so much has changed.

To remember those who have died, to support those who have lost jobs, to be thankful for all who have cared for the sick and the vulnerable.

What has not changed is the story and the meaning of Jesus' birth. God is with us. With us in the mess as in the good, in the disappointment and the difficulty, in sorrow and in celebration.

Please take the opportunity to visit the Church of England YouTube page.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zTtYrCqBnhg>



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THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



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