

S. Peter's Collegiate School

ISSUE 16 12/03/2021

-Parent Bulletin-

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



It has been a delight to have our students back this week. On behalf of all of my colleagues, I wanted to pass on our praise for how they have returned to school so far. They have adapted well to a very strange situation, followed instructions to keep themselves and others safe and done all of this with such a polite manner, that you should be rightly proud of them.

We will need everyone to remain aware of rules and restrictions next week when the school is full once more and to support this we have been making sure that we have re-marked classrooms, put up increased signage, ordered additional face masks, hand sanitisers and disposal bins. It is important that all students wear face masks inside the school building and in lessons, unless they are medically exempt. We have addressed all students about this during the 'welcome back' presentations.

During next week, information will be available for Year 8 Parents/Carers and students regarding the new and improved GCSE Option process. This is on the back of our drive to improve the curriculum available to our students. The Year 9 Option process will follow shortly after Easter.

It was excellent to host the second Parents Advisory Group meeting earlier this week. Miss Rai and I really enjoyed looking to the positive comments about on-line learning and we have passed these to the staff. It was good also to be able to hear about a couple of issues that were experienced that possibly could have been dealt with in a more timely fashion, this gives us something to try and improve on if we ever go into lockdown again.

Please be reminded that school attendance is again statutory. As part of the statute on school attendance, students must attend school punctually. In line with the 'Attendance and Absence policy' (available on the school website), any lates after registers have closed (currently 20 minutes after the start of the school day) will be **unauthorised** - indicated by a U code on the register. Please be reminded that the local authority can issue Fixed Penalty Notices to parents and carers where a child has 10 or more U codes over a period of 12 weeks. Please direct any queries about your child's attendance to Mr Franklin (jfranklin@speters.org.uk)

CONTACTS

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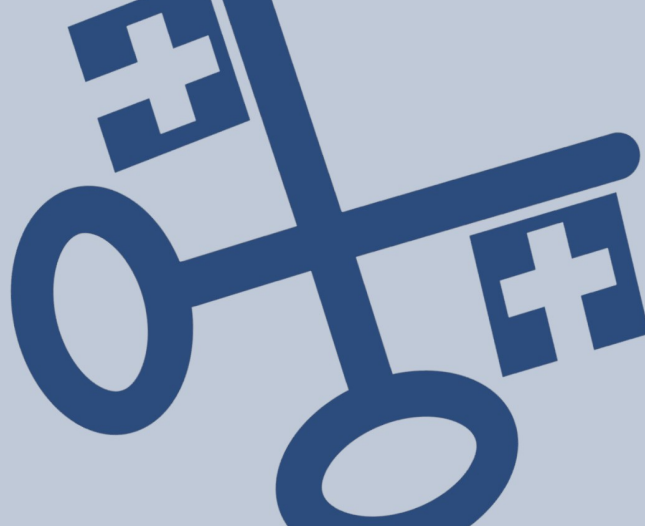
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CAREERS UPDATE— Mrs Tranter

On Thursday 25th February a small group of Year 9 girls took part in Raytheon Technologies and Collins Aerospace, Introduce a Girl to Engineering.

The students had a fabulous time and here's what Year 9 had to say: I really enjoyed the Introduce a Girl to Engineering day. The day was planned very well, allowing it to flow smoothly. The day had lots of different activities both practical and listening tasks. It was inspirational to hear from so many different engineers and the things they love about their jobs and the struggles that they had to overcome. I knew that there were many different engineering jobs but not as many as I learned there were. The two activities that I took part in were really fun and different. I especially enjoyed learning about the different types of planes and how a few different folds in this case can change something purpose slightly allowing it to achieve something different. This day was great and I learned so much.



TESTING SUCCESS ON RETURN TO SCHOOL

This week saw the eagerly awaited return of nearly 1300 pupils to our school site, something we have been looking forward to for some time. After preparing a return to school schedule allowing for the safe return of students into the classroom, this week saw the students being tested by a team of school staff and volunteers from the Wolverhampton NHS school nurse team, Wolverhampton Music School, the Local Authority and external volunteers.

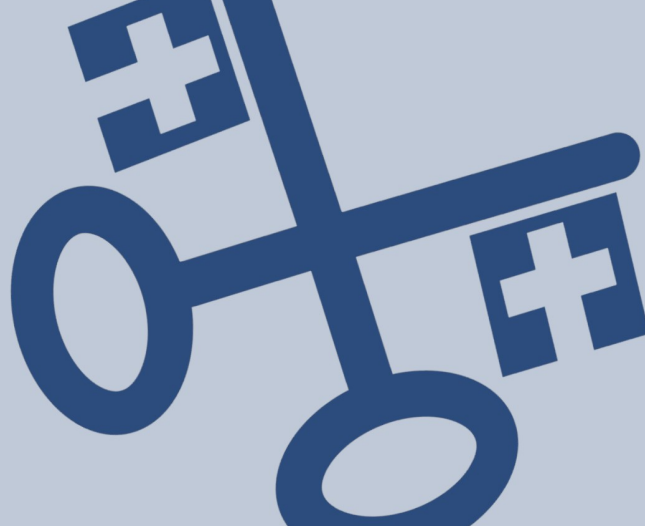
Once a negative test had been returned the students headed for their classroom.

Many of the volunteers involved in the testing programme this week spoke of their 'pride' at being able to 'help' and spoke of their 'happiness' with pupils returning to the classroom.

So far this week the school has conducted 1213 tests all of which have returned negative results, something we are all very happy about.

REMINDERS

- Masks are to be worn in all indoor spaces in school
- Full school uniform is to be worn at all times



The last flicker of light was gone! There was silence. There was stillness. There was darkness. Total, overwhelming, enveloping darkness. A black out, devoid of any shapes, shadows or life itself! No sense of direction. No awareness of others. Not even able to see my hand in front of my face! Damp, cold, unyielding darkness. Suddenly, a match was struck and there was an explosion of light which lit up the cavern like a summer's day. In that moment, as a candle was lit, there was hope and relief from the oppression and most of all, a return to life.



We need light in our World to make it work. David Attenborough in his documentary 'A Perfect Planet' describes a nuclear reactor 93 million miles away, the Sun, as being essential for life to flourish, from smallest organism to the largest tree; the tiniest insect to the most complex creatures on the planet - humans!

We all know about the light and darkness. Even something as simple as a candle can light up the world (well an underground mine in my case) and dispel the darkness. Light makes us feel safe. It gives us warmth. We can see things and be seen. Darkness makes us uncomfortable. It prevents us from doing things. It confuses and disorientates us. In the second of his "I AM" statements recorded in John's Gospel, Jesus uses this shared human experience of light and darkness in order to explain a very profound truth about who he was and his purpose on earth and the difference he makes to individuals who choose to follow him.

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life". (John 8:12) What did he mean by claiming that HE was the light of the World? Clearly the World didn't need more actual, visible light so, once again, we see that Jesus is using a physical phenomenon, light and darkness, to make a spiritual point about faith.

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