

# S. Peter's Collegiate School

ISSUE 18 26/03/2021

## -Parent Bulletin-

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



After a fabulous week of learning (last week), it was important to re-set in terms of standards and expectation this week. Students were beginning to get used to the insistence of removing headphones and hoodies by about Tuesday. This consistent message has started to have a positive effect. In addition to this, I am pleased to be able to report that students have become really good at ensuring that they are wearing masks at all times in the school building.

Can I please give Parents/Carers a reminder that from September 2021, it will be compulsory to have the correct shoes as indicated on our school uniform list currently available on the school website.

Another mission this week has been to start the journey toward eradicating lateness to school. By introducing a zero tolerance on lateness and reissuing detentions for students to make up the time they are late to school. We have seen the number of students who were late on Monday 21 March, shrink considerably by the end of the week. This system continue to run throughout the summer term.

We also introduced a morning break this week. It has been a joy to see so many of our students enjoying being able to switch off for twenty minutes in the morning and with clever use of the space, the younger students have finally been able to kick a ball around in their free time. As we move into the summer months, it is essential that we make sure all of the students get more fresh air and a chance to get out of stuffy classrooms. Interestingly our two Professional Developments focuses for the summer term are Raising Boys Achievement and utilising outdoor learning space.

Whilst the new break times and lunchtimes will not please everyone, and I am conscious that you cannot please everyone all the time, having listened to the students, it has been pleasing to see them enjoying relaxation time. In order to further improve this experience, we are expecting delivery of an increased amount of picnic tables which will mean that even as the canteen becomes open in the next few months, student will be able to socialise and have the space to spread out more.

I have been made aware that there is concern that students would be made to go outside in the rain under the new system. I can assure everyone that there is a clear system for potential 'wet weather' break/lunchtimes and that this is not the case. We will continue to review the arrangements and hopefully by doing so we will also discover even more ideas that can be implemented for the long-term benefit of everyone.

Cont...

# CONTACTS

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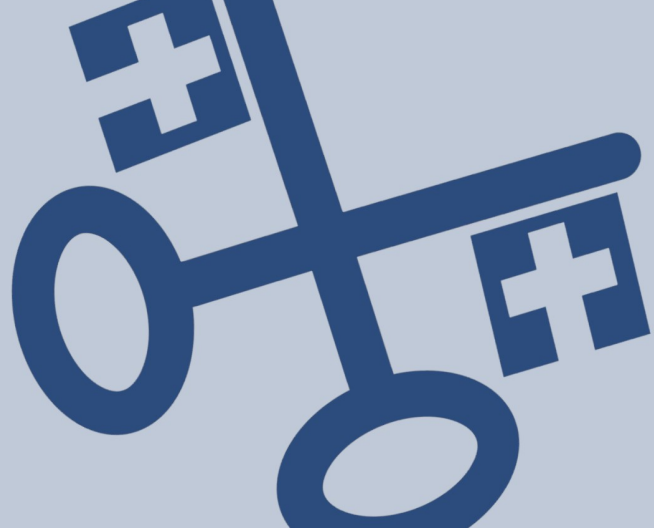
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Looking ahead, please can Parents/Carers be aware of the following:

Year 8 Options deadline is 9 April 2021.

Year 9 Options information will be given out after Easter.

Year 13 Centre Assess Grades explanation webinars event will be run through zoom. We are limited to 100 participants per session and sessions will last about 30 minutes each.

Session 1 & 2 will both run on Wednesday 31 March at 4pm and again at 7pm. Please register to indicate your preferred preference using this form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdLmcwTzONteDFXrzo9OhDAonfs5BAe8NEY0vWtivICBFLQ/viewform>

Year 11 information will follow shortly.

Over the next week, we will be inviting Year 11 and Year 13 students to attend 'Catch-up' session during Easter. These are vital to ensure that we have accurate information and enough practical work ahead of awarding Centre Assess Grades. I am extremely grateful to staff for volunteering to support this. The key focus of these sessions mainly focuses on a practical based subjects at this stage. Details of any summer holiday 'Catch-up' sessions will be released soon.

Some of our staff have recently been working with a group of volunteers to assist with our Covid testing and the feedback from them was a real pleasure to receive. In their own words, "It was lovely working with your team, they really are a great bunch and were kind and welcoming. I have to say that your students were an absolute delight, they were so polite and courteous and a real credit to you all." We thank them for their help and assistance, their kind words. The pleasure was ours too.

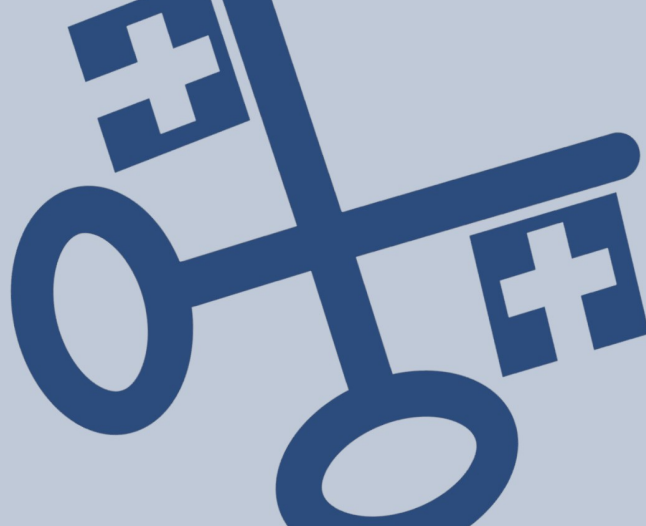
I had a lovely moment this week when I received notice that my son has been awarded 'Student of the Month' at his school. That feeling of pride was something I savoured. I want you all to

## OPTIONS UPDATE

One of the most exciting times in a student's school career, the Year 8 options process, continues along its path. This is usually one of the first opportunities a young person has to make a decision that affects their life in a significant way. The narrowing process has been completed by students and this information has been utilised in the creation of the final guided options document. This will be released next week and the deadline for this to be completed will be the 9th April 2021.

# REMINDERS

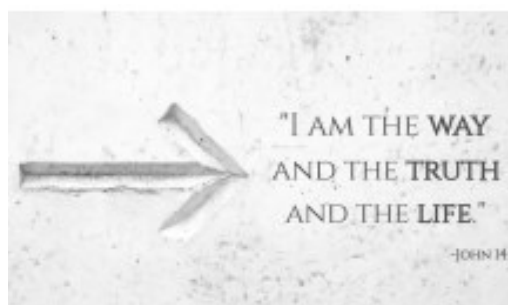
- Masks are to be worn in all indoor spaces in school
- Full school uniform is to be worn at all times



## This is the Way!

**We would have made it to our destination but for one thing...The driver!** In a moment of unparalleled stupidity, rather than stay on the well marked route to Malham Cove, he decided to take a short cut across the hills. **"This is the way"** he insisted and despite having a map and a guide-book to the Yorkshire Dales, he nearly ruined family outing; two small boys, my wife and me... the driver!

Having turned off the main road **our route was blocked** by a gate. There are lots of gated roads in Yorkshire, so we drove on through. Within a few hundred metres the road became a lane. My wife was thinking turn round! I was thinking adventure! On we went. The incline got steeper, the lane became a track; the boys were unsettled and my wife was anxious. I was determined to keep going: **'This is the way'**! Dry stone walls closed in, sheep leapt over the walls and the car



shook as it moved along the now rutted track. It was obvious we were going the wrong way. Everyone was telling me to turn round; my wife, my kids (the sheep no doubt) and even my inner voice but, I ignored them all and drove stubbornly onwards and upwards. Recklessly, **we ploughed on**, coming to a sudden stop...in a field! We could go no further. Only then, after large helpings of humble pie, did I admit, **'This is not the way'**, completed a U-turn and headed back down to the main road.

**During the last night before his crucifixion**, at the Passover meal, having washed the disciple's feet, predicted his betrayal by Judas and his denial by Peter, **Jesus told the disciples he would soon be going away** (John 13) Naturally, the disciples wanted to go too but, on this occasion, Jesus told them they could not travel with him, just yet. This was not just an earthly journey he was talking about - the spiritual impact would be immense. The way ahead was to end in death but **in truth by giving up his life, he opened the way back to God the Father.** "

'I go to prepare a place for you. I will come back and take you to be with me so that you also may be where I am. You know the way to the place where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father as well. (John 14:4-6)

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