

## Parent Bulletin

ISSUE 33 10/09/2021

*'In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.' Matthew 7:12*

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Welcome back everyone! I hope that all students had an enjoyable summer break. It was fantastic to spend lots of my holiday with my children and getting a chance to do lots of adventurous and even sometimes mundane things that I don't usually have a chance to get involved in. As some of the restrictions were lifted, it was lovely to see family once more and this weekend I am even celebrating my Grandmother's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

She is a formidable character. Someone who has had to endure many tragedies and someone who has had to live through all sorts of 'unprecedented' events. Her positivity and desire to keep up to date with public events is an inspiration.

That sort of determination and spirit has been needed at times over the past year or so in schools. The way that our students have managed to keep up to date with changes in rules, acceptance of bubbles and restrictions that have changed the way that they learn has been excellent. I hope that we can now see fewer restrictions in education, more freedom to enjoy all that the school has to offer and an opportunity to really try to put the fun back into learning again. On this front, you will notice our new Enrichment & Enhancement programme on the school website and I hope that it provides our students with lots of opportunities to take part in something new, something they enjoy or something they excel at.

This week I have had the pleasure of meeting many of the Year 7 students in their first week at the school. Having not been able to have a chance to experience this last year as an induction, it was important to have these students in school first. They have adapted brilliantly. Slowly they are starting to feel more confident about finding different classrooms and many are making new friends already.

All year groups have had to undergo two Covid tests on their return to school and despite the extreme heat this week, they have been a real credit whilst doing this. Following on from the testing, it has been good to see students enjoy lessons again. I have also been impressed with the standard of uniform and punctuality so far this week. We will be regularly checking uniform and chasing any issues - so to have such a pleasing start in this area has been excellent.

As I write this piece, I am looking forward to meeting groups of parents for the first time at the first of our four evenings of 'Meet the Principal' presentations. I would have done this on my arrival last year, but Covid restrictions prevented me from doing so. We are continually looking to improve lines of communication and although we know that we do not always get this right, hopefully these evenings, the weekly bulletin, the Parents Advisory Council and one of our new initiatives the opportunity for a half termly parent drop in (details coming soon), should help us to ensure that we are communicating effectively.

Hopefully, you will have seen some of the recent press coverage regarding the fabulous achievements of many of our Y13 and Y11 students in their summer examinations. We are really proud of their achievements and look forward to celebrating with them at Achievement Evenings and (re-arranged) Proms.

Here is to a fantastic start to the new school year - may God shine his light on the St. Peter's community!

# CONTACTS

Head of Year 7 - [jpeacock@speters.org.uk](mailto:jpeacock@speters.org.uk)

Head of Year 8 - [gsmith@speters.org.uk](mailto:gsmith@speters.org.uk)

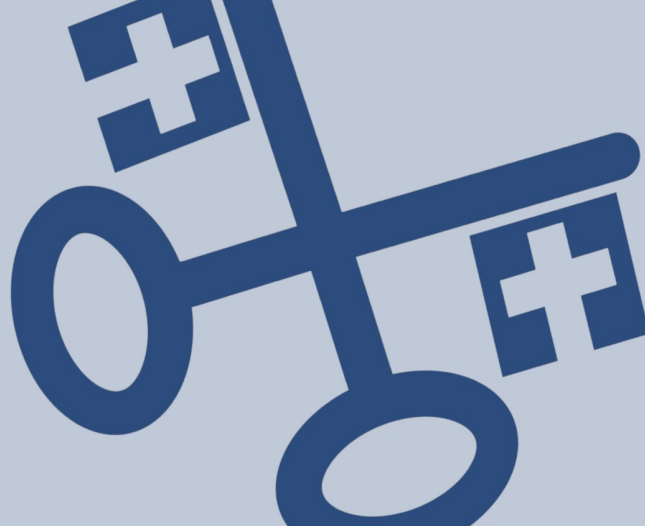
Head of Year 9 - [elord@speters.org.uk](mailto:elord@speters.org.uk)

Head of Year 10 - [ajohnson@speters.org.uk](mailto:ajohnson@speters.org.uk)

Head of Year 11 - [dmaullin@speters.org.uk](mailto:dmaullin@speters.org.uk)

Post 16 - [6thform@speters.org.uk](mailto:6thform@speters.org.uk)

For general enquiries [speters@speters.org.uk](mailto:speters@speters.org.uk)



## A NEW START FOR STAFF AS WELL AS STUDENTS



This week not only signalled a new start for 220 eager Year 7 pupils, but also for a group of new staff to our school and the St Peter's family. We welcome, Mr Mullen-Furness (Vice Principal), Mr Hamilton (Maths), Mr Anderson (Maths & Basketball), Mr Smith (History), Mrs Tanveer (Science), Miss Mawlud (Science), Mr Morris (Psychology), Miss Johns (Senco Assistant), Mrs Johal (Inclusion Support Assistant), Miss Sanghera (Reprographics) and Mrs Fearon (Pastoral Support Assistant).

## MILES FOR REFUGEES

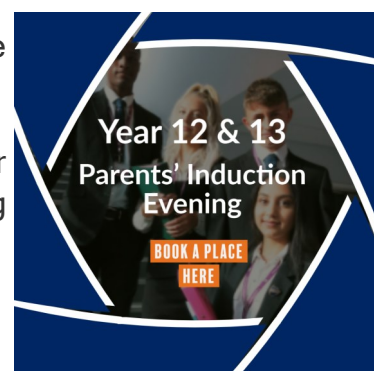
Our very own Miss Lord (head of Year 9) is never one for shying away from a challenge and this one will be no different! "At a time when 1 in every 95 people on earth has fled their home as a result of conflict and persecution, the work of the British Red Cross is increasingly important. This is why she is taking part in Miles for Refugees in support of this fantastic charity. During September she is running 72 miles, the distance from Damascus to Beirut, which is a journey that many refugees are forced to take in order to escape persecution and violence. This is roughly 2.4 miles a day, every day for 30 days. Miss Lord will be completing her challenge by running an additional half marathon at the start of October. Earlier this year she was unable to walk unaided and spent months recovering from illness, and so this will be a big challenge for her. Miss Lord said "I know that, however difficult, it will be worth it knowing that the money raised will help to support the lives of those who need it most".



## YEAR 12 PARENTS' INDUCTION

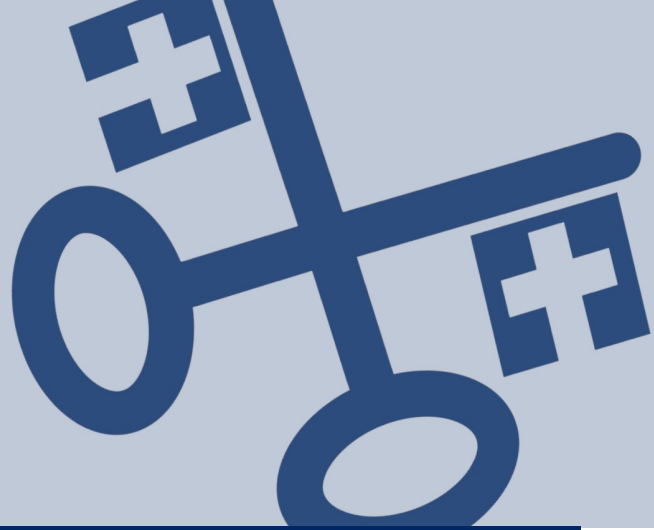
This year the Year 12 induction evening will be held after the Meet the Principal event for Year 12 and 13.

The meet the Principal event will be held on Monday 13th September 2021 at 7 pm, with the year 12 Parents' Induction event running afterwards. To book a place click the advert to the right.



## REMINDERS:

- Our website has a detailed section on the curriculum we offer [click here](#) to read more
- Wednesday 29th September is Open Evening please share date this with your friends and family!



## ENRICHMENT AND ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME STARTS

We are delighted to be able to inform you about St Peter's new Enhancement and Enrichment Programme. A timetable of sessions, for all year groups, has been put together to support students' academic progress and attainment. Education at St Peters, however, is not just about exams and exam results. We have always sought to educate the whole child. The programme we are providing aims to give students opportunities to learn and explore beyond the classroom, developing new friendships across their year groups. We are very conscious that students have missed so much school this year. Our staff are keen to offer enhancement and enrichment activities that students will engage with and enjoy, enabling them to unlock their full potential.

You can find details of the Enhancement and Enrichment Programme on the attached document. Be aware that provision is organised by year group. There are sessions available before school, starting at 08:00, at lunchtime and after school.

We do hope that your son/daughter will be able to enjoy the opportunities on offer and we look forward to seeing them all learning, trying out something new and having fun.

Click Below for the latest Timetable

[Enhancement and Enrichment Programme](#)

## READING WIDELY AND OFTEN

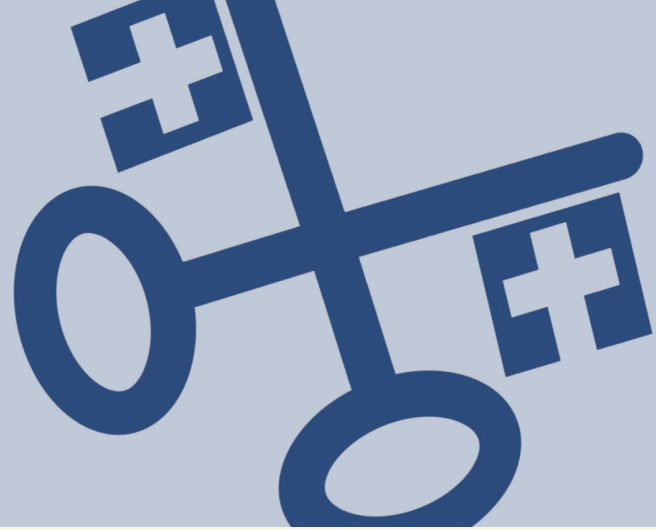
Research shows that reading widely and often is one of the most important factors in determining future academic success. Beyond this, it also plays a pivotal role in widening our young people's understanding of the wider world, developing their sense of empathy and opening their eyes to a range of moral issues and debates. This is why we are on a mission to make St. Peter's an outstanding reading school.

This Year we are offering increased access to accelerated reader a product that puts students in the driver's seat designed to guide and support students in their reading journeys.

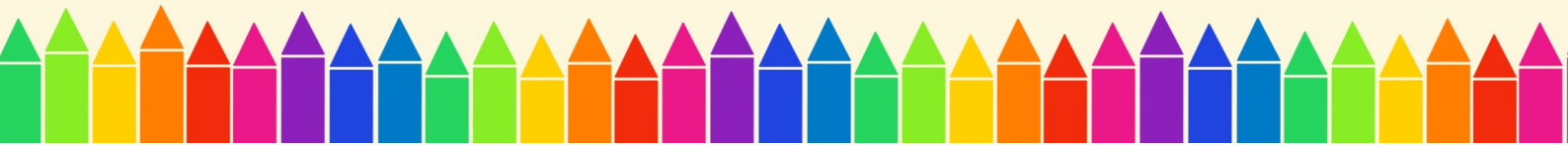
Accelerated Reader is proven to improve students' ability to **read independently** and enthuse a **love of reading** through its use of motivational quizzes, competitions such as 'one million words' and its signposting of appropriate and challenging next reads. All students in Years 7 to 9 are now enrolled in Accelerated Reader and will spend time in English lessons focussing on making **progress** with their reading. Our new library space will also allow students to reading more **widely and often** before and after school as well as at break times and lunch.

## REMINDERS:

- Have you signed up for class charts? Email [speters@speters.org.uk](mailto:speters@speters.org.uk)
- Follow us on social media for updates and news



# HOMEWORK



We believe that homework plays an important part in education and builds vital skills for future success, including in the world of work. We are also aware that pupils have opportunities and experiences outside of school that are equally important in developing and enriching their lives. With this in mind, we would like to share expectations and key information with you. There will be a link to the updated Homework Policy in next week's bulletin.

The table below shows examples of common homework activities. Tasks may be set in addition to or instead of the activities below, and variety of task and content is encouraged in order to cater for a range of learning styles. Homework is set at least twice per half term in each subject.

Time (Approx.)	Year Group	Homework
Up to 30 minutes	7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KS3 – Year 7/8 Department Booklets [paper or online] (multiple homework tasks to be completed over a half term).</li> <li>• Subject specific tasks (e.g. reading topic essential texts, preparation tasks, revision for assessments, completion of class <a href="#">task</a>, Google classroom etc.).</li> </ul>
Up to 30 minutes	8	
Approx. 45 minutes	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KS4 – Year 9 Booklets [paper or online]</li> <li>• Revision guides/workbooks, paper booklets by topic.</li> <li>• Assessment/project/coursework preparation, revision tasks.</li> <li>• End of topic test booklets.</li> <li>• Subject specific tasks (e.g. reading topic essential texts, preparation tasks, revision for assessments, completion of class <a href="#">task</a>, Google classroom etc.).</li> </ul>
Approx. 45 minutes	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revision guides/workbooks, paper booklets by topic.</li> <li>• Assessment/project/coursework preparation, revision tasks.</li> <li>• End of topic test booklets.</li> <li>• Subject specific tasks (e.g. reading topic essential texts, preparation tasks, revision for assessments, completion of class <a href="#">task</a>, Google classroom etc.).</li> </ul>
Approx. 45 minutes	11	
Approx. 2 hours	12/13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subject specific tasks (e.g. reading topic essential texts, preparation tasks, revision for assessments, completion of class <a href="#">task</a>, Google classroom etc.).</li> <li>• Wider research on relevant current affairs (e.g. news, journals, podcasts, individual/small group research tasks etc.)</li> <li>• Any other subject specific requirements.</li> </ul>

READING.

All pupils will be expected to read widely and often in order to support the development of excellent literacy skills, to promote a lifelong love of reading, and to engage with cultural capital in all subject areas.

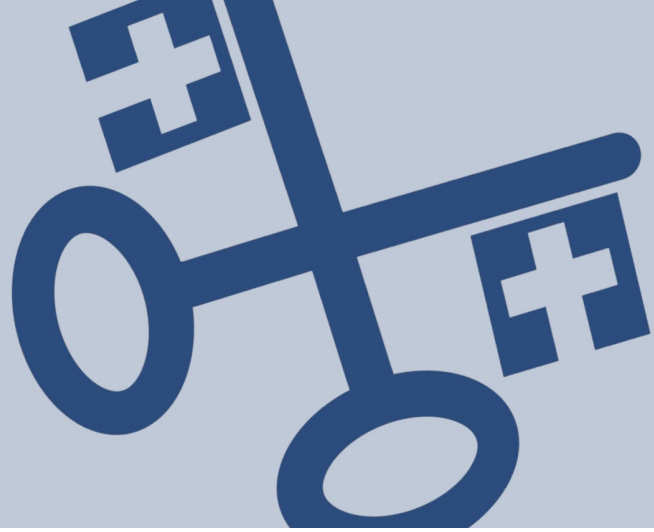
Pupils in Years 7-9 have access to the accelerated reader program.

Departments may set specific reading material, provide a reading list, or allow pupils to choose their own reading materials.



## REMINDERS:

- Meet the Principal event Monday and Tuesday next week, these are pre-booked events only.



As we move increasingly towards online platforms for students' learning outside of lessons, there will be no planners issued this academic year. Instructions and deadlines will be clearly communicated with pupils by their class teacher in one of the following ways: copied into books by pupils, on handouts or booklets, posted on Google Classroom, or set on another online platform as appropriate to the subject. We will be adding some short tutorial videos to the website over the coming week to help you and your child in accessing the most common areas of Google Drive.

In order to support students in developing independent learning and time management skills, we have produced a homework timetable. This indicates on which day pupils should aim to dedicate time to homework tasks in each subject. Homework may not be set on this particular day and depends on each pupils' individual timetable. <https://speters.org.uk/homework-timetable-2021-22/>

If your child is unsure about their homework, they should check on Google classroom and in their exercise book (if used for the subject) in the first instance. Your child's class teachers will be happy to discuss homework if necessary.

Our extensive Enrichment and Enhancement program, including Homework Club for all year groups, offers additional opportunities for your child to reinforce and extend their learning outside of lesson time. We look forward to seeing as many students as possible make the most of these sessions which begin on Monday 13th September.

The full timetable can be found on the school website: <https://speters.org.uk/whats-on-offer/>

### Uniform and uniform donations.

The vast majority of students have started the new academic year looking extremely smart and wearing the correct uniform. A reminder that the list of acceptable uniform can be found on the website: <https://speters.org.uk/school-uniform/>

It may also be the ideal time to donate items of school uniform or PE kit (new style kit only please) that are no longer used, ties in particular, to support other families who may not be in a position to purchase new items at this time. We would welcome donations of washed and bagged uniform items and ask that pupils put them in the boxes provided in the main reception when they arrive at the beginning of the school day (no later than 08:40).

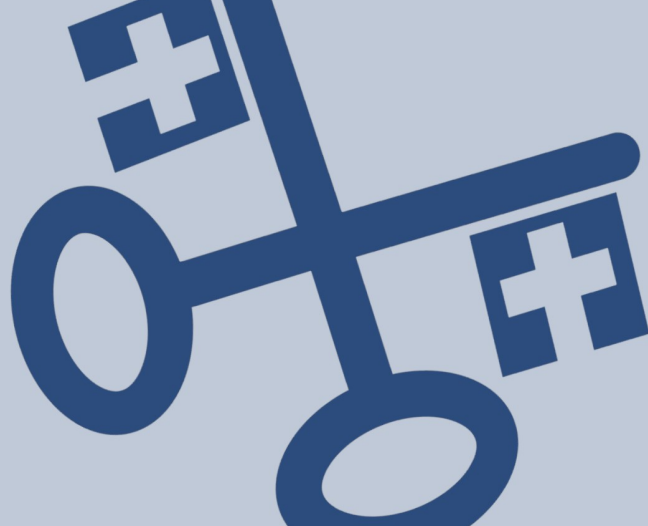
If you require support with a particular item of uniform, please discuss with your child's Head of Year.

### Year 7: a very warm welcome to St Peter's.

A number of our Peer Mentors and Year 13 students volunteered to welcome and support our new Year 7 students this week. They did an outstanding job of meeting and greeting students, reassuring them and helping them to navigate the site during their first day. Peer mentors have also been spending time in form groups and will be developing their support role over the coming weeks. A full introduction to the Peer Mentor program will be included in next week's bulletin.

## REMINDERS:

- School uniform checklist is [here](#)



## CONTINUED

Parents commented that seeing familiar, friendly faces when dropping off their child was extremely reassuring, and felt that these students had played a key role in helping new students to move around the large school site confidently. Year 7 students felt that the peer mentors and 6th form students were easy to talk to, honest, and gave great advice about about new situations such as the canteen system and the timings of the school day.

## SPREAD THE WORD



### St Peter's Collegiate Academy

An 11 - 18 Church of England Academy founded in 1844  
Part of the Three Spires Trust

"Staff encourage pupils to become self-confident and independent learners through developing skills as well as knowledge and understanding."

**Ofsted 2017**



### Open Evening

Wednesday 29th September 2021  
18:00 - 20:00

'In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.'

**Matthew 7:12**

**St Peter's Collegiate Academy**

Compton Road  
Wolverhampton  
WV3 9DU

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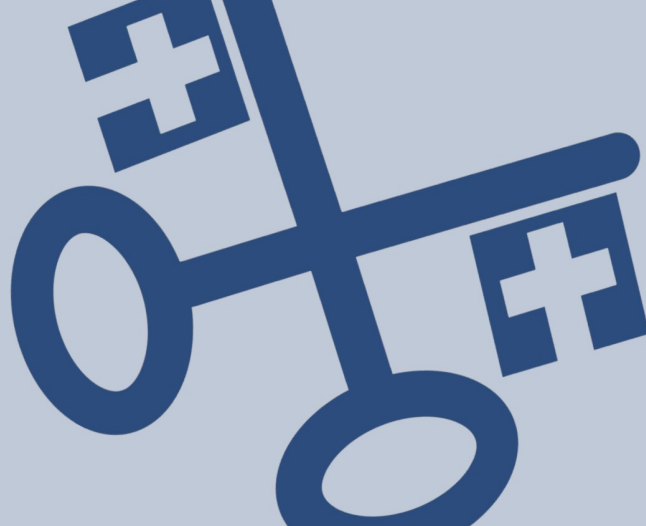
 [twitter.com/SPetersAcademy](https://twitter.com/SPetersAcademy)

 [instagram.com/spetersacademy](https://instagram.com/spetersacademy)



## REMINDERS:

- Our Christian Union meet weekly in the school chapel, if you wish to join them speak to Mr Maggs the school chaplain



## YEAR 7 DEDICATION SERVICE @ ST PETER'S CHURCH

For the first time in nearly two years we had the opportunity to celebrate at St Peter's Church in Wolverhampton. As a Christian community gathering together at St Peter's Church is always something we look forward to. On Thursday afternoon, 220 Year 7 pupils were taken by coach to Wolverhampton, the service was conducted by Rev Preb David Wright and our school Chaplain Joe Maggs. The students enjoyed music played by Mr Peacock and Mrs Lacey. Part of the service saw the students receive their St Peter's crossed keys badge which we ask they wear with pride on their school uniform daily.

