# St Peter's Collegiate Academy Part of the Three Spires Trust

## Parent Bulletin

ISSUE 36 01/10/2021

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

#### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



It was wonderful to see so many families at our Open Evening last night. A mixture of families that were both familiar and new to the school. There was a really positive atmosphere in the school and I for one went home feeling really proud of our students who helped out in all areas. They are an absolute credit to you all.

This week has been 'Cycle to School week' and we have been pleased to see so many students taking up this option. This week we have been pleased to reward them with a gift of free toast at break time as a thank you for their efforts. They have had to show a great deal of

determination on a few days this week, especially on Monday when it rained really heavily.

As you are aware, we have been tightening up on uniform this year. So far we have been very impressed with the students' attire and their commitment to getting this right. We are grateful for your support over the summer holidays ensuring that this would be the case. As the weather turns colder, this is the time of year in schools that hoodies seem to start emerging. Please can I ask for your continued support on this matter. Hoodies are not to be worn in school.

At recent 'Meet the Principal' evenings we discussed uniform and the disparity between the cost of girls and boys uniforms specifically. We are determined to look at this particular concern by working alongside yourselves and the students and would be grateful if you could provide us with your feedback about the cost and suitability of the school uniform. We will be sending a feedback form to parents and carers and can also be found **here**. We will follow this up by talking to students over the next few weeks and then we will make uniform the top agenda on the 1<sup>st</sup> Parents Advisory Group meeting of the year.

The Parents Advisory Group started last year and we had 20 members spread across all year groups. The idea was to meet with a range of parents and discuss pertinent issues about school life. Every meeting also featured a detailed Principal's report. Last year I had to limit the numbers because I knew that the meetings would need to be held virtually and it can be challenging to make sure everyone is able to express their opinions on certain topics whilst conducting a meeting on screen. This year I am hoping to be able to hold the meetings in school, and will be looking to raise the number of members to a manageable 30. I will be writing to parents next week to invite applicants to join the group and would welcome the opportunity to work alongside you (new and old faces are welcome!)

In addition to this group, Mr Mullen-Furness (Vice Principal) will be hosting the first parent/carer drop in session on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October (16:30-18:00), where he will be discussing data and target setting. Details will follow next week.

Next weekend I have committed to running the Shrewsbury Half Marathon. There have been days recently when I questioned why I made that decision, especially as my training has slowed down somewhat since we returned to school, however I am determined to finish. I will be running to raise funds for Shelter, a charity I always try to support. I hope to be able to share positive news, that at the very least I finish unscathed!

"If there's something I can't do but want to, I won't relax until I'm able to do it."

Haruki Murakami, What I Talk About When I Talk About Running

#### CONTACTS

Head of Year 7 - jpeacock@speters.org.uk

Head of Year 8 - gsmith@speters.org.uk

Head of Year 9 - elord@speters.org.uk

Head of Year 10 - ajohnson@speters.org.uk

Head of Year 11 - dmaullin@speters.org.uk

Post 16 - 6thform@speters.org.uk

For general enquiries speters@speters.org.uk



## YEAR 9 Playwright's play to be performed!



During lockdown last year, Mia Bradley (now in Year 9) put her mind to writing a play. She focused her story around a single mom living in temporary accommodation who was trying to navigate life in a pandemic with two young children. Mia entered the play into a competition run by Sudden Productions and was delighted to hear a few weeks later that she had won! Her play will be performed by a professional cast at the Midlands Arts Centre and her drama group have all been gifted free tickets to see it.

Talking about the play, Mia said: "The competition criteria was to write about isolation and straight away I thought about COVID and a family in temporary accommodation. I was inspired to write about this because I had been to university with my mom and had become very interested in politics and social policy."

Well done, Mia! What an amazing achievement!

### CYCLE TO SCHOOL WEEK

This week we have been celebrating National Cycle to School week. Our Eco club, run by Mr Jelic, has been encouraging staff and students to cycle to school this week and hopefully in the future too!

Mr Jelic said: "It's brilliant to see so many staff and students biking to school already, but it would be great to see even more. It not only has a positive impact on our health and mental wellbeing, but it also has a positive effect on our environment too."

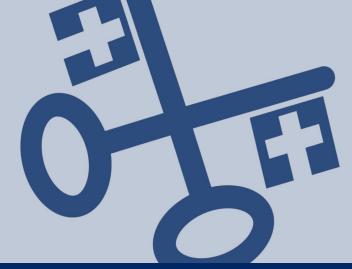
Anyone who biked into school this week was awarded with free toast from the canteen.



Bike to Work & School Week

# ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME INFORMATION HERE

Next week we have tours for Year 6 parents



## MISS LORD RAISES OVER £450



Huge congratulations to our amazing RE teaching and Head of Year, Miss Lord, who has completed her 'Run for Refugees' fundraiser. Miss Lord ran 72 miles in September (roughly 2.4 miles a day). The distance represents the mileage from Damascus to Beirut, which is a journey that many refugees are forced to take in order to escape conflict.

Miss Lord said, "I believe that every refugee matters. That's why I am taking part in Miles for refugees. When terms like 'refugee' and 'asylum seeker' are stripped away, we're left with someone just like you and me. A refugee is someone who has experienced some of the worst things in life and risked everything to reach safety. By raising money, we can help change the lives of refugees in the UK and show that every refugee matters."

Miss Lord has raised £460 so far. Can you help to make it £500 <a href="https://miles.redcross.org.uk/fundraising/Milesforrefugees21-EleanorLord?">https://miles.redcross.org.uk/fundraising/Milesforrefugees21-EleanorLord?</a>
<a href="mailto:fbclid=lwAR1enSnGOo8DdhMgnPhlNn7tCPYw">fbclid=lwAR1enSnGOo8DdhMgnPhlNn7tCPYw</a> z8



# St. Peter's Charity Christmas Card Competition

Can you design our school Christmas Card this year?

Designs should focus on what Christmas means to you and St. Peter's as a faith community.

The winning designs will be made into cards to sell to raise money for The Well Food Bank, Wolverhampton.

Designs can be hand drawn or done on computer and should be given to or emailed to Mrs Crick (<a href="mailto:ccrick@speters.org.uk">ccrick@speters.org.uk</a>) by Friday 15th October 2021.

Winners will receive a £10 book voucher and have their design feature on the cards.

 Our school visions, ethos and values are all on the website here



## **EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES INSPIRES BAKE OFF**

#### What is the European Day of Languages?

The European Year of Languages 2001, jointly organised by the Council of Europe and the European Union, was successful in involving millions of people across 45 participating countries. Its activities celebrated linguistic diversity in Europe and promoted language learning.

At St Peter's our students celebrated European Day of Languages with a huge Bake Off!

Miss Wheatcroft and the MFL department have been helping students to celebrate the European Day of Languages this week.

Year 7's challenge this week has been to make, cook or decorate a cake or meal. Students were encouraged to try something new by trying a European recipe or to try to present their bake using a European theme. Students have shared photos and videos of their bakes on a specially made Google Classroom. We look forward to sharing more photos with you next week.

Next week's challenge will be a T-shirt design competition. Details will be posted on the European Day of Languages Google Classroom.

Well done, Year 7, et bon appétit!

Well done, Year 7!



As I am Romanian, I will introduce you to one of my favourite Romanian foods, SARMALE/PORK MINCE STUFFED CABBAGE ROLLS:



Ingrediente pentru 30 buc Sarmale

1 capatana mare de varza murata, 300 gr
sorici de porc sau afumatura, 1 lingurita
de cimbru uscat, 150 ml bulion, piper

Ingredient for 30 pcs Sarmale
1 large sauerkraut, 300 gr pork skin or
smoked pork, 1 teaspoon dried thyme,
150 ml tomato paste, pepper

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



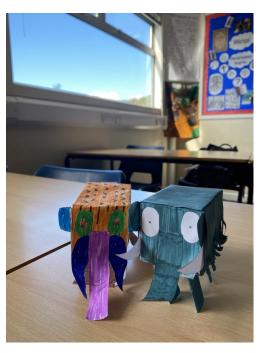
#### HORRIBLE HISTORIES CLUB - TEACHES THE 'SAVAGE STONE AGE

Each week, in Horrible Histories Club, Miss Hammerton and a group of Year 7 and 8 students explore a section of history that students don't normally get to learn during the curriculum but that they are interested in. Horrible Histories Club bases its sessions around each of the Horrible Histories era such as the Gorgeous Georgians or the Savage Stone Age, allowing the students to learn more about their historical interests and learn about more obscure facts from history (did you know that children as young as five would work in Victorian factories - and sometimes their dangerous work would cause them to lose fingers!?).

During each session, students from Year 7 and 8 get to take part in many different activities such as playing Victorian Monopoly, designing their own Woolly Mammoths and completing quizzes to learn whether they would survive each era - while of course watching and singing along to a compilation of Horrible Histories clips and episodes!

Join us each week in F85 so the past is no longer a mystery - welcome to Horrible Histories Club!

"Horrible Histories Club is very fun and enjoyable!" - Year 7 Student







## HORRIBLE HISTORIES COMING SOON

 Students are reminded to take two Lateral Flow Tests per week and record the result on the government and school website



#### MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING EVENT

Today, staff and students celebrated the 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' by raising money for Macmillan. The event was run by our wonderful team of Teaching Assistants, headed up by Mrs Day, with additional support offered from our Chaplain, Joe Maggs and our sixth formers.

To raise money, 6th formers have been selling samosas, staff have been baking cakes to sell to staff and students and there is even a prize for the best cake (judged by Mr Arnold).

So far, we have raised £210 for Cancer Research!





#### DRAW FOR IPAD COMPETITION



During Open Evening this week, we invited Year 6 students to complete a hunt for stickers. The competition which saw students try to visit each department in school to receive a stamp had over 100 entrants.

Mr Arnold picked the winner out on Thursday morning, with the lucky student winning a brand new iPad.

The winner will be invited into school to receive the prize later this term.

 Read more about 'Reading Widely and Often' programme here



### YEAR 13 VISIT EDGBASTON FOR APPRENTICESHIP FAIR

#### Year 13 UK University and Apprenticeship Fair, Edgbaston Stadium Birmingham

On Tuesday 28th September our Y13 students were able to visit the first in person University and Apprenticeship Fair since before the pandemic.

They were able to talk to representatives from a large number of universities, attend seminars, pick up prospectuses, course materials and of course a few freebies on the way.

Students found the trip extremely valuable and commented on the fact there were so many different universities that they were not aware of until seeing them on the day. It has given them plenty of ideas for courses and universities to visit for open days.









## REGISTER HERE

Join the UK universities for their incredibly special online and interactive UK University Search Virtual Fair. The event will feature universities and colleges from across the UK as well as ten live webinars on essential topics such as UCAS personal statements, apprenticeships, and student finance.

Click here to register

 Follow us on social media for updates and news



### **SAMOSA SALE SUCCESS**

Ms Smith, our wonderful SEND and LAC co-ordinator, has been raising money this week for the Elias Mattu Foundation Food Bank by running samosa sales in school and at our Open Evening this week.

Ms Smith said: "I decided to do a samosa sale as part of my 50th birthday fundraiser and chose Elias Mattu Foundation Food Bank because it's local and it's a charity that 'works for the prevention of poverty by helping the underprivileged'. During lockdown, I wanted to help those who were struggling through the pandemic in the best way I could. Food banks in recent times have been struggling to keep up with the demand of those in need of their help."



The total raised so far is just over £140!!

# **COATS FOR KIDS**

We are a FREE service

We are urgently seeking families with children or services working directly with families whom may benefit from our project.

Whether a family have fell on hard times, maybe a parent has been furloughed due to Covid or a family that may be struggling, or escaping domestic violence. Whatever the need, all are welcome to receive a free donated kid's coat/s. No referral or voucher needed. Just get in touch with your details. Anyone can email

<u>coatsforkidswolves@outlook.com</u> or direct message us on our Facebook group Coats for Kids Wolves.

We work to Covid regulations as suggested by Public Health, all coats received are quarantined for at least 72 hours before we can handle them, or give them out. All volunteers wear full PPE when collecting and donating coats.

There is no reason a child should ever be cold.

Email Lizzie or Gillian in Wolverhampton

coatsforkidswolves@outlook.com



 Have you signed up for class charts? Email speters@speters.org.uk



## keeth

## **Kooth Frequently Asked Questions**

A quick introduction for children and young people

We've put this together in the hope that it helps you to to understand the many different ways we can support your mental wellbeing with our free, safe and anonymous service.

To sign up to Kooth, simply visit **kooth.com** today.



Visit kooth.com for more information on the booklet below



#### What is Kooth?

Kooth is a free, safe and anonymous online wellbeing service for children and young people.

Young people using the site are able to access a range of support services including one-to-one counselling sessions, discussing issues with your peers through online discussion boards, reading and contributing to self-help content and recording your feelings via journals and goal trackers. The online nature of Kooth means that you can access help in a way that is most suitable for you, at a time that is convenient for you, 365 days of the year.

#### What's on Kooth?

Kooth.com offers a wide range of therapeutic tools to help young people and support your mental wellbeing.

#### Chat with our team

Our team of accredited counsellors are here to provide safe and effective support to you. Your chat session can be up to 1 hour long and be used to talk about whatever issues are on your mind.

#### Send us a message

We know some of you may prefer to engage in support via messages instead of chat. Our Kooth counsellors are well trained professionals who will assess your needs and provide you with the required support. The support you get through messages varies according to your needs.

#### **Kooth Magazine**

Kooth's online magazine is packed with helpful articles covering everything from mental health issues to more general subjects such as holidays and gaming. Over half the content is contributed by children and young people, all of which is moderated before being published on the site.

#### **Kooth Discussion Boards**

On the discussion boards, you can start a discussion about a topic about anything you're interested in, such as, asking for advice or just having a rant about something on your mind! By starting a new discussion, you can share your thoughts and views, or ask a question to get answers from other young people.

#### Mini Activity Hub

Kooth also offers a mini activity hub with the aim of encouraging children and young people to express their feelings. The activities cover a wide range of mental health topics including good sleep hygiene practices, mindfulness techniques and breathing exercises.

#### Content

 Are you able to see all content on the site?

There are restrictions in place to ensure that when using Kooth, you only see what is age appropriate for you. This also helps us to ensure you find the content that is most useful

Any comments are pre-moderated to ensure that only relevant comments are posted and visible.

#### Can you create content on Kooth?

You can submit content and post on the discussion boards to share your experiences and to support others within the Kooth community.

We also encourage you to give us feedback by sharing your views of how we deliver our service. This will help us to keep improving Kooth.

#### Being a safe and anonymous service

Is Kooth an anonymous service?

We are an anonymous service. It means that neither we nor other users know the identity of any young person on the site. For many young people, this helps them to talk freely about their experiences without having to worry about being judged.

Can you message other young people on Kooth?

The safety of our users on Kooth is really important to us. Therefore, you cannot add friends or directly message other young people on the site in the same way you can on gaming platforms or social media sites. This is because we are an make sure everyone using the site is

#### **Talking to our team**

When can you talk to someone?

The Kooth team are available to chat 7 days a week, 365\* days of the year.

You can access the magazine discussion boards and any other online content whenever you like, from wherever you are.

Our friendly online team are available to chat during the following

From 12 noon until 10pm weekdays. From 6pm until 10pm weekends.

To make sure we can support as many of you as possible, we do have a chat queue. How long you will have to wait in the chat queue depends on how busy the site is so please be patient with us!

You can send a message to the team at any time and it will be responded to during service working hours.

Our counsellors are employed by us and are fully qualified with the BACP or equivalent.

\*We offer a reduced service on bank holidays

#### **Accessing Kooth**

Do you need to be referred

You do not need to be referred to Kooth to access the service. You are invited and welcome to join as long as you fall within the age range that is available to your area.

 Information on our curriculum offer can be found here



