



SAINT PETER AT GOWTS

SAINTPETERS@SCHOOL

19TH JANUARY 2022

“Unlocking the potential in all, empowering a community of Hope”

NOTES FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear All,

I hope that you and all your family are keeping well and safe. We are always hopeful at St. Peter's and the term has started so well with very few covid cases, and a number of fantastic trips and experiences. We are, however, realistic about how quickly Omnicron spreads, so we are remaining very vigilant and we know the path forward will not be easy! Our risk assessment remains similar to before Christmas, we are maintaining a balance between teaching and learning, as well as keeping safety as a top priority. We are working closely with Public Health England, following guidance to provide a proportionate response, tracking cases across the school and then putting in additional safety measures where necessary. Ventilation and wearing face coverings remains key, as well as hand washing and social distancing.

In other news, we are now in full swing with clubs and opportunities for all children. Our school's vision is 'Unlocking the potential in all, empowering a community of hope'. This is really seen in our clubs developing the children's talents and skills. We have seen so many children signing up for clubs this term and embracing new challenges - our Football Club has so many new girl members, this is really inspiring to see! This term also sees our residential visits to PGL and Rand Farm, a wonderful chance for children to build their independence, to experience something new, develop friendships and have fun. Forest Schools has also been established for our EYFS children, the chance to explore and learn skills through play and exploration. Trips to the Cathedral and workshops in school are really bringing the curriculum to life, Family Learning is up and running, such a joy to see after so many restrictions!



As our value is 'self-belief', lots of the children have been exploring the concept of 'growth mindset', trying something new and believing in themselves. As parents, I would encourage you to make 2022 a great year, try something new and encourage your children to develop their self-belief, achieving in whatever they wish to - from football, dancing and swimming to more unusual hobbies....whatever floats your boat!

Wishing you a fantastic term!

Charlotte Hickerton



VALUE THIS TERM - SELF BELIEF

Believing in
Yourself is
the First Secret
to Success!

Please join us in helping your child develop their self-belief and confidence this term. This is a crucial value which will help them to be happy and succeed. Let's hope all pupils develop an understanding of how special, unique and wonderful they really are.

Values in our Community

As part of our values work in school we would like to work with parents and the community to make an impact. Each term we would like to invite some parents/carers and family members to get involved along with your children as a combined force to create a community of hope.

Our current school value is 'self-belief'. We are thinking about things that we find tricky or hard and how important it is to have the self-belief that we can achieve. Often sharing times when we have struggled, worked hard and succeeded gives hope and inspiration to others. Maybe someone in your family has been learning how to cook or garden. Maybe someone worked hard to study and gain new qualifications. There are lots of ways we can show how having self-belief can impact our lives for the better.

If you have an example and are willing to share please email Mrs Billingham at christine.billinghurst@st-peter-gowts.lincs.sch.uk You could send photographs or videos to demonstrate new skills. We can then share these on our school website and you might inspire other families too! Remember it doesn't just have to be children, it can be any adult family member too! We really hope lots of families will get involved to help inspire a community of hope!

Mrs Billingham

TERM STARTS WITH A WOW

The children are enjoying their new topics, which all started with a 'wow' day as we celebrated the start to our new learning and engage the children in their new topics. Our new areas of learning are as follows -

Years 1 and 2 - Why was Lincoln Castle built on a hill?

Years 3 and 4 - Location, location, location! Does it matter where you live?

Years 5 and 6 - What lasting impact did the Ancient Greeks make on the world?

FOREST SCHOOLS EXPERIENCE

It is wonderful to see our school being able to provide a forest schools experience for all year groups, starting with our EYFS children. The Forest School sessions are being led by Nick Exley who runs 'A Little Bit Wilder' Forest School. He is teaching the children about the wildlife, trees and natural environment around them, teaching them how to use the environment including creating fires, problem solving activities, climbing and many other activities in the outdoor environment. These sessions are designed to help build confidence, co-operation, problem solving in a natural outdoor environment and we are really looking forward to our outdoor adventure!

Please look out on Twitter for more information.



PARKING ISSUES ON PENNELL STREET

I am unfortunately having to write to you again about the dangerous and inconsiderate parking around school. I know pick up and drop off times are difficult and very busy due to large amounts of children on our site and the roads around school are very narrow and often packed. However, a small minority of parents are still parking without any thought for our children's safety. Three point turns right outside school are not acceptable and this selfish and inconsiderate driving will not be tolerated.

This week there were a large proportion of parents parked on the double yellow lines, as well as the back of school. This is so dangerous and I was surprised that no-one was hurt with the amount of reversing, 3 point turns and dangerous driving. The Police have been involved and are now regularly attending the school to monitor parking, making sure everyone is safe, with parents parking sensibly and driving with due care and attention.

Unfortunately, there are a small group of parents who repeatedly park on the double yellow lines and on the zigzag lines, not just when it is raining. This is obviously both dangerous and illegal. This parking can pose a safety risk to pupils and parents that do walk and cycle to school, as well as to other road users.

The Highway Code rule 238 states You **MUST NOT** wait or park on yellow lines during the times of operation shown on nearby time plates (or zone entry signs if in a Controlled Parking Zone) - see 'Traffic signs' and 'Road markings'. Double yellow lines indicate a prohibition of waiting at any time even if there are no upright signs. You **MUST NOT** wait or park, or stop to set down and pick up passengers, on school entrance markings (see 'Road markings') when upright signs indicate a prohibition of stopping. I do understand that parents/guardians will sometimes need to drive their children to school, however I would urge where possible to park away from the school and then walk in. Pennell Street is too small for parents to park down. Please could you think of the safety of **ALL** our children and refrain from parking on the zigzag and double yellow lines or across resident's driveways as this is an offence which could also result in a Penalty Charge Notice.

In order to support our families that need to drive, we have set up a new 'Park and Stride' in conjunction with the pub opposite the school - 'The Miller's Arms'. The landlady has kindly given parents permission to use her car park at the times of picking up and dropping off. This will mean that parents can park safely and walk across the road safely using the pedestrian crossing.

Thank you in advance for your support in this important issue and let's hope together we can ensure the safety of the children and be more considerate to our local residents. We now have a solution to the dropping off and picking up difficulty and I urge parents to make sure they use the Park and Stride, rather than break the law and put the safety of our children at risk.

Please do think of ways you may be able to walk to school in order to reduce the traffic, be more healthy and eco-friendly.



PE TIMETABLES

Please find the following timetables for the Spring Term.

Reception - Wednesday and Friday

Year 1 and 2 - Wednesday and Thursday

Years 3 and 4 - Tuesday and Friday

Years 5 and 6 - Monday and Wednesday

Please note, unfortunately Y5 swimming is cancelled for the foreseeable future due to issues with the pool.

PTA UPDATE

We wish to formally give thanks to Emma Richards and acknowledge her great service to the school as PTA Chairperson. In her time at the school, she has raised thousands of pounds for the benefit of our school community. Emma has now stepped down as Chair, and is replaced by Daisy Morgan, previously Vice Chair. The PTA have lots of exciting things planned, including a disco coming up soon, Easter activities and much more. We would also like to thank the PTA for helping to subsidise school trips this term, as well as pay for the school pantomime trip - a wonderful opportunity. If you would like to volunteer or be involved in the PTA please do join us for coffee mornings or make contact with Daisy and her team.



NATIONAL ONLINE SAFETY SCHOOL

We are delighted to announce that we have reached the required standard to become a national online safety school for the third year running. Congratulations to everyone at school for this achievement, and I hope that parents, children and staff continue to make good use of the huge range of resources and courses that are offered on the new platform! A huge well done to Mrs Bradley with her hard work on this. We look forward to our Internet Safety Day in February where we continue to re-inforce these key messages.

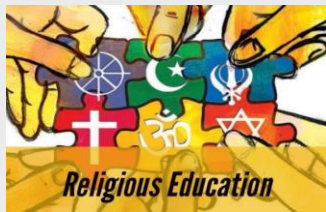


TIMES TABLES COMPETITION

The TT rock star competition starts today! All children from Year 2 to Year 6 are now competing in houses to be the best TT Rockstars that they can be! Please do download the app or play online at home to encourage your child to enjoy learning their times tables! Times tables are crucially important for all children, and they should be confident recalling up to 12 x 12 by the end of Year 4 - a high expectation but it's great fun to learn using TT Rockstars!



CHILDREN SHARING THEIR RE LEARNING



We are starting to share our RE learning with everyone at home! Please look out for any learning that comes home and ask your children all about it. Thank you for taking the time to do this as it will really help the children remember their learning and be a celebration of RE within our school.

BIKEABILITY LEARN TO RIDE

Bikeability Learn to Ride is taking place soon, training takes place in the playground and teaches the children how to ride for the first time.

During the course the children will learn to:

- Prepare themselves and their bicycle for cycling
- Get on and off their bike without help
- Stop with control
- Ride along, without help
- Make the bike go where they want

More information and consent forms will be sent out shortly.

DIARY DATES

20th January - Y5 Family Worship 2.45pm

28th January - Reception & KS1 Lincoln University Drama Performance (in school)

4th February - PTA Coffee Morning 8.45am

7th February - Mayor visit

8th February - Safer Internet Day

9th - 11th February - Y4 PGL Residential

9th - 10th February - Y3 Rand Residential

11th February - End of term

21st February - Children return to school

TERM DATES

Please do take a note of these term dates and remember that every day in school is vital for all children!

Term 3 - Tuesday 4th January 2022 to Friday 11th February 2022

Term 4 - Monday 21st February 2022 to Thursday 31st March 2022

Term 5 - Wednesday 20th April 2022 to Friday 27th May 2022

Term 6 - Monday 6th June 2022 to Friday 22nd July 2022

