



SAINT PETER AT GOWTS

SAINTPETERS@HOME AND @SCHOOL

26TH FEBRUARY 2021

“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. Whilst it does feel that we are closer to the finishing line, we certainly continue to be in challenging circumstances - our first bubble in Year 3 closed today due to a positive case. As always at St. Peter's, we have the wellbeing of our children, staff and families at the forefront of any decision making and we are working with Health Protection UK to ensure that all the necessary actions have been completed. Thank you so much to all the staff and parents who acted so quickly today to ensure everyone's safety. This bubble will be closed until the full reopening of St. Peter's on 8th March.

I know some families have not been allocated a school place which they would have liked for their child. The requests have been overwhelming over half term for critical workers that need to return to work but cannot. This lack of space has been very difficult and my sincere apologies to anyone who has been in this position. We now look forward to the forthcoming changes and the roadmap to recovery.

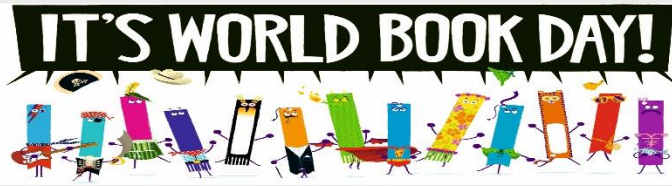
We are absolutely delighted that we can fully reopen to all children on the 8th of March. Please rest assured, we are taking a very cautious approach. The children will have increased hygiene routines, hand washing will be paramount, their contact with others will be limited and every precaution will be taken. Whilst we have enjoyed the challenges and some benefits to home learning, we are looking forward to all the children seeing their friends, their teacher and returning to some sort of normality.

Our time over lockdown has been challenging, but there have been so many successes seen. Some children have thrived at home and we can see they are making phenomenal progress. Some children in school have enjoyed the smaller class sizes and have amazed their teachers with what they have achieved. Everyone has done their best in whatever circumstances they have found themselves in. We have loved the Lockdown family challenges, our family quizzes, Zooms, live teaching, home deliveries and online Collective Worship. Next week promises to be a lot of fun as we look forward to World Book Day, special book deliveries for all children, a reading Kahoot quiz, book character potatoes and a masked reader competition. It honestly sounds like a week of treats!

As we look to the future, the reopening curriculum will focus on the children's mental and physical wellbeing, as well as catchup in every area, not just academically. For example, we hope to take the children on a whole school trip to Skegness when it is deemed safe to make up for all the lost opportunities.

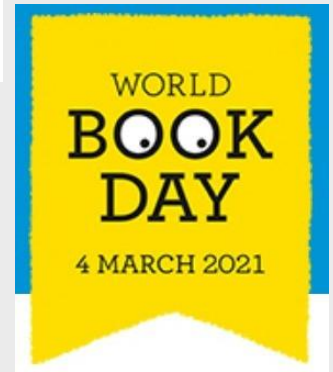
Have a wonderful weekend. Thank you again for your support and understanding as we prepare to start a new phase and ensure the safety and wellbeing of our whole school community.

Charlotte Hickerton



BOOK WEEK

Book Week and World Book Day are fast approaching - it's one of our favourite times of the year at St. Peters! What's not to love about a whole week dedicated to books and reading? We have lots of exciting things planned for this year for children at home and in school. Google Classroom and Tapestry daily timetables will reflect any extra sessions that children are invited to attend, such as author webinars and online story times.



The theme for our Book Week again this year is picture books. Teachers will be carefully selecting a high quality book to base learning on during this week. We will reveal the books chosen for each class at the start of the week. Masked reader every day next week, we will be sharing special videos during Collective Worship time (via Google Classroom) for children to watch and enjoy. These will be stories read by a member of staff but children will not be able to see their faces! In the theme of the masked reader, they can guess who they think might be reading the story or poem before the reveal at the end.

World Book Day

On Thursday 4th March, we are looking forward to seeing children dressed up as popular book and story characters. We will be incorporating catwalks into live lessons that day so all children have a chance to share their outfits. Please also use Facebook and Twitter to share photos with us. Nursery and Reception children in school will also be enjoying a book themed workshop with Debutots linked to some of their favourite stories.

Photo Competition

This year, we would love to continue with our 'extreme reading' photo competition (extreme but safe!). Please do Tweet or Facebook us with your entries of reading in unusual places. We'd also love to see your photos of your favourite books - don't forget to tell us why you love them!

Screen-free Friday Character Potatoes!

On Friday afternoon, all children will be set the challenge to design a potato book character. Children need to use a potato and be as creative as they like to turn it into a book character of their choice. A special goody bag will be sent home to all children at home next week with a potato to complete this challenge and some other exciting book week treats too! More information will be available on the day of the challenge.

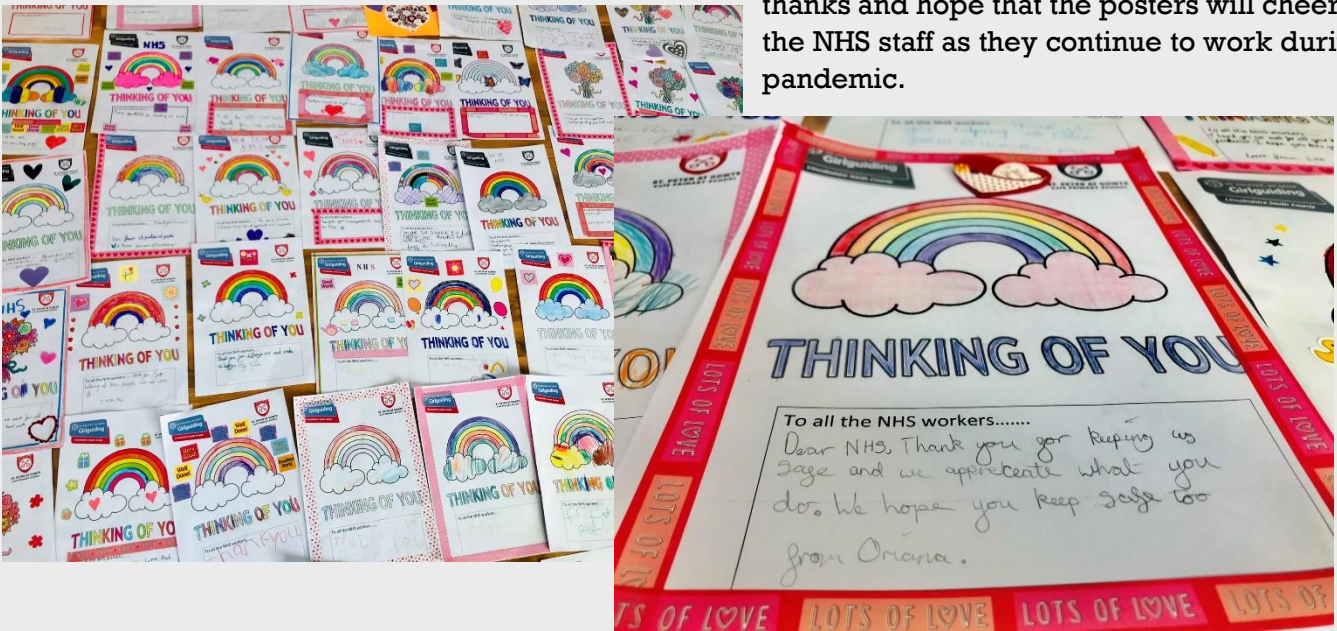


The Big Book Week Quiz

Similar to our special Valentine's Day celebrations, we will finish the week with a special Collective Worship with a Book Week themed quiz. Like before, two devices will be required so Kahoot can be accessed as well as seeing the questions on screen. Zoom login information will be shared nearer to the time. We are all looking forward to a busy and exciting week. Book themed prizes will be awarded for the different competitions and be given out when children return to school in the week beginning 8th March.

SUPPORT FOR OUR NHS

We were very proud to be part of a local initiative to support our NHS. The school made colourful posters to be placed in the Nursing rooms all around the Boston hospitals. We were so proud to receive a letter of thanks and hope that the posters will cheer up all the NHS staff as they continue to work during the pandemic.



FACEBOOK CHALLENGE THIS WEEK

Our Facebook challenge this week is our normal Book Week challenge - reading in extreme places! Can you find a crazy place to read this week? Anywhere in your house, garden or during your exercise? Please make us laugh - funnier the better! Do share your entries on the Facebook site - this will be our very final Facebook Lockdown challenge so take part and you might win the £10 Amazon voucher!

MARKET STALL ON FRIDAYS



We are so lucky that as a school we have managed to form a partnership with some of the local supermarkets so that when they have excess stock, they donate it to our school. This is great news for our school and the families at St. Peter's! The items might be those with a short date or may have damaged packaging, or over ordered. We currently have been donated several items from Lidl.

On Friday mornings from 8.30am - 9am we are holding a market stall with packets, jars, tins and toiletry items available! Any families who would like to take donations please feel free to come on to the playground with a carrier bag from home, wearing a face covering and complying with the 2 metre social distance rule in place are more than welcome. Please be mindful that there may not be a huge amount of items and think of the others. But please do take this opportunity - the items have been donated for our families and they need to be used quickly, so we would love to be able to share these donations with you.



TERM DATES 2021/2022

Term 1 - Monday 6th September 2021 to Thursday 21st October 2021

Term 2 - Monday 1st November 2021 to Friday 17th December 2021

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

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

Term 5 - Tuesday 19th April 2022 to Friday 27th May 2022

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

