



Newsletter 01



Autumn Term Academic Year 2013

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome back! I hope all families enjoyed the exceptionally good summer weather over the school holiday period and that everyone had some special family times. Two days have passed since the children returned and term has started well. Thank you for sending the children to school so smartly in the correct uniform; it is very much appreciated. This week we are establishing routines and procedures. Next week we shall start Home-learning; attached to this newsletter is the school Home-learning policy for 2013. Also the extra clubs and activities will commence.

Lost property. Please check the lost property bin which will be in the play ground this week as there are many unnamed items from last term. By Friday, items that are left will be thrown away.

Library books. Records indicate that approximately 250 school library books went missing last year. There will be an amnesty for their return. This amnesty will last until Friday 20th September. Books should be returned to the Office or to Mr Elliott in the play-ground in the mornings. After that date, a letter will be sent out requesting payment for the lost books so that replacements can be purchased. I hope everyone will have a thorough search for these books as we cannot afford to lose so many. Donations of good quality used books in good condition are always welcomed.

Budleigh Literary Festival 2013 'Words by the Sea'. I have a dozen free tickets to give away for the event - 'Three Poets' - Julie Copus, Kaddy Benyon and Lavinia Green at 5.30pm Saturday 21st September at the Public Hall. This event is not suitable for children under 10years old but there may well be teenagers and young adults who enjoy reading and writing poetry and find this event of great interest. Please see Mr Elliott if you would like tickets.

I would like to remind families of a **few rules** that should help your child.

* **Morning arrangements.** The school gates open at 8.45am when senior staff are on duty. Pupils should be in the playground by 8.50am as registration is at 8.55am. Lessons need to start promptly at 9am. Lateness frequently leads to a rushed start and your child feeling unsettled and upset.

* **Absence from school.** The duty school administrator needs to be informed of any absences of children by **9.15am** on the first day of absence. It is the duty of the Parent/ Carer to inform the school and not for the school to chase attendance. If we are unable to secure contact with you about absence by 9.30am then we shall treat the matter seriously and take advice from the Educational Welfare Service. School telephone number is 443167, email admin@stpeters-budleigh.devon.sch.uk or text 07972136744

* **Additional holidays** should not be taken in term time unless there are exceptional reasons for them to be taken. Parents/ Carers must give me clear reasons why the holidays need to be taken before I can consider authorising requests.

* **Labelling.** All clothing and personal items including lunch boxes should be clearly labelled with a name.

* **Medical information** – Any child who has been sick should be regarded as infectious and kept away from school until vomiting or any diarrhoea has stopped for at least 48 hours i.e. if a child has been sent home from school please keep them home for the next day.

- Can we please remind you that we can only administer medicines prescribed by the doctor and in their original packaging. You will need to fill in a green form from Mrs. Trapnell in the office or Mrs. Wilkinson in Nursery.
- It is essential that pupils with asthma have easy access to their reliever inhalers when they need them. Children in KS2 are expected to manage their own inhalers (clearly labelled) and ensure they are in school at all times (especially school trips and cross-country days). Children in KS1 usually store their inhalers in the Medical Cupboard (Foundation Stage) so a member of staff can help them to use them appropriately. However if you feel your child can manage this themselves please come and discuss this with Mrs. Wilkinson after school or if you have any other medical query.

* **Personal images.** Each year we ask parents to inform us if they do not want their child's image used or for any images to be taken. Parents/ Carers need to read the information carefully on the Devon form before making a decision. Sometimes, Parents regret their decision to exclude their child from group photographs for the newspaper or webpage that celebrate achievement. A considered response should be given. The Devon form for Image Consent can be accessed from <http://www.st-peters-school.org.uk/Parents/Usefull nformation/>. Hard copies can be accessed from the entrance lobby.

School Swimming Lessons (1st Half of the Autumn Term 2012)

School swimming lessons have now started for children in FSU to Year Four. Please can you ensure that your child has their swimming kit in school on the day of their swimming lesson. There is no swimming for children in Y5 and Y6 this term as we have always ensured that the children in upper KS2 cover other aspects of the PE curriculum during the first half of the Autumn Term. The children will have the opportunity to swim again in the Summer Term. We apologise for any confusion.

Measles, Chicken Pox and Shingles

Please may we ask for your co-operation in this matter.

One of our pupils, Astrid Palmer in Year 5 is receiving medical treatment for cancer which puts her at risk if she is exposed to measles, chicken pox or shingles. Please let us know immediately if your child is suspected of having measles. Astrid is also at risk from Chicken Pox and would need to be given an injection within 3 days of contact. If your child is suspected of having chicken pox, you should let us know immediately. It is also important you let us know if there is a case of shingles in your household. The school telephone number is 443167.

Monkey bars: Please ensure that your children do not go on to the monkey bars in the playground in the morning as they are not supervised by school staff. After school children can go on to the bars as it is parent's responsibility

Peripatetic music lessons: Music lessons start next week. Some children have already signed up to begin a new instrument. Please see Mr Perkins or check out the website www.musicdevon.com if you are interested. Hopefully drum tuition will be coming to St Peter's soon.

Keep informed: Remember to check the notice boards each morning, ensure you are signed up to parent mail text service, read the newsletter each week and follow the twitter feed either through our school website www.st-peters-school.org.uk or by following us on twitter @BuddleighStP. If you are a parent that does use twitter please spread the word about how

useful it is for immediate school updates. All key dates appear on the school website as they are added, so check regularly.

Lunch Bunch Cafe News

We are pleased to announce that from Tuesday 17th September we will be serving Porky Down sausages. These are 82% organic sausages locally produced in Exmouth.

We are confident your children will enjoy them as part of our healthy and tasty lunchtime menu. New on the morning break tuck trolley this month are Viva milkshake cartons. These are a healthy alternative to sugary soft drinks with added vitamin D - Available in chocolate or strawberry flavour, 40p per carton. Other items available on the snack trolley are fruit bowls, 30p, cheesy muffins 30p and hot chocolate 30p.

Raised Beds

Due to the beautiful weather we had over the holidays the raised beds outside of the year 1 and 2 classes have flourished. If any keen gardeners are keen to prune the raised beds so they are in a manageable state for the children to work with, please contact Miss Hume.

* Please could all parents/carers make sure that all cheques are made payable to **Devon County Council** and not to St. Peter's School.

Community News

THE FIRST ONE OF THIS YEAR

MESSY CHURCH

IT'S ON THURSDAY


12TH SEPTEMBER

IN THE PETER HALL

BUDLEIGH SALTERTON

Budleigh Salterton Medical Centre Newsletter – for information please click on the attached link [Newsletter](#)

Best wishes
Malcolm Elliott, Headteacher





Rationale

There is a mandatory requirement for maintained primary schools to give Home - learning tasks because:

- It provides opportunity for families to be partners in their child's learning.
- It raises attainment (standards) in children's learning and allows each child to make more progress.
- It promotes the notion that learning takes place in other aspects of life and not just in school and is part of life-long learning.
- It extends, builds and reinforces class learning.
- It promotes the attitude that learning is important and is valued by parents.
- It establishes good learning habits and adds value to school learning tasks.

Purposes

An effective home learning policy will ensure:

- Attainment is raised and pupils are enabled to make individual progress.
- Learners are encouraged to be organised and to take responsibility for their own learning.
- Further opportunities for school and home to work together for the child's benefit.

Guidance to setting Home learning for Staff

- Home learning needs to be strongly linked with relevant class learning.
- Home learning needs to be differentiated for ability, age and stage. Pupils with SEN should have Home learning set that relates to IEPs (individual educational plans) or intervention learning programmes which should be organised by the intervention staff.
- Home learning should be motivational.
- Home learning needs to be communicated explicitly to both child and parent.
- There should be opportunity given for parental and pupil feedback.
- Home learning needs to be managed by the school to give sufficient time for it to be completed so as not to impact negatively on family life and other pursuits that the child follows. (Refer to section - Year group Home learning guidelines).
- Teachers will have a responsibility to plan, organise and mark Home - learning for their class or learning group and give feedback that is in line with the agreed professional standards.

Guidance for Parents

(A booklet will be produced expanding on the points for guidance and given out with the policy at the beginning of each new academic year. A meeting with parents will also be offered in September).

- Parents have a responsibility to handle home learning positively and sensitively.
- Pupils will need support from their families to organise their home learning in order for it to be given time in the family schedule.
- Parents will need to show they value home learning.
- Parents need to provide the school with written/verbal feedback that is tactful and constructive.
- Parents need to adhere to the suggested time limits for home learning completion and not go over the time limit unless the child wants to do more.
- Parents should not attempt home learning when the child is tired, upset and unwell or when the family is under pressure.
- Parents need to keep calm and constructive when helping their child and not be judgemental of the child. Keep comments strictly for the learning. Being positive and good humoured is key to motivation.

Year group Home learning Guidelines

Written work and mathematics to be given out on Wednesdays and returned by Monday mornings ready for marking/ planning of the next.

Reception

- It is **vital** that a book is shared for 5 minutes (approx) on a nightly basis
- Bring in an object - show and tell
- An activity to share

Year One

- Reading practice and sharing books for 10 minutes each night
- Mental Maths game or activity supported by parent or carer (weekly)
- Key words to learn to read and spell weekly

Year Two

- Reading practice and sharing books – 15 minutes
- For the Autumn term an alternative weekly piece of Mathematics / English.
- Mathematics weekly activity 20 minutes from January of the academic year.
- English weekly activity 20 minutes from January of the academic year.
- Spellings – weekly

Year Three

- Reading each night – 15 minutes
- Maths weekly home learning incorporating a mental maths game or activity and some written maths – 25 minutes
- English weekly home learning- 25 minutes
- Spellings – weekly

Year Four

- Reading each night – 20 minutes
- Maths weekly home learning incorporating a mental maths game or activity and some written maths – 30 minutes
- English weekly home learning - 30 minutes
- Spellings – weekly

Year Five

- Sustained, independent, silent reading – daily 25 minutes
- Maths weekly home learning incorporating a mental maths game or activity and some written maths – 35 minutes
- English weekly home learning - 35 minutes
- Spellings – weekly

Year Six

- Sustained, independent, silent reading – daily 30 minutes
- Maths weekly home learning incorporating a mental maths game or activity and some written maths – 40 minutes
- English weekly home learning - 40 minutes
- Spellings – weekly

Monitoring and Review

The Home learning policy and provision will be closely and continually monitored through the following procedures:

- Communication between teacher and parents about homework through explanations and feedback comments
- Discussion at Staff Meetings
- Audits by the Senior Leadership Team
- Feedback at Parent Forum meetings

- Periodical Parent Evening meetings

This policy will be reviewed in line with the schools' policy review schedule. The Headteacher along with the Senior Leadership Team is responsible for reporting to the governors' Teaching and Learning Committee about the quality of its implementation and its impact on standards. In the light of this, policy amendments may be made.

Signed..... Date.....

On receipt of the policy, parents and carers should complete and return the attached form

Name of children in the school.....

Year group of the children.....

I acknowledge that I have received the Home-learning policy and I have read it. I will encourage my child with Home-learning following the guidance in the policy and will give regular written feedback to the teachers informing them of how the Home-learning task was implemented.

Signed by parent or carer.....

Printed name of parent and carer.....