



Walsden St Peter's Newsletter 8th January 2021

Dear parents/carers

We are so sorry that we could not welcome all our children back to school this week. We were disappointed and shocked to hear the news at 8pm on Monday evening – 12 hours before we were due to reopen! All our staff worked incredibly hard on Tuesday to get home learning resources up and running and identify keyworker and vulnerable pupils, some of whom will be in school during the current lockdown. On Wednesday we were ready to reopen and carry on supporting all our children to learn at home or in school. Thank you everyone including all the parents who have sent us kind words and their moral support; we really appreciate it. **It is a very difficult time for all of us at the moment but please, follow the government STAY AT HOME order to protect our community and the NHS and so that we can once again welcome all our pupils back in school.**

School capacity

Further to our letter sent out to all parents yesterday (**see attached**) we can confirm that our keyworker/vulnerable children bubbles are now pretty much at capacity accommodating 55 families and almost 30% of our school pupils. Numbers in each 'bubble' are taken from our risk assessment and staffing levels and cannot be exceeded. We really do appreciate the support we have received from families who are using school as little as possible, but as reiterated in the letter from the Director of Children's Services at CMBC (**see attached**) please only request a place if it is absolutely essential and your child cannot be safely looked after at home. If you have been allocated a place that you no longer need please get in touch and we may be able to offer support to other families. **The safest place for our children is at home or being cared for in a childcare bubble. In school children will mix with another 40-50 children and up to 15 staff. This will increase their risk and your families risk of catching Coronavirus.**

Blended learning/Google Meet

Well done to everyone who has accessed their home learning this week and managed to make the Google Meets; this is new to us all (teachers included) so we are all learning together! Home learning will be sent home weekly with most teachers also setting daily Google Meets. We are aware that home learning/Google Meets might need to fit around parents work and other children and that technology may let you down (and us!) so please do not worry – we understand that everyone is doing their very best in difficult circumstances.

Email/phone numbers

Please can we ask that you make sure you let us know if your contact details change, especially mobile numbers and emails as this is an important line of communication between school and parents, especially during lockdown.

Lockdown photos

We welcome your home learning and lockdown photos and will try and get these on the school website and newsletter as we did in the previous lockdown.

Take care and stay safe

Esther Logue and Emma Crowther

