18 October 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

The first half term of the school year has flown by. The days are getting shorter and the mornings darker and colder. Next week is half term and a good chance for us all to recharge our batteries. As always, autumn is the time when coughs, colds and tummy bugs start to re-appear. Please remember that if your child has a cough or cold, as long as they are not requiring temperature reducing medicine, and are not feeling unwell, they are fine to come to school. Coughs and colds are unfortunately part of school life. Tummy bugs however, require a 48 hour quarantine away from school after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea. This may seem extreme, but it is the advice given by the Department of Health. As you can imagine, these kinds of bug spread like wildfire and upset tummies are definitely best dealt with at home.

Now that the weather is getting colder and wetter, there seem to be more cars on the roads around the school. Many of these cars belong to St Peter’s parents and despite many polite requests for considerate parking, a minority of parents still think that double yellow lines don’t apply to them; zigzag lines need not apply either; and that it is ok when turning cards around to drive up pavements that our children are walking on. Will it take a child to be killed or seriously injured before such inconsiderate and selfish drivers take notice? We deal with several complaints a week from local residents who are fed up with parents parking half over drives or on pavements. Try parking further away and walking - it’s good for you and your child. Whilst punctuality is important, safety is even more so!

This month has been really busy. 12 children from each year group represented St Peter’s at Croydon’s Cross Country competition and did brilliantly. Both staff and accompanying adults commented on the exemplary behaviour of our children and also the support they offered each other.

This week 5 children from Year 6 were fortunate enough to attend Croydon’s Youth Congress. This was a chance for them to discuss some of the current issues in Croydon. The 5 children behaved so sensibly and with great maturity and were a real credit to our school.

On behalf of Purley Food Hub, thank you so much for all the donations made to our Harvest Festival. The food has been collected and will be redistributed to families in need living locally.

Tollo Academy are running a Multisports Camp at St Peter’s over the half term. This camp is exclusively for St Peter’s pupils and is from Y2-6. Do keep an eye out for the banners situated by both of the school gates as they give information about other camps planned if you are unable to attend the October one.

The SPSA are still selling tickets for their Magic Shows on 5th and 8th November. They are also selling tickets for the Park Hill fireworks. Tickets for both of these events can be paid for on ParentPay and will raise valuable funds for our school.

The SPSA AGM is on Tuesday 30th October - do come along and find out more about what they do and meet the committee.

We are excited to announce that our new ICT suite should be ready to open after half term. This has been paid for using funds raised by the SPSA and will allow a whole class of children to work individually at a computer. Both staff and children are very excited about this new addition to our school.
Parents’ Evenings are taking place in November and the booking system is live. Please do make the effort to meet your child’s teacher to discuss progress and ways forward. If you are having difficulty using the system, our office staff will be pleased to assist, however do bear in mind their busy periods are first thing in the morning and straight after school.

We return to school on Monday 29th October after half term. Don’t forget to check the school diary for dates of upcoming events and enjoy a well earned rest.

Happy holidays!

Caroline Barriball & Samantha Sandle
Acting Co-Heads of School