

# SS Peter & Paul Catholic Primary School



*We live and learn in the light of Christ!*

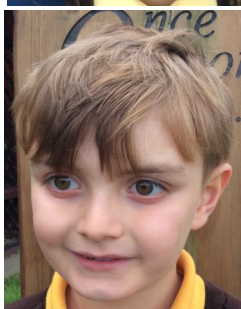
Weekly Newsletter to Parents  
Friday 23rd June 2017

**Week 35**

This week we pray for these special people!



Aimee  
Freya  
Joseph  
Dempsey  
Julian  
Tommy-Lee  
Elin



## Contact Details

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B24 9ND  
0121 675 6028

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## TERM DATES

Term	Summer 2017	Autumn 2017	Spring 2018
New Term Begins	Monday 24th April	Monday 4th Sept	Monday 8th January
1st Half-Term Ends	Friday 26th May	Friday 20th October	Friday 16th February
2nd Half-Term Begins	Monday 5th June	Monday 30th October	Monday 26th February
Term Ends	Monday 24th July	Friday 22nd Dec	Thurs 29th March

## Dear Parents, Staff and Children,

What a scorching hot week it has been! We have done our best to keep the children cool and provide shaded areas outside so that they are not in the direct sunlight for the whole of play and dinner. Please keep applying the sun screen, providing the sun hats and don't forget the water bottle. Thank you for your support.

Year 5 Mass yesterday was dedicated to prayer for those who have chosen a life of religious vocation. The children have been learning about vocations of all types, including religious ones, and thinking carefully about God's plan for them in the future. My thanks go to Mrs Pawley and Mrs Panjanaden for their hard work and preparation. Next Thursday is our school feast day; the feast of SS Peter & Paul. The Mass will be led by Year 6, we will be providing a little treat for the children to celebrate afterwards.

Plans for the Summer fair are taking shape now. We have decided on a start time of 5.30 pm so I hope you can make plans to ensure you will be there. All of the children will be heavily involved this year so I look forward to seeing you all there. Thank you to the SPFA for their hard work. If you can help, let them (or me) know.

I have sent out a letter about this years Sports Afternoon. Please read it and send the reply slip back straight away so that I can finalise the date and let parents know as soon as possible. Your feedback is important as always.

I am really looking forward to our first Spanish Day on Monday. Remember to dress in the colours of the flag of any Spanish speaking country. No football kits please, there are plenty of colours to choose from so you shouldn't be stuck for clothing.

I have attached the minutes of the parent consultation meeting for you all to read.

**God Bless.**



Neil Porter –  
Head Teacher

## SCHOOL FUND DONATIONS

(including standing orders)

Week 35

Reception	£8.87
Year 1	£16.00
Year 2	£27.25
Year 3	£17.30
Year 4	£16.00
Year 5	£20.37
Year 6	£7.81
<b>Total</b>	<b>£113.60</b>

School Fund can be paid weekly, monthly or termly. The suggested amount is **£1.00** per week. Thank you to all those parents who pay regularly in cash or by standing order. Thank you all for your support.

## School Mobile Phone

Please use for urgent contact out of office hours (3.30 pm - 8.00 am):



**07885 235 496**

## NEWS

**We wish to keep you informed about school issues so please read the following information carefully.**

- **Sports Afternoon**—Our annual Sports Afternoon where the children compete against each other in races and challenges is coming soon. There will be a Mum's, Dad's and toddlers race as always, it will be a fun afternoon for all. Infants will be at Spring Lane from 1.15 until 2.00 pm and Juniors will be from 2.00 until 3.15 pm. Hope to see you there! Date to be confirmed.
- **Staff for September 2017**—Parents are always keen to know which teacher their child will be having next year so here they are:
  - \* Reception - Miss Hanrahan & Mrs Ruffle
  - \* Year 1 - Miss Stansbie & Mrs Dilks
  - \* Year 2 - Miss Ghanbari & Mrs Smith
  - \* Year 3 - Mrs Pawley & Mrs Panjanaden
  - \* Year 4 - Mrs Basra & Mrs Lines
  - \* Year 5 - Mrs Wright & Mrs Manion
  - \* Year 6 - Mrs Seager, Mrs Oakley & Miss Gilliver
- **The Big Sleuth**—Our 'Spirit of Light' Bear will be on display in Birmingham City Centre at Millennium Point from 28th June until 17th September.
- **Year 6 PGL Residential**—Our annual weekend residential is planned for the end of June but there are still a number of parents who still need to send in the rest of the balance. Please make the payment asap. Thank you.
- **Academy Update**—Just to let you let you know, work continues behind the scenes to enable SS Peter & Paul's move towards becoming an academy in line with the instruction from the Arch Diocese of Birmingham. I will be holding information meetings for parents and let you have more as soon as I have the necessary details.
- **SPFA Summer Fair Non-Uniform Days**—We're having another non-uniform day to help prepare for this years Summer Fair on Friday 7th July where your donation of a 'bottle' of alcohol will help stock the ever popular bottle stall. Your support is greatly appreciated as always. Thank you.
- **SENCO**—Mrs Calvert-Lyons next drop in session between 9.30 to 10.00 am will be Friday 7th July. Please phone the school office or e-mail:- [senco@ssptrpl.bham.sch.uk](mailto:senco@ssptrpl.bham.sch.uk), to book a session.
- **Affordable School Uniform**—07392370662 or [asu2012@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:asu2012@hotmail.co.uk)
- **Guitar Celebration Assembly**—The children in Year 4 & 5 who have been learning to play the guitar with Mr James from Birmingham Music Service on Thursday's this year will be displaying their talents in an assembly for their parents on Thursday 13th July @ 2.45 pm.
- **Year 4 Football Team**—Well done to Kamarni Gerroni, Aidan McElwaine, James Hughes, Cian Lane, Wiktor Krzeminski & Jake Duke who represented the school this week getting to the semi-finals! The future is looking bright!
- **Year 6 End of School Activities**—As we move toward the end of the year there are some special events planned for Year 6 and their families so here are some dates for your diary...
  - \* Friday 30th June - Residential to Boreatton Park PGL
  - \* Wednesday 5th July - Transition day to Secondary School
  - \* Friday 7th July - Family Leaving Do @ 7.00 pm
  - \* Tuesday 18th July - End of Year Production @ 6.30 pm
  - \* Sunday 23rd July - Leavers Mass @ 10.30 am



### SS Peter & Paul School Mass Times

Thursday 29th June 2017 @ 9.15 am  
Whole School Children & Families  
Feast of SS Peter & Paul - Led by Year 6



The details of our next school Mass will be in this newsletter each week. All parents, family members & Parish are invited to come and join our Mass celebration so please pop in if you have time to spare. See you soon.

## IMPORTANT DIARY DATES

Spanish Day  
Monday 26th June 2017

Y2 Sacrament of Reconciliation  
Tuesday 27th June 2017 @ 6.00 pm

Y1 & Y3 Twycross Zoo Trip  
Wednesday 28th June 2017

SS Peter & Paul Feast Day Mass - Y6  
Thursday 29th June 2017 @ 9.15 am

Y6 PGL Residential  
Friday 30th June to Monday 3rd July

Y5 'Spirit & Sport' @ St. Ed Campion  
Tuesday 4th July 2017

Transition Day (Y6 to Secondary)  
Wednesday 5th July 2017

Non-Uniform Day - Bottles  
Friday 7th July 2017

Y4 & Y5 Electives Guitar Assembly  
Thursday 13th July 2017 @ 2.45 pm

School Reports out to Parents  
Thursday 13th July 2017

Y4 Class Trip to Conkers  
Friday 14th July 2017

Summer Fair 14/07/2017 @ 5.30 pm

## TRAINING DAYS

- Plus one other to be arranged

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

### **Monday** (3.15—4.15 pm)

- Y3 & 4 Football Club

-

### **Tuesday** (3.15 - 4.15 pm)

- Rec Multi-Skills

-

### **Wednesday** (3.15 - 4.15 pm)

- Y6 Multi-Skills

-

### **Thursday** (3.15 - 4.15 pm)

- Y1 Multi-Skills

- Y5 & 6 Football Club

### **Friday** (3.15 - 4.15 pm)

- Irish Dancing Club (3.15 - 4.30 pm)

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## THIS WEEK IN SCHOOL— Hot, hot, hot!!!



Staying cool and finding shade has been hard this week but the children have coped really well and continued to learn effectively.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Copies of the newsletter with a larger font are available in the School Reception for people with visual needs and on the school website.

[www.ssptrpl.bham.sch.uk](http://www.ssptrpl.bham.sch.uk)

**Punctuality** – School starts at 8.55 am and closes at 3.15 pm each day.

Punctuality is important to ensure a good school day for children and staff.

**Security** – Once children have been dropped off at school, they must not under any circumstances leave the school premises.

**Pupil absence** – If your child is absent from school please remember to **phone school before 9.30 am.** & send a note in when your child returns.

**Uniform** – Please ensure that **ALL** school uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name.

**Dinner money** – *This has increased from 24th April and is now £2.25 per day (£11.25 per week).* Please make cheques payable to 'City of Birmingham School Meals'. Please send dinner money on a Monday in a **SEPARATE** envelope to all other monies.

**School Dinners** – If your child changes their meal pattern from School dinners to packed lunch or swap from pizza day to packed lunch we must insist

## Thought for our Diocesan Virtues Summer 2 - Faith-Filled & Hopeful

Our pupils are taught that it is important to have **faith** in your own emotions and judgements and once we have faith we have **hope** in ourselves and those around us with decisions which will shape our future.  
We live and learn in the light of Christ.

## Riddle of the Week!!!

Q: Which eight-letter word still remains a word after removing each letter from it?

(See Mr Porter with your answer to check if you're right!)

**Last weeks answer was:**  
... silence.

## Prayer of the Week!!!

### Prayer for the Sacred Heart of Jesus

June is the month of the Sacred Heart.

"Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,  
I place all my trust in you."  
Amen.



(A prayer to say together with your family)

## Parish Events

### SS Peter & Paul Weekend Masses

Saturday @ 5.15 pm.

Sunday @ 9 am & 10.30 am.

### Parish Cultural Evening

Saturday 24th June @ 6 pm (after 5.15 pm Mass)

### Parish Charity Golf Day

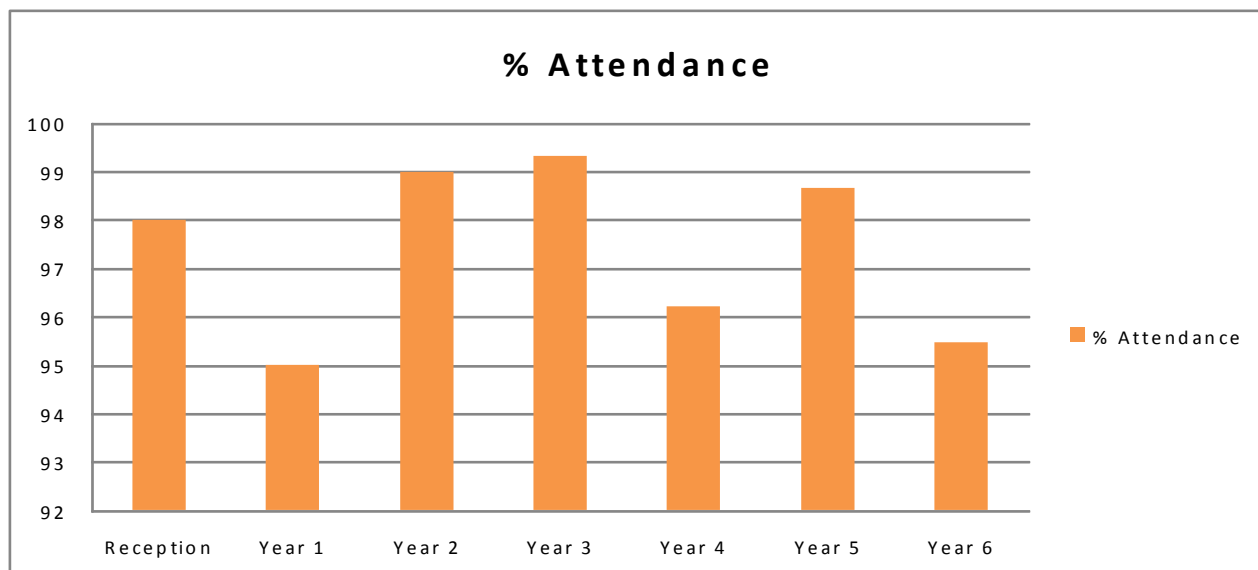
Thursday 20th July (£40.00 per person)

### Summer Buffet & Barbeque

Sunday 23rd July @ 11.30 am (after 10.30 am Mass)

As a School and Parish community we should be supporting these events to make SS Peter & Paul a lively and thriving Parish, full of joy and community spirit.

## Pupil Attendance for the week of 12th June to 15th June is %



**Congratulations to Class 3 well done for their excellent attendance!**

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**We wish the following children a very Happy Birthday:-**

**Joseph Bennett, Bethany Mallinder, Tommy lee Gaskin, Savannah Miller, Michael Owen.**



### 'STAR OF THE WEEK'

**Congratulations to these children awarded Star of the Week:-**

- Reception — Jacob Parkes
- Year 1 — Dominic Pluta
- Year 2 — Rozalia Zakrzewska
- Year 3 — Tara Cunnane
- Year 4 — Angelika Jackiewicz
- Year 5 — Ava Salmon
- Year 6 — Owen Hill



### House Points

Saint Peter	58
Saint Paul	52
Our Lady	89
Saint Joseph	37



Well done to Our Lady our winners.  
Congratulations!!!

## Stay Safe Online

E-Safety is very important! Do you know what your child is watching or doing on the internet?

### Top Tips for staying safe online

10. You can report anyone who is being abusive to you online or via social media by contacting the police on [www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/](http://www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/)

## Spanish Word of the Week

"Dia Español"

means... Spanish Day.



### Leading Light Club

#### Contact Details

07885 235 488  
07885 235 491



Thank you for taking time  
to read our Newsletter.

# Proposed changes to the school day for September 2017

## Open Meeting for Parents Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June @ 6.30 pm

### Minutes of Meeting

NP welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending. NP explained the format of the meeting, the reasons behind calling the meeting and that he was open to any advice, suggestions or ideas to help improve the situation either with or without making changes to the school day. This is supposed to be an open process and I'd rather know what peoples true feelings are and the difficulties this will make so that I'm as fully informed as possible going forward.

It has been well publicised in the media that the government is making massive cuts to school budgets across the country, we are not the only ones affected but I need to start thinking of ways to save money. Our school budget is very tight for next year, pretty much breaking even to the penny, maybe even a slight deficit. The only reason we are going to be breaking even is because we're losing 3 part-time members of staff (AB, JK & SU), plus 2 members of staff are reducing their contracted hours of employment (AL & CO). We have made savings this year already as EC-L & NP have been doing some PPA cover for teachers and TA's have been doing short-term cover for staff illness or absence. The problem is there is no contingency money to pay for any long-term illnesses or maternities that may occur next year which would/could send us deep into a deficit budget.

We have been looking at ways of reducing expenditure. PPA cover costs were an obvious one to start with.

**A parent asked: What PPA was and why it costs money?** I explained that teachers are legally entitled to 10% release time to help with their Planning Preparation and Assessment for the children in their class. It costs money because I have to pay someone to teach those children while their teacher isn't with them. This year that has meant paying for a sports company to deliver PE sessions and a music teacher to teach music for 3 afternoons a week.

The next area we could look to make savings is by losing additional/extra support services like; our family support worker, educational psychology service, after school clubs, life education service, gifted and talented workshops, fit4schools, etc,... these are things we pay for because we feel they're important for our children but they would have to go.

Following that, we would have to look at losing essential support services like dinner ladies, office staff and/or teaching assistants. All of these have essential roles which, if removed, would have a massive impact on the workload of the teachers and the children's learning. The knock on effect would mean that roles carried out by these staff; boosting children who are struggling, small group interventions, targeted support for SEN children, hearing children read, spending time talking to vulnerable children who need support, etc,... would fall onto the teachers workload or just not get done! My aim is to ensure all of the existing staff stay in post to ensure the school can continue to function at its current level of effectiveness.

NP explained that teachers and TA's are given PPA time together as they are a partnership who work together to get ready for future learning. Plus the TA's need to know what is going on for the times they are taking small groups or covering the class for a short while when the teacher isn't there.

To try and allay some general concerns NP explained that the timetable will be restructured to off-set any loss of learning time. It will take a big change of mind-set for staff, parents and pupils as we step away from our traditional 4 lessons a day model. There would be no loss in quality of education as the PE and Music would be taught by the class teachers and any professional development would be provided. We would alter our use of Sports Premium money to incorporate team teaching of PE and learning from a subject specialist through the Kingsbury Sports Partnership which we already buy into so not costing anything extra. The creative subjects would continue to be taught as part of the working week in school. Swimming would be moved to a different day and we may look at the way the children are selected to go swimming as not all children need to go if they can already swim to a certain standard. So we wouldn't lose out on anything time wise, curriculum wise and content wise.

**A parent then asked: What does the timetable look like now and could we see a comparison of what the new timetable will look like?** I explained I would put together a comparative timetable as an example. A good idea.

NP then explained the benefits to behaviour as most of the issues we deal with are during the times when the class teacher is not with the children during PPA. Behaviour would improve as the children would consistently have their class teacher or TA throughout the whole week. After school clubs would still go ahead but they would have to be paid for by the parents. Irish dancing could still go ahead on a Friday; I would just investigate whether the time could be brought forward.

NP explained that he understood the downside to this proposal is the impact on parents with regards to childcare and the additional financial costs involved. To try and off-set this, I can offer childcare from 2 pm at a minimal cost (if any) to any parent who cannot pick their child up at the new end of school day time. I am looking to use Leading Light Club staff, plus I have a few ideas for use of the school hall and playground to provide additional play based care until the existing pick up time of 3.15 pm. I would need to assess numbers that would be affected by this if or when the decision has been finalised.

I do understand people's concerns but I have to try and do what is best for the children, staff and school as a whole so that everyone gets the best possible education at this school now and for many years to come. I have to take a long term view and try and see a bigger picture including the future of the school, not just the here and now.

I am actively looking for alternatives; this is not a 'done deal' by any stretch of the imagination which is why it has gone out to parents for consultation. I am looking for additional funding opportunities to increase the budget and alternative methods of covering PPA without the need to make these changes. I am aware that lots of other schools are investigating this as a possibility – Pupil and School Support advised me on this and the process.

NP then asked for any comments, thoughts and suggestions on anything they've heard or anything they are unsure about.

**Parents said:** Is there a possibility of opening the school earlier in the morning then childcare costs could be off-set or even reduced for parents. Would it be more productive and conducive to learning as the children will be fresher earlier in the morning? NP said this is something he'd thought about but that would require further consultation as some families would struggle to get to school earlier.

**Parents said:** The biggest impact will be financial, especially for those with more than one child. Having to find and then pay for additional childcare will be significantly more expensive over time! NP agreed that this is the biggest challenge and he was doing everything he could to ensure the cost (if any) would be minimal.

**Parent said:** What about celebration assembly? NP said that the idea is to move celebration assembly to the afternoon 1.15 – 1.45 pm but understood that this may be difficult for some parents to attend. I will look at ways of improving communication so parents know exactly what award their child is getting so they can then assess the need to attend or not.

**Parent said:** Have you thought about informing your prospective parents starting in Reception Class in September 2017? NP said it was going to an item on the agenda for the new parents' induction meeting next week. I will keep them as informed as I can of any changes and decisions made.

**Parent said:** What about the crossing lady? Can she work at 2 pm instead of 3.15 pm to help families? NP said that was something he hadn't considered but would look into it. Thank you for bringing it to my attention.

**Parent said:** I am concerned about the impact of the foundation subjects, the more creative ones as we would be losing 1 ¼ hours learning time, plus any loss in quality and expertise by subjects being taught by non-specialist teachers. NP assured that all creative/foundation subjects would continue to be taught and any subject specialism I can tap into, I would look to get involved with. Any CPD (Continual Professional Development) opportunities would be encouraged and undertaken. Parent suggested links with local secondary schools and any universities. NP agreed these were good avenues to investigate and would follow them up.

**Parent expressed** concern at the possible additional cost to after school clubs and the fact that it will become a case that those who can afford it will benefit and those who can't, won't. I hadn't taken this into consideration but promise that all children would still have the same opportunities to participate as we have Pupil Premium funding available to pay for those who can't pay for it. However, there is a difference between can't and won't pay.

**Parent said:** Have you spoken to any other schools that have done this to find out the impact and response? NP: I have spoken to one head of a local school who are doing this from September 2017 and all of their feedback from parents is hugely positive as they get to go away for weekends earlier and avoid traffic, book appointments for doctors and dentists, start the weekend earlier, etc,... But I know that there is another school who have been doing this for years, I know the head and will phone her to see what the impact and feedback has been like.

**Parent suggestion:** To help solve the childcare issue could you not have a cinema club in the hall where some parents or staff could volunteer to supervise the children from 2 – 3.15 pm? NP said that was a good suggestion and he was looking at alternative ways of supervising those that can't be collected.

**Parent asked:** What is the likelihood of me changing things again in the near future should more budget cuts come in? What is the longevity of this decision? NP said that this plan would be in place for the foreseeable future as it would save school £18,000+ each year so there should be no need to make any further changes. The budget cuts are scheduled until 2020 so my plan is to keep any changes the same until the budget levels out. If the budget cuts are reversed then I would look to reverse the changes and get things back to how they were.

NP explained that the consultation process would continue until Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June and then the responses would be collated, reviewed and then brought to governors for a meeting where a final decision would be reached so we can inform the parents as soon as possible.

The meeting was closed at **7.45 pm**.