



**PARK STREET
CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Spring Term

Week 5

5th February 2021

NEWS

**THE CHURCH
SCHOOLS OF
CAMBRIDGE**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Firstly, thank you so much for all your very helpful responses to the Parent Questionnaire. Your positive comments have really helped staff well-being at this difficult time. Everybody is working extremely hard, and it is wonderful to know that this is seen by you as worthwhile. Where difficulties have been highlighted, we have tried to address these where we are able. I know that uploading work is still proving to be tricky for some of you—I don't think there is an easy answer to this—because we are all using different technology, some systems work with some and not with others. As a last resort, if you send work in to school or deposit it with me at the gate at 9am or 3pm, I will make sure it gets to the teachers. We know that feedback is motivating for children so try to keep this up as much as possible. I have really enjoyed looking at some of the work this week, particularly the submissions on Tapestry!

The teachers are also improving the clarity of their 'Learning Journeys', so that the children understand how every lesson fits in with their progression of learning. Please ask your children to share these with you, as it will help them to understand how they are making progress, and what they will be learning next. We try to use a 'Language of Learning' with them, talking about what they are learning through their activities, rather than what they are doing. This helps them to understand the point of every lesson! It will really help if you can carry this on when working with your children at home.

We had a Local Authority Improvement meeting last week, and I was delighted to show the team some of the marvelous work the children have completed at home and in school over this period. I am happy to say that they were very impressed with the high standards being achieved in such challenging circumstances, so thank you so much again for all your very supportive work with your children at home!

Best wishes,

Sarah

Covid -19 positive test results

IF your child is in school, and needs to take a Covid-19 test next week, please could you make sure that you book to go to a testing station, rather than using a postal test. Should the test be positive, we would have to inform close contacts, and this might mean self – isolation starting on the first weekend of the half-term holiday. It is useful to know as soon as possible, if this needs to take place.

Arbor

We are in the process of changing our data and communications system from SIMS to Arbor, which is a web-based platform. This will mean that our communication and payment methods will be changing after half-term. There will be plenty of information about this nearer the time. If you are interested, you can read about Arbor on their website:

<https://arbor-education.com/>

The main difference for parents will be that you will be able to download an app for your phones which will receive all communications from school (with notifications if you require this), rather than text messages. For us, the web-based platform means that all staff will have access to the information they need from home and in school, which has obvious advantages in the current situation!

Ms Du Toit

Ms Du Toit has decided to leave Park Street C of E Primary School at February half-term. We wish her the very best for the future, and are sure that you will wish to join us in thanking her for her positive contribution to the children's learning at Park Street.

Places in school

Please see the letter attached from the Local Authority, regarding keeping children at home where possible over this period. It is important to highlight that the cases of Covid-19 remain high in this region, and are not dropping fast enough (according to the Jan 22nd figures) particularly amongst children. Our 'bubbles' are all completely full now, so we unfortunately cannot accommodate any more children in school. Let us all hope and pray that if we can keep community transmission down, this won't be for much longer!

Stars of the Week

Week ending 29th January

Owl Class:

Rowan for enthusiasm in phonics

Arthur D P for his fantastic engagement in all home learning and entertaining everyone with his outfits!

Flamingo Class:

Petros for enthusiasm about remote learning

Tobias for excellent engagement in all the live sessions this week

Thea for always being an enthusiastic learner

William for fantastic topic work about planes and for knowing the Fruits of the Spirit!

Evelyn for helping at home and working independently

Woodpecker Class :

Annabelle for working hard at home to help her parents and for being independent

Clara for getting on with her work independently

Liz for helping at home and working independently on her school work

Charlotte for putting fantastic effort into her home learning work

Rosa for completing her on-line work independently

Amber for putting fantastic effort into her home learning work

Eagle Class

Cedd for putting fantastic effort into his home learning work

Callie for doing all she can to help her family and to be independent in her learning

Mali for completing her on-line work

Amelie for working hard at home to help her parents and to be independent

Charlie for working really hard to improve his reading



Stars of the Week

Week ending 5th February

Owl Class:

Sofia for making a great effort to read and write independently in her on-line sessions

Ila for her good sounding out in reading

Flamingo Class:

Tess for helping at home

Natalia for persevering in on-line learning and being very helpful at home

Tobias for doing a great job trying his best with his assignments

Xander and Kiirili for rising to the challenge of joining Flamingo class

Woodpecker Class :

Elliott for working without complaint to independently and conscientiously complete all his work

Hattie for engaging in on-line learning

Louie for enthusiasm in topic lessons

Eagle Class

Harrison for engaging in on-line learning

Hari for taking the initiative to be helpful in class

Max for helping at home

Ben for being kind

Anatole for helping Lucien with his work at home

Staffing of Flamingo Class

We are currently advertising for a Class Teacher for Flamingo Class, on the school website; on EPM, 'Teach in Cambs' and the DfE website. We are hoping to appoint as soon as possible, and in the meantime, Mrs Williman will be working as the Class Teacher, supported by Mrs Orrock teaching the children in school. When we all return to learning at Park Street, if we have not appointed by this time, Mrs Williman will continue to lead the class on Monday to Thursday, with Mrs Orrock teaching on Thursday afternoon and Friday. I am sure you will join me in thanking them both for their hard work in keeping all the children learning well over this challenging time.

Staffing of Owl Class

In another upcoming staffing change, regrettably, Mrs Ruth Brown will be taking semi-retirement on Friday 26th February, and will no longer be teaching Owl Class. However, Mrs Ruth Macdonald will be returning to Park Street C of E Primary School, from Wednesday 3rd March, as her maternity leave comes to an end. We are all really looking forward to welcoming her back and I am sure that you will be pleased that she has decided to return. When we all return to normal schooling, Mrs Shankland will continue to teach Owls on Monday and Tuesday and Mrs Macdonald will teach Wednesday to Friday with Mrs Sparrowhawk and Mrs Wares continuing to work as teaching assistants in class.

We will be extremely sad to say goodbye to Mrs Ruth Brown, and are very thankful to her, for teaching the class so brilliantly over this period. We will all miss her calm approach and genuine care for the children. We wish her the very best of luck and hope she will stay in touch and be available for occasional supply!

Testing for Primary School Staff

From next week, all staff working in school will be able to test themselves for Covid-19 twice-weekly at home, using lateral flow devices. Should there be any asymptomatic positive cases revealed by this testing, this may mean closure of 'bubbles'. The testing will take place on Sunday and Wednesday evenings—parents will be notified as soon as possible that evening if their children need to stay at home and/or self-isolate.

Pupil Image Release Form

Thank you to those of you who have returned this form. Please return immediately if you have not done so.

Make it a Happier New Year for children and young people in care

2020 has been a difficult year for us all, but even more so for the children and young people who go in to 2021 without a stable home and loving family. This New Year we are looking for people who are determined, energetic and caring, to become foster carers.

Fostering with Cambridgeshire County or Peterborough City Councils means you are fostering with a local authority that truly cares about you and our children. We offer comprehensive training courses both before and during your fostering adventure with us. We also allocate a social worker who will support you and we also provide a 24/7 helpline so you will never feel alone!

Remember if you are a Cambridgeshire County Council or Peterborough City Council employee and undergoing an assessment as a foster carer for either council, (with agreement from your line manager), you are entitled to additional annual leave of up to 5 days to attend training courses.

So whether you are single, married, retired, working or a full time parent to a birth child YOU CAN FOSTER! Make this a happier New Year for our children and young people. To find out more, call 0800 052 0078, text FOSTERING to 60777, email fostering@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/fostering

Change to live teaching—Flamingo and Owl (Y1) Class

We are making a slight change to the Flamingo Class live teaching, to allow the Year 1 children to have some 'live' phonics teaching. Mrs Williman will be delivering this on Monday and Wednesday afternoons, from 1.30 to 1.45pm. As a result, the story session for year 2 will start at 1.45pm on these days. The meetings will now be on Zoom, not on Teams—you should have received an In-Touch message with the link, which is also posted on Owl and Flamingo Teams and on Tapestry. The live phonics will also be recorded, and posted on Teams and Tapestry.

Day	Date	Details	Time
Friday	12th February	Last day of term. Collective Worship 2.30pm	
Saturday	13th February	PTA Family Quiz	3pm
Monday	22nd February	Please note that we will be open this day, having previously been declared as a Professional Day and will be open for vulnerable and key worker children. On-line learning will continue as usual for children at home	
Tuesday	23rd February	School re-opens	
Thursday	4th March	World Book Day	
Friday	5th March	Please note that this will be a Professional Day and will not be open to children	
Wednesday	10th March	Drama workshop for KS1	Morning
Friday	26th March	School closes	
Monday	12th April	School re-opens	
Thursday	15th April	Balanceability starts for Owls	Morning
Thursday	29th April	Class photos	
Monday	3rd May	Bank Holiday	
Monday	10th May	KS 2 SATs week. CANCELLED.	
Friday	28th May	School closes	
Monday	7th June	School re-opens	
Wednesday	21st July	School closes	
Thursday	22nd July	Professional Day—no school (teachers training)	

PTA

Over the past few months, several parents have got in touch with us asking how they can say thank you to our hard-working teachers for everything they do for us and our children. We asked the teachers and TAs what kinds of things they would find most useful for their classrooms and they've put together an Amazon Wish List of their top picks, from playdough to books. Please click [here](#) to view and purchase items from the list.

Help the School While You Shop

With more of us doing our shopping online this year, we thought it would be a good idea to help you help the school at the same time. When you link your Amazon account to our Friends of Park Street Amazon Smile account, Amazon will donate .5% of the cost of your shopping to the school.

We have also updated our Schoolfunds account, which is another portal you can use for your shopping while giving back to the school. Just click on the links and follow the steps to connect your accounts.

[Amazon Smile](#)

[Schoolfunds](#)

Our Family Quiz will be held on Saturday 13th February at 3pm -details to follow .

Inset Days 2020 2021

Monday 22nd Feb-please note this day has changed from being a professional day and school will now be open for vulnerable and key worker children

Friday 5th March-this will now become a Professional Day and the school will not be open for children

Thursday 22nd July

Parent and Carer's Questionnaire

Please complete the questionnaire on Microsoft Forms, about your child's learning over this period. We are very interested to hear your views and any suggestions for improvements. The link will be sent out today using the In-Touch system. Please email head@parkstreet.cambs.sch.uk if you do not receive it and would like to contribute.

*Dear Parkstreet Primary School families,
Fancy a revival of the Parkstreet Recipe Cookbook?
As we all have different nationalities and food traditions,
As we all are the best cooks ever,
As we are all locked down and practice in the kitchen...*

*We thought that it would be great to share some of your favourite recipes using the template attached in order to create the best **Park street international family cookbook**.
Please send your wonderful dishes to Alienor and Alex (email below)
Any picture of the dish, the ingredients and /or the cooks would be great!*

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