

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this letter finds you all well and safe.

As you know the Government has taken steps which are simply unprecedented in the history of our country and the weeks and months ahead are uncharted waters.

Over the last fortnight, staff have worked tirelessly to implement the guidelines and their dedication, commitment and flexibility has been unwavering. They have done this whilst having considerations about their own health and own family. I would like to take the opportunity to thank each and every one of them. We would also like to thank our caring and considerate parents for supporting us during this crazy period, the sense of school community we have felt so far has been incredible and the staff and at St Peters will strive to continue this.

St Peter's staff understand that some parents and carers are feeling anxious and perhaps a little overwhelmed by this new landscape which for some, includes the demands on you as a critical worker, for others this means working from home whilst trying to complete activities with your children. Please feel assured that there is no expectation from school that all of the work sent is completed or accessed. We will continue to send on line learning links but they are simply suggestions and ideas from which you can pick and choose. If you decide that your child is going to bake and play in the dirt – that's fine. If you are able to prioritise an activity with your child, please enjoy a book with them or help them listen to an audio link (the English Team will be sending links to you very soon) or listen to them read. Timetabling your day may work for some of you and for others it won't. Please don't feel any pressure from social media – after all it is only day 4! It is simply what works best for you in your situation. Many of our staff with families or vulnerable family members are in this position too.

For families who have critical workers in their family home - thank you for all that you are doing in your critical role to the COVID-19 response. For those critical workers who have been unable to find alternative care arrangements and your children have been in school – your children have been fantastic!

St Peter's are rich in history and we are privileged to have many historical logs and school documents from over the years. The children and staff working in school have decided to make our own record book of this significant period of history. If your children would like to send in a description of what they have been doing at home or how they are feeling, please feel free to send it to the info.hartelwickfederation.org.uk email and we will try our best to pop it in our book. This is completely optional.

Class teachers and their teams aim to send letters to children, when they are able, and we hope you that you share and enjoy their updates with your children. I have enjoyed reading them too!

It seems that we are at the beginning of this journey and if you do manage to get some 'down time' simply enjoy it with your children.

for parents to read at bedtime to their children:

Be near us Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay close by me for ever, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in your tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there. Amen

Please take care and be safe

God Bless

Mrs Hill