



**Friars Primary Foundation School**  
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**St Peter's CE Primary School**  
Liverpool Grove, London SE17 2HH  
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Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020

Dear parents,

We hope you are all keeping well, safe and are looking after yourselves and each other. The teachers from both schools have been contacting you and your children by phone this week. We hope you have found the contact helpful and reassuring. I'm writing today to give an update on some of the issues we are all facing currently. Friars and St Peters remain amalgamated where St Peters is closed to children and the majority of staff. Eligible children from both schools are attending at Friars. This is being staffed by St Peters and Friars teachers and teaching assistants together. From Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April the office at St Peters will be open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-3pm. For any general enquiries regarding St Peters, please call the office on 020 7703 4881 or email [office@st-peterswalworth.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-peterswalworth.southwark.sch.uk). For any general enquiries regarding Friars, please call the Friars office on 020 7207 1807 between 9am and 3pm Monday to Friday. Alternatively, email [office@friars.southwark.sch.uk](mailto:office@friars.southwark.sch.uk).

#### **Free School Meals vouchers:**

There is a national voucher scheme in place for children who are eligible for Free School Meals (FSM) with a company called Edenred. Most schools in the country are using Edenred and as a result there have been issues in being able to access the website and place orders. If you are eligible for FSM please check your emails including junk boxes. For most eligible families we have now sent vouchers that cover the month of April and the majority have been able to redeem them.

We have had a number of queries from other parents about whether they can have vouchers. Please be aware that no parents in Southwark pay for school meals as part of their universal school meals offer. Parents sometimes understandably confuse being eligible for FSM with the universal offer. However, they are not the same thing. To be eligible for FSM you need to be receiving one of the following benefits:

1. Child tax credit with no Working Tax Credit and where the household income is less than £16,190
2. Income support
3. Income based Job seeker's allowance
4. Income based Employment Support Allowance
5. Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
6. Guarantee element of state pension credit
7. Universal credit

If you are in receipt of any of the above benefits and you require FSM vouchers you will need to send the following to the office email address at the relevant school:

- Child name
- Child date of birth
- Child postal address
- Parent name (the official name that is used on any benefit correspondence)
- Parent date of birth
- Parent National Insurance (NI) number
- Parent email address

**Executive Headteacher: Justin Burt**

**Head of School (Friars): Joanna Wratten**

**Deputy Headteacher (St Peter's): Claudette Farray Green**



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If we have the above information Southwark council will be able to check eligibility. However, in some instances they will need further proof if your child's name is not on their data base.

#### Google classroom:

We have come to the end of our first week using Google classroom and inevitably there have been some teething problems. Not only is the system new to parents and children but to staff too. As a result, we are all learning at the moment and we appreciate the patience and good humour most have shown over the inevitable frustrations in getting things organised. Please bear in mind that teachers are working extremely hard to respond to all the queries but you may not get an immediate response from them. There have been a few more technical issues at St Peters than at Friars and we have been working with our IT consultant to get those issues resolved. Most issues by now are resolved.

There may well be some parents who do not have any access at all to technology or even the internet. If you have neither, please contact the relevant school office and we will post packs of work out to you. If you are eligible for FSM and do not have any devices at all that work can be completed on, please contact Friars. We have a very limited amount of spare iPad that we can loan out.

Some top tips from the teachers regarding Google classroom that you might find helpful are:

- When the work has been set as a PDF the children can read off the PDF and then attach either a photo of their answers or they can create a google docs answer page. When they click into an assignment there is an option in the box on the right-hand side that says "your work" where they can "add and create". They can open up a google docs and record on there and then submit the doc with the pdf.
- When submitting queries can children use the class stream rather than sending individual messages.
- We know that the children are missing each other. We will all see one another again! But could you ask your children not to use the class sites as a chat room. It is there for their learning!

At the time of writing we still do not know when schools will re-open. We only hope that we are given plenty of notice and guidance about how and when. When we know we will let you know.

In the meantime. Stay safe. Our thoughts are with you all.

Yours sincerely,

J. Burt



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