



Principal's Newsletter

October 2018



Dear Parents / Carers,

We are now well into our new school year and I am delighted with how well all the children have settled back into school life.

During the last week in September our class teachers held 'Meet The Teacher' events in school, giving parents and carers the opportunity to meet with the year group team in order to gain an insight into the year ahead for your child. I do hope that you found these sessions both helpful and informative.

I would like to pick up on one point raised at these meetings – homework. As set out in the school's homework policy (a copy was given out at these events) class teachers will set homework for the class on specific nights throughout the week. Homework is designed to support new learning or consolidate previous learning. We are aware that some children find homework easier than others and we also do not expect homework to become a 'battle' at home. So that homework doesn't take hours to complete, the school's homework policy clearly outlines maximum times for children to spend on homework depending on the child's year group. As long as children try hard, for the time outlined in the homework policy, we are satisfied. Parents / Carers can put a note on the top of the homework stating that the child worked for the maximum time if the child does not manage to get it fully completed.

Many thanks,

Mr C. Fulton

Principal

Parent Interviews (P1 – P6)

Parent Interviews for children in Primary 1 – Primary 6 will take place on the week beginning Monday 22nd October. Please look out for interview times being sent home with your child.

Children in P1 – P6 will finish school at 2pm each day during parent interviews.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Principal

Mr C. Fulton

Acting Vice Principal / Head of Foundation & Key Stage 1

Mrs J. Orr

Special Needs Co- ordinator and Designated Teacher for Child Protection

Miss J. Minnis

Nursery Lead

Mrs P. Addis

Head of Key Stage 2

Mrs R. Miskelly

I'M WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD IN SCHOOL.

If you are concerned about the welfare of a pupil in school, please speak with Miss Minnis (Designated Teacher for Child Protection)



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School Fund Contributions

Thank you to everyone within the school community for taking the time to read my recent letter regarding school fund contributions. At present, we have had approximately £2000 of school fund contributions into school.

If you have still to contribute to school fund, please send in your payment to school as soon as possible.

I did mention in my letter that, as a school, we are trying to replenish the school's tables and chairs – as most of the current tables and chairs have been in school since we opened. These are now coming to the end of their life and are in need of replacement. School fund contributions this year will continue to help school provide a more comfortable classroom environment for your children.

New tables and chairs in Primary 1!



Class Charities

Our class charity collections will begin again this coming Wednesday – 10th October. The children in all year groups have decided upon a charity they would like to support this year. Remember, we are only looking to collect a few copper coins from each child each week – and it is not a competition.

A reminder of our charities:

Nursery AM and PM

Primary 1

Primary 2

Primary 3

Primary 4

Primary 5

Primary 6

Primary 7

Diabetes UK

Kids4School Tanzania

Guide Dogs Charity

Helping Hands – Charity for Belfast Children's Hospital

Assisi Animal Sanctuary

British Heart Foundation

Shine

Lighthouse

REMINDER: School Closed to ALL pupils on Thursday 18th October as school is being used as a polling station.



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Term Dates 2018 / 19

A reminder of our term dates for this year. Dates highlighted in yellow are dates that have been amended.

<u>Autumn Term</u>	
August	Wed 22 nd , Thurs 23 rd , Fri 24 th August – School Development Days (School Closed) Mon 27 th August – Bank Holiday (School Closed) Tues 28 th August – School reopens for P2 – P7 pupils (School will close at 12pm on 28 th , 29 th and 30 th of August)
September	Fri 28 th September – School Development Day (School Closed)
October / November	Fri 26 th Oct – School Closes at 2pm. Mon 29 th , Tues 30 th , Wed 31 st Oct, Thurs 1 st , Fri 2 nd November (School Closed for Half Term) Mon 5 th November – School reopens
December	Fri 21 st December – (School closes at 12pm for the Christmas Holidays)
January	Thurs 3 rd January – School reopens Mon 21 st January – School Development Day (School Closed)
February	Fri 15 th February – School Closes at 2pm. Mon 18 th February – School Development Day (School Closed) Tues 19 th , Wed 20 th , Thurs 21 st , Fri 22 nd February (School Closed for Half Term) Mon 25 th February – School reopens
April	Fri 12 th April – (School closes at 12pm for Easter Holidays) Mon 29 th April – School reopens
May	Mon 6 th May – School Closed (Bank Holiday) Mon 27 th May – School Development Day (School Closed)
June	Thurs 13 th , Fri 14 th June – School Development Days (School Closed) Fri 28 th June – (School closes at 12pm for Summer Holidays)