



Principal's Newsletter

January 2019



Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to the start of a brand new term and a Happy New Year to everyone within our school community. I trust that you, and your families, had a lovely Christmas break and it was great to welcome the children back into school this morning.....a few tired little faces past me on the way in. It can be difficult to get back into a normal routine!

In classes across school I am sure that children will be excitedly talking to their friends about their Christmas break and, no doubt, about some of the lovely gifts they received during this period and about the wonderful experiences that they had with extended family.

Many teachers will be talking to the children about the new year and some new year's resolutions that they may be making and that the children will be making.

Our busy school year continues on, with many events planned for the next two terms leading us to the Summer. Please take note of the key dates page of this newsletter and make a note of them on your calendar for future reference.

Many thanks,

Mr C. Fulton

Principal



After-school club information

All school led afterschool clubs will begin on the week beginning Monday 14th January. Some of our clubs had been oversubscribed at the beginning of the year and children who had not been successful in attending a club at the start of the year may have the opportunity to start in the Spring Term. If there are to be any changes in clubs, members of staff will let children know. If your child attends an afterschool club led by an external provider, Eg Burns Soccer, Hola Bonjour, Irish Dancing etc, please refer back to letters provided to you at the end of last term regarding start dates for these clubs.

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)



Principal's Newsletter

January 2019



In school, we have 4 pupils from each year group (Primary 4 – Primary 7) trained as **Anti Bullying Ambassadors**. In fact, our Primary 5 – Primary 7 pupils attended a full day's training at Carrickfergus Grammar School led by the 'The Diana Award'.

This group of young people have met with Mr Fulton twice this year to discuss their vision for the future and their role within Victoria Primary School and Nursery Unit.

And this is their first event.....

Victoria Primary School's 'THIS IS ME' day.

On **FRIDAY 18th JANUARY 2019**, the Anti Bullying Ambassadors (ABAs for short) have organised our very own 'This Is Me' day. On this day, the ABAs want to promote that it is OK to be yourself, to be an individual, to be unique – that it is perfectly fine to say **'THIS IS ME!'**.

So.....on Friday 18th January, children are invited to come to school in any way that shows off what makes them, them! For example, if a child is a keen footballer they may wish to wear a football kit and bring in some awards they have won, or we may have some children interested in horse riding and they may wish to wear, or bring in, some of their horse riding attire. The list is endless! The ABAs would like everyone in school, including staff, to show off that it is great to be me!

Coming into school wearing a particular outfit is not compulsory, children may just bring in something to show, or have a particular story to tell. The ABAs are really looking forward to this event and please look out for photographs and videos on the school website shortly after our **'This Is Me'** day.



This month's attendance fact:

Research has shown that...

- Children with good attendance are 7 times more likely to end up in a positive adult relationship.

Class	%	Class	%
1JM	95.1%	1JO	95.9%
2AH	97.1%	2JS	94.1%
3PC/JMM	94.7%	3LMF	97.1%
4PMC	96.4%	4JMC/RMC	96.4%
5VD	96.6%	5JL	96.2%
6GH	97.8%	6HG	95.8%
7RMIS	96.6%	7AN	95.9%

Green = 96% +

Amber = 94% - 95.9%

Red = 93.8% and below



Principal's Newsletter

January 2019

Key Dates

Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th January

Pantomime in school. (Cost is £5.50 per pupil)

Thursday 17th January

PTA Meeting @ 7:30pm. All welcome

Friday 18th January

Anti Bullying Ambassador's '**THIS IS ME**' day.

Monday 21st January

School Development Day – SCHOOL CLOSED. Kids' Cave open from 8am – 5:30pm.

Thursday 31st January

Closing date for admission into Nursery and Primary 1 2019

Monday 11th – Friday 15th February

Parent Interview Week – school closes at 2pm for all children this week. Kids' Cave is available all week.

Monday 18th – Friday 22nd February

School closed for half term.

Monday 1st – Wednesday 3rd April

School Production

Friday 5th April

50th Birthday Celebrations – Party for the children in the morning. School will close at 12:15pm for all pupils. Celebration Afternoon Tea to take place for past pupils / staff in the afternoon. More information to follow.

Friday 12th April

School closes at 12pm for the Easter Holidays.

School Uniform Reminder

- School shoes should be fully black in colour.
- Hair bands should be thin and plain grey or black.
- Earrings should not be worn to school – if ears have been recently pierced earrings need to be covered with a plaster.
- No nail varnish etc to be worn to school.
- Plain white t-shirt (or school t-shirt) and black shorts to be worn for PE.

Use of the School Car Park

Can I remind parents and carers that the school car park is for the use of school staff and school visitors only. Parents that require disabled access may also use the car park once consent from the Principal has been sought.

Use of the car park at the start and end of the school day is prohibited for all other users. (excluding breakfast and afterschool club). This is to ensure the safety of all on our school site.



Principal's Newsletter

January 2019

Term Dates 2018 / 19

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

Autumn Term	
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)

Consent Forms – URGENT

Last term, every pupil in school was given a generic consent form that we required to be completed and returned to school by **Friday 30th November 2018**. In order for us to become fully GDPR compliant we require consent for a range of different reasons – as outlined on the form. If you have not yet returned your form, please do so as a matter of urgency. IF YOU REQUIRE A SPARE COPY OF THE FORM PLEASE CALL INTO THE SCHOOL OFFICE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.