

Victoria Primary School & Nursery Unit

Coronation Road, Carrickfergus, County Antrim, BT38 7EZ Tel: 028 9335 1781 Email : victoriaprimary@hotmail.co.uk **Principal** : Mr C. Fulton BA Hons (QTS)

Dear Parent and Carers,

We have some really exciting news! Working alongside the Early Years Team within the Northern Health and Social Care Trust, we have decided to continue to develop our Kids' Cave provision by working through the registration process in order for us to provide out of school care with activities linked to the national curriculum not only on a term time basis but also during periods of school holidays - something many parents have been asking us to do for some time.

This is a process that will take us a while to complete. We will not be rushing into it as we want to ensure that when our application is submitted that we will gain the appropriate accreditation with flying colours.

Over the coming months we will work with the school community to formulate an overview of what our yearly programme will look like taking on board views from parents and carers and, most importantly, the children themselves.

During our full registration process a few small changes will need to be made and we hope that parents / carers will be able to work with us as we embark on this exciting new opportunity.

What will change:

1). Kids' Cave will operate under its current form <u>from 3pm - 5pm on a daily basis</u> (not 5:30pm as at present.) This will ensure that we follow the appropriate guidelines during our registration process. This will only be a temporary measure.

2). For children finishing school at 2pm - we will work to increase our extra curricular clubs list for these children and operate a '2-3 Activity Club' from 2pm - 3pm. This will operate on a daily basis and, as with our other range of extra curricular activities, will provide children with specific activities, using a range of school resources such as ICT Suite/iPads, Adventure Playground, PE Equipment etc. This club will take place in the main school building each day in Mrs Orr's classroom. As with our other extra curricular clubs, booking will need to take place. This will be separate to Kids' Cave Booking. This will run as part of our Extra Curricular Clubs programme - across school we now have almost 20 extra curricular clubs!

If parents want their child to then go to Kids' Cave at 3pm then that is no problem.

3) On a slightly less positive note, our provision for Kids' Cave on days of an early finish, such as at 1pm for parent interviews and at 12pm on days at the end of term (Christmas, Easter and Summer) will <u>only be able to take place</u> <u>for 2 hours after the school closing time</u>. I am aware that this isn't ideal, however, once we have gained accreditation to provide out of school care for the whole year, as part of this process, we will have the flexibility to set a range of different hours to suit the needs of the school community.

If you are in any doubt about any of the above changes please speak to Mrs Evans or Mrs Ervine from Kids' Cave. They will keep you right. The school office will have copies of the new booking form from today. You can also pick them up in Kids' Cave. This new arrangement will begin for all new bookings and will begin on Monday 16th September.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mr C. Fulton Principal