

“With faith, family and friends...anything is possible!”

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Dear Parent / Guardian

**WELCOME TO A NEW
YEAR OF LEARNING!**

I hope you have had a lovely summer and that the children are refreshed and ready for coming back to school.

Please find below information that you should find useful for the beginning of the school year. This will be provided as a paper copy as well for your convenience. Please keep it for reference.



NEW CROSSING

Work through the summer has been ongoing on Oriel Road. As previously communicated, there is now a new LIGHTED CROSSING for the children. I would be really grateful if a parent/guardian escorted your children on the first morning to teach them how to use the crossing safely. Within the first week, our staff will be bringing all the children out to the crossing to teach them the rules and safety of crossing at a lighted crossing. Whilst Mr Keenan (our crossing patrol staff) will man the crossing, it is still essential that all children are aware of how to use the crossing safely.

START AND FINISHING TIMES

On the first day back Thursday 31st August P.2 – P.7 will finish at 12 noon; NO BUSES ON THURSDAY thereafter:

- P.1** Have their own start day and time. They will finish at 12 noon for the first 3 weeks. Full day with lunch from Monday 25th September.
- P.2** 9.00am – 1.45pm
- P.3** 9.00am – **2.00pm for September**. From Tuesday 3rd October they will finish Monday & Tuesday at 3.00pm
- P.4 – P.7** 9.00am – 3.00pm



CHILD PROTECTION REMINDERS & PICK UP POINTS

1. Access to school during the school day: Any person requiring access to school should go to the reception window in the front hall of the school and speak to the school secretary.
2. Breakfast club remains from **8.10am at a cost of £1.50 a day**. No child should be on school grounds or entering the school buildings or corridors before 8.45a.m. unless accessing breakfast club.
3. Parents are reminded that children (if they are designated “collected”) should be picked up directly from the teacher. P.1 & P.2 parents go to the designated pick-up door. P.3 – P.7 children will be escorted to the playground by their class teacher where they will be

dismissed. **P.3, P.4 and P5 pickup is in the Junior Playground. P.6 & P.7 pickup is in the Senior Playground.** For children who have to 'walk' to car parks/garage/church/home etc. or go on bus, a parent signature will be required and kept on file. It will be the responsibility of the parent to inform the teacher should any change happen.

A permission letter will be sent home on the first day of school and should be returned immediately.

N.B. No adult will be permitted to access the school buildings at any of the pick-up times

PICK UP POINTS FOR P1 & P2 classes are as follows:

1. P1 Mrs Mullan: From the Fire Escape door in the mobile classroom.
2. P1 Miss McAllister: From the main door of the double mobile.
3. P1 Mrs Molloy: From the P1 playground gate (collectors should not enter the play area).
4. **P2 Mrs McCaughan's** class will be dismissed to their collector at the door near the black entrance gate at the back of the junior building.
5. **P2 Mrs Sipa's** class will be dismissed to their collector at the first door facing into the junior playground (near Mrs McIntyre's office)
6. **P2 Mrs Ntareme's** class will be dismissed to their collector at the second door facing into the junior playground (nearest exit door to their classroom.)



GENERAL REMINDERS

WAITING ROOM

Waiting Room will start on Monday 11th September. A paper copy of the registration form will be sent home asap. Please note registration is £20.00 a year and £1 to be paid to the teacher on the day you wish to use the waiting room. Payment must be kept up to date, please.

OPEN DOOR POLICY

We operate an open door policy. This effectively means the class teacher will be willing to meet with you at the earliest time convenient to both. Feel free to pass on short pieces of information to the teacher at morning drop off (8.45am – 9.00am). **If you require a more lengthy discussion, please do not be offended, the teacher will ask you to make an appointment at another time as they are responsible for the children in their care from 8.45am and it is not appropriate to have lengthy discussions at this time.**

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR APPEARANCE AND UNIFORM

- Summer uniform (summer dresses for girls/blue polo shirts for boys) can be worn for the months of **September, May and June**. From 2nd October until 30th April, all children should wear winter uniform (shirt and tie).
- **Please make sure all uniform, bags and coats are labelled clearly with your child's name.**
- Footwear for school uniform must be **ALL BLACK**. No coloured / striped trainers are allowed.
- For health and hygiene reasons, long hair **must** be tied back.
- Our school rules state that the only jewellery to be worn is a watch.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

- Should your child be absent for any reason, please inform the teacher. Should the absence be unforeseen (sickness) please call the school so we know not to expect your child. On their return, **please provide a note of explanation to the class teacher which we must keep on file.**

- Should you not inform the school of absence, you will receive a text requesting you to contact the school immediately. This helps keep all children safe.
- The Board of Governors state that you should not remove your child from school during term time for holidays.
- LEARNING begins each day at **9.00AM**. Please do not let your child be late for class. As a school, alongside absence, we must also monitor lateness. If your child is persistently late, they will miss out on vital learning time, which may in turn have an effect on their educational attainment. Lateness can also be distressing for a child. From 9.10am, the only access to the school will be via the front door. All external gates will be secured for the day.



HEALTHY EATING SCHOOLS

- As a healthy eating school we encourage all children to drink water rather than fruit drinks/ flavoured water. No child should bring a fizzy drink to school.
- We encourage the child (the parent/carer) to pack a healthy choice lunch box and a healthy choice morning break snack (piece of fruit, plain biscuit etc).
- **No nuts/nutella or chocolate spread of any kind** (as we are unable to tell if it has nuts or not!) is allowed in school due to the danger to children with nut allergies.
- Parents can pay for their child to have milk in school. A letter will be sent home advising when milk can be ordered.

TUCK AND DINNER MONEY

Please ensure your child has the money to pay for tuck and dinners if they use it. It becomes very difficult to manage for our teaching and canteen staff if money becomes “owed.” Again, thank you in anticipation for your help with this. **Toast 25p & Bagel 30p. Dinner £2.60**

‘WET DAY’ ACTIVITY BOOK

We would kindly ask if you could provide your child with a ‘Wet Day’ activity book to be kept under the child’s desk and used if children can’t get out to play. E.g. Colour/puzzle/sudoku/note book for doodling etc. Thank you.

UPDATE

- Please check our website and parent notice boards at the entrances of the school at regular intervals for up to date information about school/community events.

School Bus cost: 80p / School dinners cost: 2.60 / Breakfast club: £1.50

**If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to speak with your child’s class teacher.
Looking forward to an excellent year of learning ahead.**

Principal

Attached: Classrooms and teachers for 2017

Classrooms and Teachers.

Please use the following information to help you navigate to classroom on the first morning. School staff will be on hand to help you find your way.

Left Mobile Classrooms

P1 Mrs Mullan
P1 Miss McAllister

Right Mobile Classrooms

P5 Mrs Quinn
P5 Mrs Walsh

Junior Building

Down Stairs		Upstairs	
P2 Mrs McCaughan	Room 8	P4 Miss Flanagan	Room 12
P2 Mrs Sipa	Room 9	P4 Mrs Black	Room 13
P2 Mrs Ntareme	Room 10	P3 Mrs O'Donnell	Room 14
P1 Mrs Molloy	Room 11	P3 Mrs O'Neill	Room 15
		P3 Mr Henry	Room 16

Senior Building

Down Stairs		Upstairs	
P6 Mr McShane	Room 1	P7 Mr Jones	Room 5
P5 Mrs Kelly	Room 2	P7 Mr Phillips	Room 6
P6 Mr McLaughlin	Room 3	P7 Mrs Duffy	Room 7
P6 Mrs Jeavons	Room 4		
P4 Mr Christie	Room 21		

Exciting Times Ahead!



This academic year, we have building work ahead. We have secured funding from DENI to build a new school extension! The build is expected to begin around Hallowe'en and be completed by the end of April 2018. Parents will be kept up to date with the build schedule as it progresses. It will provide accommodation for an additional classroom, small multi-purpose use group room, office space and tiny science gardens. It is an exciting project to improve the accommodation available to our pupils.

Our New School Minibus



We now have in our possession our new school minibus!

We received delivery of it in August and it is now set and ready to go.

HUGE thank you to all of you who contributed to paying for it all.

We can't express enough our gratitude to the fundraising group who last year worked over many personal hours to help secure full funding. Lastly thanks to John Mulholland who sourced the bus, to our requirements and held it for us for 7 months without any payment from school. Much appreciation to all groups – and here's to many years of happy bussing with our children.

Thankyou