



# Dromara Primary School



24<sup>th</sup> November 2023

~~~~~ Strike Action - Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November ~~~~~

As you may be aware from local media reports, the 5 main teaching unions have called a ‘half day’ strike on Wednesday 29th November. Where staff have elected to take lawful industrial action, schools and Boards of Governors, will have no choice but to take appropriate steps to ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of all pupils. Unfortunately, the school will be closed until 12.00 noon on that date. We appreciate that this will cause some disruption to all parents, carers and guardians, but we would, however, ask for your understanding.

Please do not send your children in earlier as we will be unable to admit them.

**School meals will be served, but must have been ordered by Sunday 26th November** – we will be unable to accommodate any requests for school meals after this time. This includes Free School Meals – please order via SchoolMoney too.

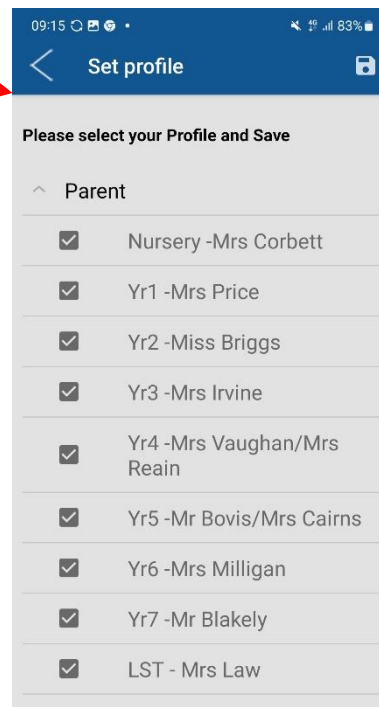
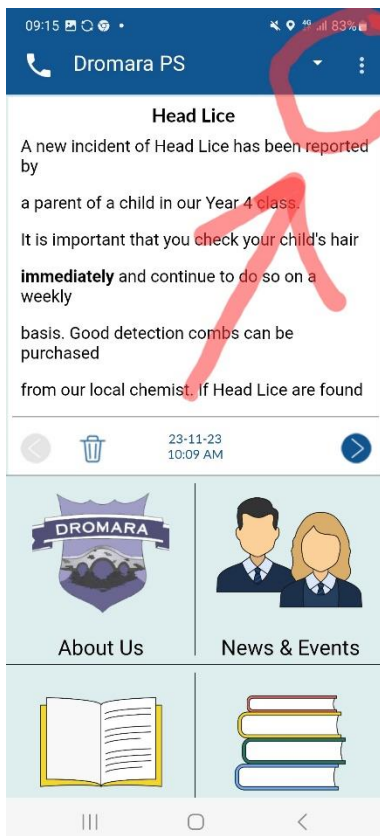
**School transport** – at this time I have been assured that the school bus will run later in the morning to bring children to school for the later start.

Normal school times apply in the afternoon.

This is a dispute between teacher unions and the employers; it is not a dispute with the schools. This is not a strike just about teachers’ pay. Teachers are taking strike action due to cuts to teachers’ pay and the lack of adequate funding for schools which together are causing a crisis in Education.


## School App (Primary 365) notifications

**It has come to our attention that some parents are not receiving notifications relating specifically to their child’s class.** This is most likely because parents have not updated their profile to reflect the class that the child is in. Please update your profile by clicking on the 3 dots in the top right corner of the app and choose the correct class(es) from the Set Profile menu:





These have proven to be very popular with the children and we have decided to continue with the fun and enjoyment that they would usually have at this time of the year. Festive Fridays will happen each Friday in December as shown below:

| Date                                                 | Classes                                                                                          | Activities                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Festive Friday 1</b><br>1 <sup>st</sup> December  | All classes                                                                                      | Games Day: children should wear PE kit/sportswear to school.<br><b>£1.50 (max. £3 for a family) PAY VIA SCHOOLMONEY APP</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Festive Friday 2</b><br>8 <sup>th</sup> December  | Y1-3                                                                                             | 'Craft Rooms' – pupils will make an item of Christmas Craft to take home.<br><b>£2 (max. £4 for a family) PAY VIA SCHOOLMONEY APP</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                                                      | Y4-7                                                                                             | 'Elf Room' – pupils can choose a gift for mum or dad to wrap and take home.<br><b>£3 (max. £6 for a family) PAY VIA SCHOOLMONEY APP</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                      | All classes                                                                                      | Year 4 & Mrs Reain will also have their usual stall featuring 'pocket money' items for children to purchase. <b>Pay with cash upon purchase.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Festive Friday 3</b><br>15 <sup>th</sup> December | All Classes<br> | Non-uniform Day and 'Surprise Campfire Activity' – this is a '2-for-1' as children can also come to school on Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> in non-uniform! <b>£3 (max. £6 for a family).</b> Wear a Christmas Jumper/Christmas Accessories! <b>PAY VIA SCHOOLMONEY APP</b><br>'Photo Booth' – optional for any children who would like fun photos with their friends from their class ( <b>£1 extra</b> ) <b>Pay with cash on the day</b> |

For those items to be paid via the SchoolMoney App, we will send out info next week.

### PTA News

**Crafty Christmas Days – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> (Y1-3) and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December (Y4-7): £2.50 per pupil (max. £5 per family). This should be paid via SchoolMoney App. Thank you!**

Thanks again for your support with the Hallowe'en hampers. We raised a huge amount of money, £356.50, so thank you for your generous contributions and the winners were very happy indeed! We will use this towards subsidising trips.

### Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner will take place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December. **Please book by Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December** at the latest (£2.60 or free) via the SchoolMoney App.



### School Dinners for January

Dinners from Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January can be booked/paid on the SchoolMoney App at any time over the Christmas holidays.

### OPEN AFTERNOON for Y1 enrolment for September 2024

There will be an open afternoon on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 3.30pm for prospective pupils and parents. If you have a friend, relative or neighbour who has a child of school age from September 2024, please let them know – thank you! Pre-school children can attend.

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January – Primary One application procedure opens from 12 noon.

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January – Online portal for applications closes at 12 noon.

In order to apply online, parents must do so via the online portal made available by EA. Your child's birth certificate will be required during the application process.



**Key Dates**  
September 2024 to June 2025 school year

- 12 December 2023**  
Admissions Criteria published
- 9 January 2024**  
Applications open at 12noon
- 26 January 2024**  
Applications close at 12noon

Scan here for more information  
www.eani.org.uk

### School Choir

Our choir will be singing at the Dromara Christmas Lights Switch-on on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. We look forward to seeing lots of other children from the school there that evening for what is always a lovely community event.

### Dates to Remember:

- |                                            |   |                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Toasty Tuesday                             | - | Last Toasty Tuesday on 28 <sup>th</sup> November                                                                  |
| Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> December               | - | PE kit / Sportswear day (Festive Friday 1)                                                                        |
| Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> December               | - | Christmas Lights Switch on, Dromara Square                                                                        |
| Thu 21 <sup>st</sup> December              | - | Christmas Jumper or Accessories day                                                                               |
| Thu 21 <sup>st</sup> December              | - | School finishes at 12.15 pm for children in Years 1 – 3 and siblings;                                             |
|                                            | - | School finishes 12.25 pm for remaining children in Years 4 – 7                                                    |
|                                            | - | Non-uniform day                                                                                                   |
| Thu 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2022           | - | School reopens for all pupils with normal school hours                                                            |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup> January | - | Year 1 applications open – further details on the EA website <a href="http://www.eani.org.uk">www.eani.org.uk</a> |