



Dromara Primary School



27th September 2022

Closures

School will finish at 1.55 pm on Friday 28th October for half term and reopen on Monday 7th November.

Progress Reports

Short progress reports will go home with your child on Monday 3rd October. This will give you a very brief synopsis of how your child has settled in. Please sign the report and return to school.



Parent Interviews

Interview reply slips will go home on Monday 3rd October. Please complete and return as soon as possible. Interviews will be held week commencing 24th October. *Each pupil will receive one interview time.*

School will finish for all pupils at 1.55 pm each day that week.

There will be no extra-curricular activities that week.

CASHLESS PAYMENTS

We are moving to a cashless payment system in school for school dinners, trips, swimming and other activities run by the school apart from EVO Soccer. EVO should continue to be paid for by cash/cheque.

More information regarding this will be sent home next week. Please keep an eye out, as this is an important move and should make payments to the school much easier – no scrambling around on a Monday morning trying to find change for dinner money! It will be very important to ensure that you have provided us with an active email address.

Data Collection Forms

Your child's/children's data collection form is along with this newsletter – please take a few minutes to check that all information is correct and please amend where necessary. Please also complete any missing information. We would be grateful if you could make any amendments in coloured ink, as this makes the checking process a little easier for us. Even if there are no changes needed, please sign and return the form. We will be using email to communicate more often, so please ensure that you have supplied us with a valid email and check the 'junk' folder every so often.

Year 1

Our Year 1 pupils have settled well into school life. From Monday 3rd October they will finish at 1.45 pm. Children should continue to be left at the appropriate door in the mornings and not accompanied into school.



Year 1 Photographs

Y1 photos will be taken on Tuesday 8th November. The option to have family photos for siblings who attend the school will be available.

Contacting Staff & Collection of Pupils

In accordance with Child Protection Guidelines, we would ask parents not to enter the school building or accompany their child into school unless they have an appointment. **If you wish to speak to a teacher, please contact the office to make an appointment.** Please collect pupils promptly after school or extra-curricular activities. Details are on the website.

School Uniform

Could parents please check that all items of uniform, **including PE kit and coats**, and **all belongings** are clearly labelled. Thank you for your help. Uniform is available from 'Signature Works' either online or from their shop or from 'School Trends' online. Goods ordered online can be refunded/exchanged if required.



Free School Meals



If your child is eligible for Free School Meals and you have not yet applied, please do so as soon as possible. ***If you are eligible, please make sure you apply for Free School Meals even if you think you may not actually use them. The Education Authority takes this into account when calculating the school budget with a deadline of 3rd October.***

PTA Meeting

Thank you to all those parents who came along to the first PTA meeting since before COVID. It was lovely to see so many parents who are willing to give some of their time to raise funds and help out with events in the school!

Healthy Eating

We strongly encourage children to make healthy choices and we need your support with this! Please try to send healthy snacks for break and lunch boxes. It is important for children to remain hydrated and we would ask that you send water instead of juice where possible. Please note that we do not allow any fizzy drinks or 'energy drinks' such as Powerade, Monster, Red Bull etc.

Thank you so much for your cooperation.



- **Sponsored Walk**

Our annual sponsored walk will take place on Friday 7th October. Parents of our younger pupils (Years 1 & 2) are invited to come along to accompany the children as they do their walk around the Lagan Park path.

Sponsor Forms are along with this newsletter. Please support us, no matter how small your sponsorship might amount to, thank you! Years 1-3 will do their walk 11.30-12.00; Y4-7 will walk 1.15-1.45.

- **Toasty Tuesdays**

'Toasty Tuesday' will take place in November. Children can buy a slice of toast at breaktime on Tuesdays at 20p per slice.



- **Hallowe'en Hampers**

Following the successful fundraising event last year, we are organising hampers to be raffled in each class. Details to follow.



- **Hallowe'en Parties for Y1-4 – Wednesday 26th October £3 per child.**

Y1 –Y2 6.00pm – 7.00pm

Y3-Y4 7.00pm - 8.00pm

- **FESTIVE FRIDAYS**

After the success of these in the previous two years, we will once again be holding these on the first 3 Fridays in December. More details in our November newsletter...



Good News Club

The Good News Club will recommence on Friday afternoons, from 7th October, at 3.00 – 4.00pm and runs through until March. All Y1-7 children are welcome.

New Enrolment – Open Afternoon

We are holding an information session for parents considering enrolling a child in Dromara Primary School in September 2023. This will be held on Monday 19th December from 3.30 – 4.30 pm. There will be an opportunity to view the school, meet staff and receive information about the curriculum and our facilities. There will also be information available regarding the Education Authority application procedure.

Website and Curriculum Information

Curriculum information for each class is available on the "Class" pages. If you cannot access the internet, please let the class teacher know and a copy will be sent home with your child.

The 'Start of Year Booklet' is also available on the website and contains a lot of useful information, please take an opportunity to read it – it is currently located on the homepage. Our Facebook page is for information only; Messenger is not available.



Dates to Remember

Friday 7th October - Sponsored Walk - Years 1-3: 11.30-12.00; Y4-7:1.15-1.45.

W/c 24th October – Parent Interview week, children finish at 1.55 pm each day this week.

Wednesday 26th October – Hallowe'en Parties for Y1-4 in school hall (evening)

Wednesday 19th October – Flu Vaccinations (information will be sent home from PHA)

31st Oct – 4th Nov – School closed

Festive Fridays – First 3 Fridays in December (during school)

Tuesday 19th December - Open Afternoon for prospective parents 3.30 – 4.30 pm