



Dromara Primary School



3rd October 2023

Closures

School will finish at 1.00 pm on Friday 27th October for half term and reopen on Monday 6th November.

Progress Reports

Short progress reports will go home with your child on Monday 9th 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 links will be sent out via text message. Please complete as soon as possible and by Friday 6th October at the latest, otherwise we cannot guarantee your preferred time slots. Interviews will be held week commencing 23rd October. *Each pupil will receive one interview time.*

School will finish for all pupils at 1.00 pm each day that week.

There will be no extra-curricular activities that week.

CASHLESS PAYMENTS

Please ensure that payments are up to date, especially school dinner bookings, as this can cause many problems with ensuring that dinners numbers and funds received must balance. Thank you.

EVO should continue to be paid for by cash/cheque.

Email addresses and mobile phone numbers

Please ensure that you have supplied us with current email addresses and phone numbers.

School Photographs

Photos will be taken on Tuesday 7th November. This is open to all pupils this year, as we normally just do Year 1 pupils. The option to have family photos for siblings who attend the school will be available. If you do not wish to have your child(dren)'s photos taken, then please inform the school before the Halloween break. A reminder will go out before Halloween.



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 6th October.***

PTA

Thank you to all those parents who came along to the first PTA meeting this year. 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! This year's activities will be aimed primarily at raising some funds to help with Literacy in the school – for example, we need to replenish many of our reading books and we are wishing to subscribe to an online reading programme, which will be of benefit to all pupils in developing and enhancing reading.

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, Prime etc. we would also remind you that foods containing nuts should be avoided as we have some pupils with severe allergies.

Thank you so much for your cooperation.

- **Sponsored Walk**



Our annual sponsored walk took place on Friday 29th September. The children really enjoyed their walk! A huge thank you to all the parents who came along to support the boys and girls and to those who have returned their sponsor money already. Any remaining sponsor money should be returned as soon as possible – thank you!

- **Toasty Tuesdays**

'Toasty Tuesday' will take place in November. Children can buy a slice of toast at breaktime on Tuesdays at 50p for 2 slices.



- **Hallowe'en Hampers**



Following the successful fundraising event last year, we are organising hampers to be raffled in each class. All children to bring in an item to the value of approximately £1.00.

- **Hallowe'en Parties for Y1-4 – Wednesday 25th October £3 per child.**
Y1–Y2 6.15pm – 7.15pm Y3-Y4 7.30pm - 8.30pm

- **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 6th October, at 3.00 – 4.00pm and runs through until March. All Y1-7 children are welcome.

Jack and the Beanstalk – M&M Productions

We are delighted to welcome back M&M Productions, travelling theatre company, to Dromara PS on Tuesday 24th October. The show is in the morning and is suitable for all children and we require a small payment to help cover costs. This will go live on the SchoolMoney App later in the week: £3 per child (max. £6 per family)

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.

We will continue to use the School App as a quick and efficient way to reach parents with information.



Dates to Remember

W/c 23rd October – Parent Interview week, all children finish at 1.00 pm .

Tuesday 24th October – 'Jack & the Beanstalk' production in school for all children (morning)

Wednesday 25th October – Hallowe'en Parties for Y1-4 in school hall (evening)

30th Oct – 3rd Nov – School closed

Tuesday 7th November – school photos

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