



31<sup>st</sup> January 2023

## Parent Interviews

School will finish for all pupils at 1.00 pm from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February to facilitate parent interviews. A note of your interview time will be sent home with your child. Interviews will be conducted in your child's classroom.



## School Closures

- Half Term - School will finish at 1.00 pm on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February and reopen on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February.
- St Patrick's Day - School is closed on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March and school will close on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 1.45pm (Y1 + Siblings) / 1.55pm (Y2 & Y3 + Siblings) / 2.00pm for remaining pupils.
- Easter Holidays - School finishes at 12.15/12.25 pm on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March and reopens Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April.



## Enrolment 2023

Thank you to all parents who have submitted their applications for next September. **Birth certificate and any other required documentation for all listed preferences must be with the first preference school by 4.00pm on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January.** Parents will be notified of placement after 27<sup>th</sup> April.

## Extra-curricular Activities

There are no extra-curricular activities w/c Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February, including Good News Club.

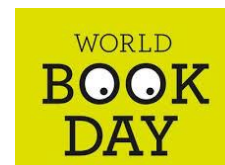


### Valentine's Disco for Years 5-7

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 7.00-8.00pm. Cost £3.00 – bookings can be made through SchoolMoney.

## World Book Day

We will hold our World Book Day Celebration on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March**. It's been a few years since the children have dressed up, so we thought it would be nice to do so this year. They should come to school dressed up as their favourite character from a book and don't forget to bring their book! The older children will also read to the younger pupils and various literacy activities will take place during the day.



## Book Fair

We will be running a Book Fair in school from Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March to Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March. From the sales of the Book Fair, our school will receive a number of FREE BOOKS for our class libraries. Children can use their £1 World Book Day voucher at the Book Fair which will be situated in the Foundation Stage Resource Area. As well as our opening times, pupils will be given time to have a 'book browse and buy' session with their class teacher.

Opening Times: 1.45 – 2.15 pm, 3.00 – 3.20 pm

## Morning Club

As you may remember, parents have been canvassed twice recently with regard to provision of wrap-around care for pupils. Unfortunately, the results of these surveys meant that provision was not sustainable. However, we are now in a position to be able to offer a morning club from 8.30am, thanks to several staff members offering to do this. We hope that this will be of some help to parents who may need to drop off a bit earlier. We will begin this after half term, w/c Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February. If you wish to avail of this the cost will be £2 per child per morning. Breakfast will not be available, this is purely for supervision. To assist us, bookings should be made by lunchtime on the Friday before through SchoolMoney. We will not be taking bookings by telephone or via notes/emails.

## PTA Fundraising

Before Christmas, we had several events which were thoroughly enjoyed by the children. Thank you to everyone who helped to make these events a success! The Halloween Parties for Y1-4 raised £330, while the Halloween Hampers raised £476.07. Our very popular Toasty Tuesdays raised £126.80 - thank you so much to those parents who made sure that this ran so smoothly! Finally, we had our Festive Fridays in December which raised £1501.65. A fantastic effort from everyone – but most of all the fun and enjoyment that the children had was

worth all the effort. We plan to spend the funds on playground toys and resources for the benefit of all children to enjoy at break and lunchtimes. Thank you for your support.

### Exceptional School Closures

In the event of heavy snowfall, burst pipes/flooding or electricity/heating failure, a decision will be made as to whether or not the school can remain open.

**Early closing:** On some occasions, e.g., with heavy snowfall during the day, you may decide that early collection of your child is necessary, especially for those who live a little further out – we understand and will facilitate this. If a situation necessitates early closure of the school, a text message/Facebook post will inform parents that children should be collected.

**School closed:** If possible, prior to the closure, a note may be sent home with your child. In the event of a sudden need to close, information will go out to parents at the earliest possible time (hopefully before 8.00am) via text message and a notice will be placed on the school website/Facebook page. We would appreciate you spreading the word with friends/relatives/neighbours and those who collect your child(ren).

**If you have changed your mobile phone number recently and have not informed us, please let the school know as soon as possible. A text is normally only sent to the parent listed as 'Priority No 1' on our system.**



### Industrial Action

As you may have heard in the press, teaching unions have agreed to take strike action. At this stage it is unclear how the school will be affected. Parents will be informed as soon as we know what is happening.

### Absences

Please remember to telephone/email the school or provide a note if your child is absent. **The Department of Education requires us to assign a code for all absences** and these are monitored by the Education Welfare Officer who will contact parents where a child's attendance falls within their criteria.

### Healthy Eating



Please try to ensure that your child has a healthy snack for their break. We will continue to encourage children to choose healthy options and to reinforce the benefits of a healthy lifestyle. We encourage pupils to stay hydrated during school, as there is a proven benefit to their health and learning ability. However, we ask that pupils **only bring bottles of water** to school. Please do not send any fizzy drinks, juice or 'power' drinks. Policy is available online.

### Allergies

There are some pupils with **severe nut allergies**, so please ensure that you avoid sending products that contain nuts. Thank you.

### Finally....

**Congratulations to Abby Magowan** who was named **'Player of the Tournament'** at the EVO Soccer tournament in Banbridge last week. Well done to all the team who played very well and were unlucky in their semi-final game to go down by 1-0.

#### Dates to Remember:

6 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> February	-	Parent Interviews – school finishes 1.00 pm
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	-	Valentine's Disco for Y5-7, 7.00-8.00pm
13 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> February	-	Half Term Break; School Reopens on Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> February.
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	-	World Book Day Celebration
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	-	School finishes at 1.45/1.55pm (Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March - School Closed)
21 <sup>st</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> March	-	Book Fair
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	-	School finishes 12.15 pm for Years 1-3 and siblings, 12.25 pm for remaining pupils for Easter Holidays.
3 <sup>rd</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> April	-	Easter Holidays; School reopens on Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April



**Remember to check the website for up-to-date information  
as we aim to reduce photocopying to save money and the environment.**

[www.dromaraps.org](http://www.dromaraps.org)