



October 2021 - Newsletter

Hallowe'en holiday

The school will be closed on Monday 25th, Tuesday 26th, Wednesday 27th October, Thursday 28th and Friday 29th October for the Halloween Break.

Halloween Sponsored Walk

On Friday 22nd October we are going to go on a Sponsored Walk around some of the lovely new walks we have round the school. Children can wear in their Halloween fancy dress outfits. We are hoping to raise some money to turn a worn out old room into a sensory space where children can take some time to unwind and reset when they need to. We have sent a sponsored walk form home to each family. Thanks.



Poppin Pilates

Liz from Poppin Pilates will be coming to the school on Wednesday 13th October to do Poppin Pilates with the whole school. Every class will go to the Millennium Hall to work with her. Liz did this during our summer school and we all had a great time, although we were wrecked after it. It is really good fun. Children should wear their P.E kit to school.

Healthy Breakfast

As part of our Mental Health and Well-Being focus we are talking about Healthy Eating. On Wednesday 20th October we will be having a Big Healthy Breakfast here at school. We will be trying lots of different healthy breakfasts and encouraging children to try some new foods and breakfast options.

P.E

Children will have P.E at least twice a week. Our younger children (Yr 1-4) have Damien from CoreNI coming in to do Fundamentals with them on a Friday. Our older children (Yr 5-7) are working with the GAA coach Fearghal on Mondays. Year 6 and 7 children will be swimming until Christmas. Children should wear their P.E kit to school on their P.E days only. School uniforms must be worn on all other days. Many thanks.

Neuronimo



This term we are taking part in Neuronimo. It is a child-friendly online programme which shows children the relationship between their brains and their emotions and how it all works. This is a programme that targets habits which promote better physical health, resilience, better mental health, manage impulse control, sleep and mood. It shows young people how to calm anxieties and how to keep on doing it.

It is done in such a way that these habits stick, they become subconscious and they stay around as children become aware of why they are behaving and feeling the way they do. P6/7(in the photo) are doing their online lesson today live from Cape Town.

Parent teacher meetings

Parent Teacher meetings will take place this year after the mid-term break. Class teachers will let you know the date and time. Many thanks.



Whole School Focus:

This year our main targets for development across the school are:

Literacy:Comprehension

Numeracy:Mathematical Investigations and written problems.

ICT:Using IPads

PDMU: Mental Health and Well-Being

Visitors

All visitors to the school should report to reception on arrival to the school. Please leave lunchboxes, forgotten P.E things etc at Reception. Thanks.

Dinner Money

Please send in dinner money every Monday for the week or days ahead:the cost is £2.60 per day, cash only please, as EA does not accept cheques any more.

Monthly Focus

Every month we focus on a different topic in Numeracy and Literacy. Some parents have indicated that they would like to know what topic the children are focussing on and how they can help at home. To support you in helping your child/ren at home we are going to give some tips and advice each month as to how you can help. We hope this will be of benefit to you but please let us know if we can do anything more please let us know.



Numeracy

In Numeracy we focus on Number every month but then also another element of Numeracy. This month our topic is TIME.

Here are some ideas to help you support your child with TIME.

- Talk to your child about the time
- Ask your child to tell you the time.
- Ask your child what time will it be in one hour, in another half an hour, in five more minutes etc

Encourage your child to say the days of the week and the months of the year.

- Ask your child to tell you the time on a digital clock as well as an analogue clock i.e 12.30 is half past 12, 11.15 is a quarter past 11 etc
- Encourage your child to look at the TV guide for the times of programmes etc.
- Older children can tell you the time in 24 hr clock form as well as times in a.m and p.m
- Encourage your children to tell you how long things will take i.e How long will a programme last? How long does it take to play a game of football? etc
- Look at bus timetables, plane schedules and ask questions about those e.g which bus would be the best to take if I need to be in Belfast for 4.00p.m etc
- Talk about the time in different countries.



Golden Rules

This year we are continuing to use the Golden Rules throughout the school. There are only six rules we have to keep in school. It would be great if you could discuss these with your children at home also. They are:

- We listen
- We are honest
- We are gentle
- We are kind and helpful
- We look after school property
- We work hard.

School Web-site

Do remember to check out our web-site where you will find lots more photos and children's work as well as school policies and information.

Covid-19

Covid-19 is still very much present here in the community and in the school. Please continue to be vigilant for the symptoms in your children.

- A high temperature
- A new continuous cough
- Loss of smell and taste.

If your child displays any of these symptoms, please keep them at home and bring them for a PCR test.

If your child tests negative they can return to school when they are well enough to do so.

If your child tests positive they must self-isolate for ten days.

The school will send out an Alert letter to inform you if there is a case in your child's class. If your child is identified as a close contact, the PHA will contact you and inform you of the steps to take.