



# EBRINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

April 2022 Newsletter

## School Times:

**ANOTHER REMINDER** that school starts for pupils at 8:55am, with doors open from 8:40am.

There is still a small number of pupils arriving at the front office between 9:00-9:20am. They are very often the same pupils with little or no reason for being late. This means that we have pupils who could be missing 1+ hour of teaching each week.

Please ensure that all pupils are in school, ready for learning by 8:55am.



## Car Parking

Thank you to the parents who have continued to follow school routines with regards driving and parking on site.

I appeal once more to ALL PARENTS to act considerably. I am aware of one parent who challenged a member of staff last week when parking in a staff only area and I witnessed a vehicle moving along the area outside P2/ P4/ Nursery area at end of school time, while pupils were moving in the area. This could have been a serious incident.



A **FINAL REMINDER** that the lower school car park for 'park-up' traffic should be limited to blue badge holders, parents of SEN pupils who require being taken to class, registered childminders or any family who have made contact with school regarding a particular issue and have supplied car make and registration. All other traffic on site should be 'drop-off only'. All other parking should be at the Nelson Drive entry. Due to my ongoing health & safety concerns, I am discussing alternatives with EA regarding parent vehicles accessing our school site.

**I DO NOT want to be having to make a call to emergency services due to an accident involving any member of our school community.**

## **\*\*REMINDER\*\* Walled City Passion Event**

WALLED CITY  
PASSION  
[www.walledcitypassion.com](http://www.walledcitypassion.com)

We are just delighted to share what Ebrington has been waiting for.... for too long...

The opportunity to sing again as a choir 🎵🎹🎻. Our school community can check us out on RTE One on Easter Sunday at 10.30pm and also BBC iPlayer and RTE Player in Good Friday at 4.30pm.

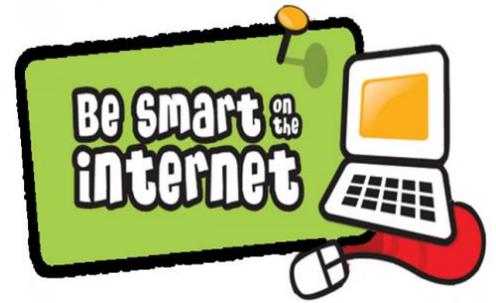
## The Hills Church Easter Egg and Fun Day

A big THANK YOU to The Hills Church, who very kindly donated and Easter egg to each pupil in school. One of those eggs has a special golden ticket inside, with a special prize for the lucky winner. A separate flyer has been sent home, giving details of a Fun Day that the church has organised over Easter. If free, why not pop along.



## **Internet Safety**

I am aware a number of our pupils were given devices/ phones at Christmas time. This brings much excitement to a primary school pupil, but also brings much responsibility-both for the pupil and parent. I am aware MANY of our primary age pupils in Key Stage 2 (and some younger) are using social media apps which include TikTok, SnapChat, Instagram, Facebook and others. These social media apps have, at the youngest, an age of 13 years old. I would encourage parents to consider whether or not their child is 'age-appropriate' for using these apps. If you decide, as parents, that your child is able to use an app maturely, I would encourage you to regularly check usage and discuss safety with your child.



I would like to signpost parents to two very useful websites:

[www.nationalonlinesafety.com](http://www.nationalonlinesafety.com) and [www.internetmatters.com](http://www.internetmatters.com) for some very useful advice and tips.

## **School Funding**

Schools recently received communication from the Educational Psychology Service about pressures on their service and how it will impact pupils that school would identify for extra support/ provision. We also have the issue of continued cuts to school budgets, loss of Covid funding which is adding increased pressure to school budgets, cuts to SEN budgets. These are all things which will put extra pressures on staffing and provision in schools across the province in the near future, with many schools already in financial challenges.



As election looms, I would encourage our school community to ask any canvassing parties what priority they feel Education has and how they would work to avert the current funding crisis in schools.

## **School Admissions**

A reminder of dates for all those parents eagerly waiting on school admissions confirmation.

New Nursery families will receive confirmation of their place on 28<sup>th</sup> April.

Our Primary 1 families will also receive confirmation of their place on 28<sup>th</sup> April.

For our Primary 7 pupils, their wait is slightly longer, with notification of the post-primary places being sent out on 21<sup>st</sup> May.



## **End of Term**

Just to remind you all that school will close this Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> April at 12 noon, with no after school facilities. I wish everyone a Happy Easter and look forward to seeing everyone back on Monday 25 April, for what will be a busy nine weeks of school in the summer term.



***Thank you for your continued support at this challenging time.  
Mr Guthrie***