

AUGHNACLOY PRIMARY SCHOOL
1 Carnteel Road, Aughnacloy, Co Tyrone, BT69 6DU.
Telephone: (028) 85557316
<http://www.aughnacloyps.co.uk>
email:jclarke293@c2kni.net

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year at Aughnacloy Primary School. We trust you all had an enjoyable summer. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome the 19 new pupils to Primary 1. We all hope you enjoy your time at Aughnacloy Primary School.

All children will return to school on Wednesday 30th August. There will be no school buses on 30/8/23 or 31/8/23 but school dinners **will be** available from 30/8/32.

From Wednesday 30/8/23, school will start at **8.45am**, with drop off in playground from 8.30am. All children (apart from P6 children who are in the mobile) will enter school via the side door, where they will be greeted by a classroom assistant, asked to sanitise their hands, and then go directly to their classroom. (P.1 children staggered intake as per information provided)

From 4/9/23, we will be offering breakfast club for children from 8.20am. at a cost £1 per day, in our school assembly hall. Those children wishing to avail of breakfast club should enter via the front door and pay each day they wish to use this facility.

Pickup times 30/8/23

P.1 – 12. noon -Daily (30/8/23- 15/9/23). From 18/9/23 – 1.35pm Daily

P.2 – 1.40pm - Daily

P3 – 1.45pm- Tuesday/Thursday

P.3 – 2.35pm – Monday/Wednesday/Friday

P4 – 2.40pm - Daily

P5 – 2.40pm - Daily

P6– 2.45pm - Daily

P7 – 2.45pm - Daily

Parents are to wait in the car park and teachers will bring their class into the playground to be released to their parent at the gate. Siblings from older classes will be released with their younger siblings at their relevant pick-up times.

It is important that parents adhere to the drop off/pickup times and allow themselves time to park and collect their child promptly on time. Our school car park is very busy at home time so can I emphasise that parents please come at the correct times to avoid taking up parking spaces for other parents. Social distancing is no longer an issue, and in the interest of safety, parents of children in P1-3 must come right down to the gate to collect their children

Drop off/Pick up.

The following guidance for drop off and pick up.

- Parents must ensure they leave the carpark swiftly after drop off
- Parents should not come into school building/playground unless they have made a prior appointment with the member of staff, with the exception of parents of P1 children who can walk their children to the side door for the first few weeks/until they have settled. If you need to speak to your child's class teacher, please telephone after school hours or send a dojo message.
- Parents are encouraged to use nearby parking areas or to walk to drop off/pickup. (Please note the bus depot carpark can only be used for early pick up and parents must leave immediately they pick up their children. In the interest of safety, young children should not be running around the bus depot/school carparks.
- Please ensure child minders/grandparents etc. are aware of this guidance

School uniform

School uniform should be worn to school each day. Our school uniform policy can be found on our school website. Please label ALL items of clothing.

Apart from P1 children, who will be learning the skill of changing for P.E., P.E. kits can be worn to school on days indicated by each teacher below, commencing on the week beginning 4/9/23.

P.E. days P2-P7

Monday –P4

Tuesday – P5

Wednesday- P6 & P7

Thursday – P2

Friday – P3

Last year we had ordered ¼ zips for P.E. activities and extra-curricular sports. I was not happy with the quality of some of these, so I have sourced a similar ¼ zip from another local company TM3 clothing, Augher. Please message your class teacher if you would be interested in ordering a ¼ zip, so I can gauge demand. (approx. cost £25)

Children in P2-7 will need a schoolbag this year.

Children **must** bring a coat to school each day.

There are some items of second hand uniform in school. If anyone wishes to purchase these at a reduced cost, please contact your class teacher via dojo.

School meals

School meals will be available for children from 30/8/23

Dinner money must be booked/paid for in advance, using the online payment app. **This must be completed before 8.00am each Monday morning to ensure your child is included in the weekly dinner rota.** Teachers do not have the time to check the booking system on a daily basis. The dinner menu for term 1 is on the Parents Area of the school app and the school website. School dinners currently cost £2.60 per day. Term 1 will start with **week 2** dinner menu.

School will be providing healthy break from 30/8/23, at a cost of £8 per month for Healthy snack and £2 per month, for those who wish to take milk. This payment must be made monthly/termly/yearly via the school app.

If your child is not taking the school healthy snack, they need to bring their own healthy option.

Non –uniform

As part of fund raising for resources in school, we have a non-uniform day on the last Friday of each month. The children pay £1 to wear their own clothes to school on this day. This can be paid for the year (£10) via the school payment app, or children can bring £1 on each non-uniform day in a **sealed/labelled envelope**.

School transport

All school transport services will resume as normal from 1st September 2023.

Swimming

School has been able to secure blocks of 8 weeks swimming lessons for children from P3-P7 in Monaghan Leisure Centre.

Term 1 - P4/5 Thursdays – 10.00am beginning 26/10/23

Term 2 – P6/7 Thursdays – 10.00am beginning 11/1/24

Term 3 – P3 Thursdays – 10.00am beginning 11/4/24

With the increased cost of transport and swimming lessons, and in consultation with other local schools, we are continuing to ask for a charge for swimming lessons this year. The cost will be £3.50 per day (paid on each swimming day, and brought to school in a **sealed/labelled envelope**) or at a reduced rate of £25 if paid in full via the school app.

Stay late Club

Children in P1/2 and P3 (Tuesday's & Thursday's) can avail of our Stay late club from 1.40-2.20pm each day at a charge of £3 per day. This will re-start on Monday 11th September 2023. This must be paid via the school app before 8.00am each Monday morning. Late booking may mean your child cannot stay for Stay late club if the adult/child ratio is too high!

School Photographer

The school photographer will be in school on Wednesday 6th September to take individual photos and family photos of children in school. A slip will be going home with your child this week to inform the photographer of your photograph choices.

Communication

The main form of communication between home and school will be class dojo. Please be mindful of the well-being of staff and when possible, only contact them on this platform between 8.00am & 4.30pm. Parents can also email/telephone school with any queries/concerns they may have. Teachers **will not** be replying to dojo messages after 5pm.

Social Media

In this age of technology, the wise management of your child's devices can make a real difference to their educational achievement. It's encouraging that many of our parents already offer their child sensible advice in this area and are aware of the dangers which they pose.

On this subject, we would discourage the use of WhatsApp groups among the children. While they can be a great way to stay in touch, we have found that pupils are sometimes excluded and this can cause tensions in school. Other social media platforms such as TikTok, SnapChat, Instagram and Facebook also present very real dangers to our children. If you choose to permit your child to have access to such accounts, we strongly advise that you closely monitor all content.

Just to remind you, no electronic devices are permitted in school except in exceptional circumstances where it has been agreed between parent and the class teacher.

Many thanks

J Clarke