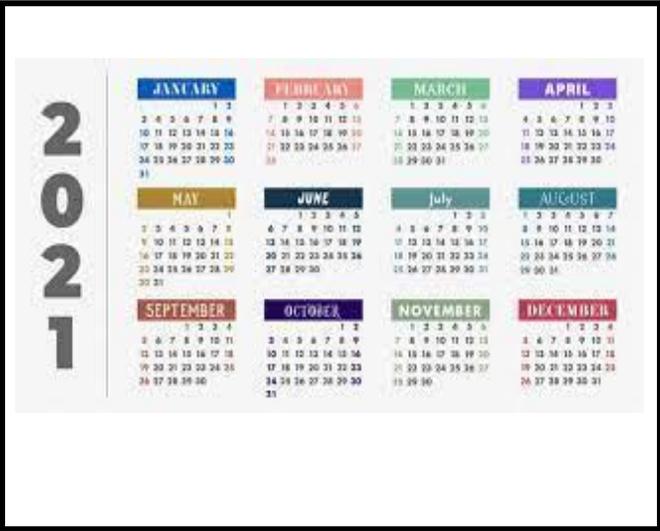




October 2021



Wed 6 th Oct	Futsal Coaching – Years 6 & 7
Thurs 7 th Oct	Nursery Balance Ability Programme
Wed 20 th Oct	Year 5 SENTINUS Workshop on Magnetism
Thurs 21 st Oct	Halloween Dress Up Day & Special Spooky Lunch
Fri 22 nd Oct	Exceptional Closure – School closed to pupils – Reporting to Parents
Mon 26 th – Friday 29 th Oct	Mid Term Break Pupils return to school on Monday 1 st November



Parent Teacher Meetings

These will take the form of a telephone call and will take place over evenings during the week commencing Monday 18th October, and also throughout the day on Friday 22nd October (**school closed to pupils**).

Appointment times will be made available via the OIPS Parent App. When booking a time, please also include the telephone number upon which you wish to be contacted by your child's teacher.

All 'meetings' will last 10 minutes and will give you an opportunity to find out how your child has settled into their new class and their progress to date. **BOOKINGS WILL OPEN TOMORROW AND CLOSE AT 3PM ON FRIDAY 15TH.**

Once you have booked your time, **PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THIS** and also check all email inboxes for confirmation.

Parental contact information

If you have not already done so, please return the parental contact information, including the photographic permission section. This information is absolutely vital for our school and is used to update our SIMS software so that parents can be contacted when necessary, particularly where a pupil is feeling unwell or has had an accident.

Sacramental Preparation

We have been given provisional dates for sacraments for those pupils in Years 4 and 7 who wish to receive these.

The dates are as follows:

Confirmation – Saturday 2nd Aril, 2pm, Christ The King

First Holy Communion – Saturday 14th May, 11am, Christ The King

Year 7 pupils have begun their sacramental preparation. Year 4 pupils will commence their preparations this week. Further details on the Year 4, Parish led Sacramental Preparation Programme, 'Do This In Memory', will be made available soon. Preparation for both sacraments requires an element of home activity and parental support is very important. Of particular importance is the need for your child to attend Mass regularly so that they are familiar with Mass, allowing your child a much better understanding of the sacraments.



Swimming

Year 6 and 7 pupils will have swimming lessons during this academic year. Lessons will be 8 weeks in total with 2 classes beginning to attend in November, and 1 class in April.

Further details (to those classes attending in November), will be provided by teachers shortly.



Nursery Balance Ability Programme

Our Nursery pupils have begun a 6-week Balance Ability Programme through Fermanagh & Omagh District Council. A tutor will visit each week (on a Thursday) and will help the children develop the important skill of balancing, including the use of balance bikes as an early step towards cycling. Miss Curry's class will have their 6 sessions first, with Mrs. Law's class to enjoy their 6 week block afterwards.

Year 6 & 7 Futsal Programme

Our Year 6 and 7 pupils are looking forward to a 4 week coaching course in Futsal, through David Alonso from Omagh Futsal Club.

Coaching sessions will commence on Wednesday 13th October for 4 weeks and will form part of the PE provision for these classes for the 4 weeks.

IEP's

If your child has an Individual Education Plan, you should have received a copy from your child's teacher for your review and agreement. The school must retain a copy signed by a parent for each of these. If you have not received this, you may have missed your child's teacher trying to contact you about this. If you have not yet signed and returned your child's IEP, please do so as soon as possible.

If you are not sure whether this applies to your child, your child's teacher will be able to help when they contact you again for Parent Teacher Meetings next week.

ENGAGE Programme

We are delighted to be able to offer this programme of intervention again this year, as we strive to address the impact that enforced school closures have had on the progress of some pupils.

If your child has been included in this programme, you will receive a letter this week with further details about what support your child may be offered and when.

Miss Mallon is once again heading up the programme which proved very worthwhile for the pupils involved last year.

Nut Free School

We have pupils in our school who suffer severe reactions to nuts and thus we are a NUT FREE SCHOOL. Please be vigilant about what goes in packed lunches and ensure that there are no foods that contain nuts or have traces of nuts. If packed lunches include processed/package items, please check the ingredients carefully.

In our canteen we refer to a list of foods which we would like children to avoid. We are currently seeking further, current advice on this important issue and will aim to share this information with parents when we have received it.

We appreciate your support and patience whilst we manage this for the well-being of our pupils.

Whole School Vaccinations

Flu vaccinations will be administered in school on Tuesday 9th November. All pupils should by now have received a letter explaining how the vaccinations work and parental permission will also have been sought through this letter.



Peace Pole – 40 Years of Integrated Education in Northern Ireland

We were delighted to last week be joined by former OIPS Principal, Eric Bullick, as we marked the 40th Anniversary of Integrated Education beginning in NI, by erecting a Peace Pole near the main entrance to the school. The Peace Pole was first gifted to the school in 2004 by a group of visiting Japanese Teachers and is inscribed with the words, 'May Peace Prevail On Earth'. We are very grateful to Mr Bullick for visiting us again to mark this occasion and thank you as well to Richard (and the team of pupils from across the school) who helped erect the pole and Mrs Clements who organised everything.

Attendance

If your child is going to be absent for the day, please telephone the office in the morning to alert our staff. A note should then follow upon your child's return to school so that our attendance records can be amended to indicate the reason for absence.

Please also be aware that arriving late for school (after registration has closed) is considered an absence and must be recorded in this manner.

Please consider the following guidance from the Department of Education:

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed	Excellent
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Satisfactory
90% Attendance	19 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Poor
85% Attendance	28 Days of Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Very Poor
80% Attendance	38 Days of Absence 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Unacceptable
75% Attendance	46 Days of Absence 9 Weeks and 1 Day of Learning Missed	Unacceptable
For some parents, 90% may seem like an acceptable level of attendance, but the reality is that 90% attendance means that your child will miss half a school day each week or 19 days of school during the school year - that's nearly 4 school weeks.		

We intend to begin using the OIPS Parent App as a means of alerting the school to pupils' absence. Once this is ready to commence, we will let you know.

Accelerated Reader

We are delighted that this fantastic programme is operating in our Year 5-7 classes under the guidance of our Literacy coordinator Mrs Young. Our pupils in these classes have been assessed to identify their reading level and will embark upon reading a range of books, achieving their goals and targets and improving their reading ability as they progress up the levels.

Pupils can move through various stages of reading competency. Prizes are available for those who reach Millionaire or Multi-Millionaire Word level and all pupils who move on to new stages are recognised and celebrated through Assembly and our 'Wall of Fame' AR Board in school.

Please encourage your child to read as much as possible and support them to do so at home.



Halloween Dress Up

Pupils can come to school in Halloween Fancy Dress on Thursday 21st October. There will be a range of activities for our pupils to enjoy during the day including a disco!

Mid Term Break

School will be closed for pupils from Friday 22nd October (Reporting to Parents Day) for Mid Term Break, reopening on Monday 1st November.

We hope that all our pupils (and parents!) have an enjoyable Mid Term Break.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is available for pupils every morning from 8am until 8.30am. Our new cook Anne McNulty, with the support of Mrs Scullion, is on hand to provide a wide selection of delicious and nutritious breakfast goodies at a very reasonable price of £1, all served with a warm smile!

Perfect for those children who are getting dropped off early and an ideal way to start the day at school.

Remember! This service can be booked and paid for through our School Money App. Youngest pupils (Nursery & Pre-School) can also now attend and they can pay on the day.

Pre-School/Nursery Lunch Club

Our youngest pupils are now able to stay on in Nursery or Pre-School to avail of a packed lunch or hot meal from our kitchen. This is such an important step in their development. If your child attends Nursery/Pre-School and you wish to consider availing of this facility, let Mrs. Law or Miss Curry know.

After School Activities

As we progress towards school being a little more like it was before March 2020, we will be reintroducing After School Activities soon. These will resume in a phased way and further details will follow soon.

Shared Education - Nursery

In the past, Miss Curry has led our Nursery in a very successful Shared Education partnership with Omagh North Nursery and Christ The King Nursery, and we are delighted that this partnership is resuming this year. Miss Curry will soon be meeting with staff from both Nurseries to plan activities for the year ahead.

Uniform

Uniform is an important element of school life and helps our pupils to say, 'I belong to Omagh Integrated PS'.

Pupils should wear their full uniform each day, unless they are having PE. Please make sure that all items of uniform are labelled, as items can go missing and having names on jumpers etc allow staff to more easily return these to the correct pupils.

As we enter further into Autumn and then Winter, a coat will be necessary too.... pupils will be outdoors every day at break and lunch unless the weather is particularly bad.

Awards

Last week we posted a pic collage of pupils who had received awards at Assembly. Please keep an eye out each Friday for our award recipients.

Listed below, all pupils who have received an award during **September**. Well done to every pupil!



Class	Pupil of The Week	Marvellous MAnners
Yr 1 JD	Harley, Bethany, Rose, Jessica.	Lila, Frankie, Jessica, Louie.
Yr 1 LR	The Whole Class! Olivia O'K, Grace, Olivia Mc	Mia, Kayden, Caydin, Jacob.
Yr 2 NE	Clara, Rose, Tyler, TJ, Finn.	Callum, Andi, Conall, Aaron.
Yr 3 DY/MM	Anna, Quintin, Finn, Emily.	Carson, Callan, Noah, Amelia.
Yr 3/4 CO'K/MM	Sophie, Leah B, Leah L, Alex.	Brona, Kerim, Jake, Eva.
Yr 4 DMK/SW	Ronan, Eva, Hannah, Jackson.	Clara, Ryan, Jackson, Kacie.
Yr 5 JC/SH	Emily, Emilia, Callum, Aden.	Thomas, Natan, Lila, Kay.
Yr 6 AMG	Sam, Charlie, Ruby, Jamie.	Eoife, Daniel, Cormac, Eva
Yr 6/7 ST/SW	Elle Maye, Caolan, Julia, Sarah.	Kacper, Michael, Nuala, Lena
Yr 7 JW	Nathan, Matthew, Sophie, Megan.	Maddie, Lexie, Aoife, Cadhla.