

Clare Primary School

October Newsletter 2019



Dear parents/guardians

The first month of our new school year has got off to a fantastic start...our Anti-bullying Ambassadors and Playground Buddies are established and the School Council and Eco Committee are back up and running too! On top of all that, we have had the introduction of our outdoor classroom and our first overview of the school year parent information evening!

I would encourage you to take note of the following dates and information. If you have any queries or questions, please contact Mrs Dillon in the school office.

Dates for diary

- P6/7 swimming will run up to 18th November.
- After school activities to start on the week beginning Monday 30th September.
- P1 parent information afternoon will be held in Mrs Martin's room on Wednesday 9th October.
- P2 parent information afternoon will be held in Mrs Turkington's room on Thursday 10th October.
- Parent teacher consultations will be held the week beginning 21st October, when children will finish at 2pm all this week to accommodate these meetings.
- The Book Fair will be in school Friday 18th October – Wednesday 23rd October.
- Friends of Clare AGM Monday 21st October at 7pm
- October half term holidays – school finishes at 2pm for all pupils on Friday 25th October and reopens on Monday 4th November.
- Flu vaccine will be provided by the nurse on Tuesday, 19th November, for those who wish to avail of the service.
- Winter holiday begins Friday 20th December.

Parent Information Evening

Our first parent information evening to provide an overview of the school year was held on 26th September, thank you to all who were able to attend. The PowerPoint from the evening has been uploaded on to the school website, please have a look at it to familiarise yourself with our vision for the year.

Parking

I know parking is challenging when dropping off and collecting the children at our school. Where possible please try not to park in front of the bus stop/stoned area at the neighbouring house to the school. This causes congestion and single file traffic, which cause major issues when farming machinery wishes to pass. The safety of our pupils is first and foremost in all decisions, so please park carefully and come down the path to collect your children.

P1/P2 Information Afternoons

Mrs Martin and Mrs Turkington are planning to hold information afternoons for the parents of the pupils in each of these classes. This will be an opportunity for parents to learn/revise how we teach phonics etc. in the Foundation Stage. P1 parent information afternoon will be held in Mrs Martin's room on Wednesday 9th October and the P2 parent information afternoon will be held in Mrs Turkington's room on Thursday 10th October.

£5 and £10 notes

Please do not send in the older style paper £5 and £10 notes, as a school we are unable to accept them as a form of payment.

Friends of Clare – Everyone Welcome!

Our AGM is on Monday 21st October at 7pm and we would warmly welcome any parents or friends of Clare to attend and help out when they can. Each year at the AGM it is possible to elect a new chair, secretary and treasurer, if you are interested in any of these roles, nominations can be sent to Miss Lindsay before the meeting or they can be made on the evening.

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Friends of Clare is such a huge asset to our children, last year alone over £4,000 was raised which was kindly presented to the school to replace 10 laptops from a forced, centralised upgrade of our software, making these laptops unusable. Please consider helping us this year with a contribution of your time to one of these vital roles.

Thank you

European Day of Languages was a wonderful celebration this year, with Mrs Kelly and her staff creating a range of treats. We would like to thank you for supporting our school kitchen efforts on these days.

The school would like to thank Opus for updating our Clare Primary School photographic displays around the school and for providing our staff and safe guarding board in the foyer. They look fantastic and are very much appreciated.

The school would also like to thank Ben Mercer Tree Services for the creation and donation of our outdoor classroom. The children are thoroughly enjoying using it and all visitors have passed comment on how wonderful an idea it is.

Anti Bullying Ambassadors

The worry box has been introduced for children to have someone to talk to if they are worried. The Anti Bullying Ambassadors are really looking after our school and will deal with worries like friendships, Mrs Martin and myself will check the box first and delegate the worries.

Celebration Assembly

At Clare, we care about your child both inside and outside of the school day and so we will have a celebration assembly which will enable the children to bring in any awards or certificates, etc they have achieved outside school in the last month.

P1 Open Evening

The school will hold its annual Open Evening on **Tuesday 26th November from 6 p.m.** for new pupils for the 2020 school year. Please spread the word. Further details will follow.

Education Welfare Officer

Our school has had a new Education Welfare Officer appointed and I am delighted to report she was very impressed with our school and our average attendance of 98%. Please make sure your child has as few avoidable days off in the school year to keep this percentage figure high. Regular attendance at school helps with a child's routine, academic progress through reduced gaps in their learning and helps develop social stability in classes and friendship groups.

Message From The Education Authority

The Authority has now received confirmation that the early May Bank Holiday on Monday 04 May 2020 will be moved to Friday 08 May 2020.

Transport and catering services will therefore be available as normal on Monday 04 May 2020. Friday 08 May 2020 will be a non-operational day for transport and catering services and schools should reflect this accordingly in their timetables.

Wishing you a safe and wonderful half term break with your family and we look forward to welcoming you all back in November.

Shona Lindsay
Principal