



The Wee Friday Note

Friday 8th October 2021



Who's phoning me on 028 95 36 88 88 ?

This number belongs to the PHA (N.I.)

Save this number to your phone so you know to answer the call !

- 1. END OF £20 UNIVERSAL CREDIT BOOST (COVID) & ENTITLEMENT TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS** The recent change to the level of Universal Credit provided may mean that some families previously not eligible to receive FSM are now eligible. Worth double-checking:
<https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants/apply-for-free-school-meals-uniform-grants>
- 2. BREAKFAST CLUB** – our breakfast club has restarted although we are keeping numbers low at present so we have room to space children out. It starts at 8:15am and runs until 8:45am, after which those attending will go straight to class. It costs £1 per child per day. Parents must use our *ParentMoney* App to pre-book and pre-pay their children into breakfast club before 12 noon on Fridays for the following week. There's a wide choice of foodstuffs for children to enjoy: fruit juices, selection of cereals, porridge, toast and a selection of spreads. There's a nice atmosphere and cartoons are often played on the big screen for the children to enjoy. Book and pay on edsp.co/sm-login with your registered password for **SchoolMoney/Teachers2Parents** OR if new to **SchoolMoney** use **#password**
- 3. HEALTHY BREAKS, NO NUTS & WATER ONLY** – please remember to send only healthy breaks Monday-Thursday with your children. On Fridays, children can bring a sweet treat, piece of cake or regular crisps as an end of week treat. Only water is allowed to be brought for break and packed lunches (and that is for every day). Lastly, please remember we are a 'nut free' school due to some children and staff having allergies.
- 4. HAPPY BIRTHDAY (CAKES)** – every week in school, we announce and celebrate pupils' birthdays. Parents sometimes want to send birthday cakes into school for children to enjoy. This is very kind and well-intentioned. However, cutting a cake and distributing it to 25 children in a classroom setting in which some children have allergies is problematic. So, if a child has a birthday and parents want to send her/his classmates a treat, this can only be done on Fridays. It needs to be something individually wrapped. It cannot contain nuts as an ingredient. Fun-size bars or individually wrapped cake bars/biscuits are ideal ...but no birthday cakes please (they won't be used). Thank you.
- 5. SCHOOL CENSUS FORMS** – please make sure you have returned your Census forms to Miss Murphy before Wednesday 13th October (next Wednesday).
- 6. 'Normal' childhood sickness** – now that we are approaching the autumn/winter, we can all expect to see the usual coughs, colds, runny noses, etc. These conditions, along with bouts of vomiting or diarrhoea, cannot be ignored just because they are not Covid. If a child vomits or experiences a bout of diarrhoea, they must stay out of school for 48 hours (2 full days) according to HSC/PSA for schools. None of us would choose for our children to miss any days at school but remember to follow the better safe than sorry rule: *"If in doubt, keep them out and observe for 48 hours"*.
- 7. Coffee & Chat with Alex for parents** – Alex has been trying to connect with parents by inviting them into the Youth Room of the Community Centre to meet her over a cuppa. School employs Alex to be an additional support for parents. These mornings are just providing opportunities for parents to meet Alex, ask for a bit of advice if necessary or be sign-posted to another source of help. If we don't 'use' Alex, we will lose her! Alex wants to hear from parents what sort of things she can help them with.

<p>Hi Parents, I'm Alex your parent support worker in Cregagh Primary School.</p> <p>You can find me in the school on Thursday mornings for parenting support – including behaviour issues, help with free school meal forms and signposting to the family support hub.</p> <p>I hope all the children are settling well back into school and I look forward to meeting you all in time.</p> 	 <p>I will be available from 9:00 – 10:00am for a coffee and a chat on:</p> <p><u>Thursday Mornings</u></p> <p>23rd Sept for P1 parents 30th Sept for P2 parents 7th Oct for P3 parents 14th Oct P4 – P7 parents</p> <p>Individual Drop-In will be running from 10:00 to 11:00am.</p> <p>If you would like to book an individual slot please text or call me on 07740545129.</p>	
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Every Thursday morning in October	Coffee & Chat with Alex our parent engagement worker in the Youth Room, Cregagh Community Centre
Week beginning Monday 18 th October	Parent-Teacher Consultations (via phone or Zoom). Early 1pm finish for P1-7 Monday to Friday*. Dinners & lunches as normal.
Friday 22 nd October	last day of first half-term. 1pm finish time* .
Monday 25 th -Friday 29 th October	Halloween holiday (5 school days inclusive).
Monday 1 st November	back to school for start of second half-term.
Wednesday 22 nd December	last day of first <u>full</u> term. 12noon finish. No dinners/lunches
Thursday 23 rd December- Wednesday 5 th January 2022	Christmas holidays (10 school days inclusive)
Thursday 6 th January 2022	New spring term begins

****ADVANCE NOTICE****

As highlighted on our school holiday calendar, NI school children will get an extra day's holiday in 2022 for HRM the Queen's Jubilee. To balance our school calendar, Cregagh PS will be closed one additional day on Friday 18th March

2022. This will mean, CPS pupils will be off school Thursday 17th March (St. Patrick's Day) and the following day, Friday 18th March.