

# TOREAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Child Protection/Safeguarding Team

Designated Teacher: Miss Morrow ([lmorrow225@c2kni.net](mailto:lmorrow225@c2kni.net))

Deputy Designated Teacher: Mrs Wells ([ywells497@c2kni.net](mailto:ywells497@c2kni.net))

Mrs A Ellison ([aellison860@c2kni.net](mailto:aellison860@c2kni.net))

School Governor: Mr M Lambe ( [toreaghsafeguarding@gmail.com](mailto:toreaghsafeguarding@gmail.com))

## Happy Holidays

I would like to thank you for your continued support throughout the year. On behalf of the Governors and staff, may I wish you a safe and happy summer break.

The school reopens on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> August at 9.00am (P1 only) 9.00 – 11.00am

All children to attend Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August & Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August (half day)

All children attend Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025 normal day (P2 – P7 2.00pm)

Pick up time for 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> P1 12 noon

P2 & P3 12.10pm

P4 – P7 12.15pm

P1 children 9.00am -12 noon from 1.09.2025 – 12.09.2025.

1.55pm from 15.09.2024.

There will be no milk or dinners until Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September.

## Monday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025

There will be no Breakfast Club on this day.

School closes at 12 noon for all pupils.

Non uniform day so children may wear their own clothes.

If your child is not here on the last day, reports will be emailed as a PDF document.

## Classes for 2025-26

### Classes

P1/2 Mrs Wells

Assistants: Miss Hunter / Mrs Dalton

P3/4 Mrs Robson/ Mrs Craig

Job share 2 days / 3 days

P5 Mrs Campbell

Temporary – Maternity Leave

P6 Mrs Ellison

(Tue-Fri returning to her job share Job share partner tbc)

Assistants: Mrs Mc Knight / Mrs Stirling (maternity leave)

P7 Miss Morrow

(Principal Release Teacher tbc) Assistant: Mrs Stewart

Mrs Campbell came to school on Wednesday and met the P5 class.

## Attendance

Congratulations to the 9 children who achieved 100% attendance this year. What a super achievement.

Attendance at school is very important. Whilst children should not attend school when they are ill, please remember, “If you don’t attend, you can’t achieve.” (DENI) This year there is a significant amount of children who have lower than 95% attendance.

95% - missed approx. 2 weeks of school

90% - missed nearly 4 weeks of school

80% - missed nearly 8 weeks of school

## **Free School Meals & Uniform Allowance 2025/2026**

Education Authority are preparing to open the applications for free school meals & uniform. Please keep checking the EA website [www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk) for further information.

The Helpdesk is operated by staff across the EA Free School Meals/Uniform Allowance service.

It is available to assist parents and guardians who may have any queries. The Helpdesk operates Monday – Friday from 9.00am to 4.30pm and can be contacted via email: [mealsanduniform@eani.org.uk](mailto:mealsanduniform@eani.org.uk) The telephone number which should be used for all enquiries is 028 9041 8044.

Please apply if you are entitled, as this will also give our school extra money in our budget.

## **Preparing for 2025 / 2026 School Year**

All children have met with their new teacher for next year. Mrs Campbell has been in to see P5.

The support of parents is essential in equipping pencil cases and school bags as requested by the teachers.

Every little Pritt Stick helps!!! Thank you .

A list of items needed is attached to this note.

## **Free School Meals**

Free School Meals will commence on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September. Children require a packed lunch on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August.

## **Milk**

School milk will not be available until Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September. All children should bring a drink for lunch and water bottle with a sports top to avoid spills.

## **PE Bags**

Drawstring bags - are available to buy from the school office at a cost of £4.00.

## **School Bags.**

We have reading folders with a handle and school logo. These are available to buy from the school office at a cost of £5.00.

## **Pritt**

Pritt stick is available to buy from the office at a cost of £1.

## **Uniform**

Uniform continues to be available at S D Kells. Embroid Me Print Me Ltd in Ledcom Industrial Estate will attach our school badge to items of clothing you may be buying elsewhere.

## **ITEMS NEEDED**

**NO SCHOOL BAGS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL (space is limited). MAKE SURE LUNCHBOXES ARE NAMED AS WE OFTEN HAVE MORE THAN ONE THE SAME. A COAT MAY BE BROUGHT. PLEASE MAKE SURE SWEATSHIRTS AND COATS ARE CLEARLY LABELLED.**

**In line with our policies NO jewellery should be worn.**

## **Primary 1**

A Primary 1 package (folder, PE bag, apron and Pritt) will be available to purchase for £15 on the first day at school. Payment can be made in cash (exact amount please) or cheque (payable to Toreagh Primary School) and brought to school in a named envelope.

On this day you should also bring: PE shoes (slip on or Velcro) and Wellies in a NAMED plastic bag. Please remember to label all shoes with a name. Please practise changing taking on and off PE shoes and wellies.

### **Primary 2 \_**

On the first day back, you should bring: reading folder, PE bag, apron, PE shoes, welly boots, Pritt Stick, whiteboard, whiteboard pen, spare socks or tights in with PE shoes.

If you need to replace any of your items (folder, PE bag, apron or Pritt) they will be available to purchase from the office.

Pencil cases will not be needed until after Halloween break. Mrs Wells will issue further information regarding this closer to the time.

### **Primary 3 \_**

On the first day back, you should bring: PE shoes (slip on or Velcro) and Wellies in a NAMED plastic bag. Please remember to label all shoes with a name. Please practise changing taking on and off PE shoes and wellies.

Items listed below are also required.

### **Primary 3 – Primary 7 \_**

**These items should be brought to school on the first day back:**

an A4 folder for reading books, homeworks etc

a pencil case suitable to put below a desk

4 pencils

2 sharpeners

2 white rubbers

2 highlighter pens

1 large Pritt stick

a 30 cm ruler ( rigid )

a 10/12 pack of colouring pencils and 10/12 felt tips

1 small whiteboard

ALL the items, except the ruler and whiteboard, should be placed in the pencil case. Please ensure items are **NAMED**.

### **Others Items \_**

Please can you help us by sending in a box of hankies and a couple of kitchen rolls during the first week.



## **Friends of Toreagh**

The staff and children would like to thank all of those involved with the Friends of Toreagh for all their hard work this year. The grand total raised for this year stands at £5098. This is an amazing total for a wee school like ours. Thank you to all of you for your support with all of the fundraising. It really is a team effort! We are hoping to begin to replace the interactive whiteboards.

Also, thank you to Dale Farm for supplying the ice-cream at our mini fete last week. It was a great success! Thanks again to all our helpers!

## **School Year 2025 / 2026**

### **Term 1 Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> August – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

#### **NEW PRIMARY 1 children only Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> August 9.00 – 11.00am**

All children to attend	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> August & Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> August (half day)
All children attend	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> August 2025 normal day (P2 – P7 2.00pm)
Pick up time for 27 <sup>th</sup> & 28 <sup>th</sup>	P1 12 noon
	P2 & P3 12.10pm
	P4 – P7 12.15pm

School Development  
Day

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025 – no children to attend

Half Term Holiday

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025 (inclusive)

School Development  
Day

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Christmas

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2026 (inclusive)

School Development  
Day

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 – no children to attend

### **Term 2 Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026**

Half Term Holiday

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026 (inclusive)

Easter Holiday

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026 (inclusive)

### **Term 3 Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2026 – Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

May Day

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026

School Development Day

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – no children to attend

Spring Bank Holiday

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2026

School Development Day

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2026

School closes on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026 at 12 noon.

This is the plan for the school year 2025 / 2026 which is subject to change. You will be informed of any changes to the above dates in good time.

C L Morrow  
Principal

27<sup>th</sup> June 2025

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE MINISTER



Rathgael House  
43 Balloo Road  
BANGOR  
BT19 7PR

26 June 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

**EXTENSION OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND CHILDCARE SUBSIDY SCHEME (NICSS) TO SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN**

As we approach the end of the school term, I want to thank you for your continued support throughout the year and share some important news that may benefit your family from September 2025.

On 15 May 2025, I announced new funding for early learning and childcare initiatives, including an expansion of the Northern Ireland Childcare Subsidy Scheme (NICSS), which helps make childcare more affordable for working families.

The scheme, launched in September 2024, currently provides a 15% subsidy on childcare costs for working parents of children below primary school age. From 1 September 2025, it will be extended to include:

- All children aged 11 and under attending nursery, primary or special schools; and
- Children with a disability in post-primary or special schools, up to the age of 16.

If you are registered for HMRC's Tax Free Childcare (TFC) scheme, you may be eligible to receive a 15% subsidy (up to £184 per child per month) on qualifying costs, including before and after-school activities, provided your school or childcare provider is registered for both TFC and NICSS.

Each school or provider decides whether to register for TFC and NICSS. If your child's school or provider is not yet registered, I encourage you to speak with them about joining the scheme.

# FACT SHEET

## FOR PARENTS / CARERS

### WHAT IS THE NORTHERN IRELAND CHILDCARE SUBSIDY SCHEME?

The Northern Ireland Childcare Subsidy Scheme (NICSS) is a Department of Education initiative that provides a 15% subsidy on registered childcare costs for eligible working parents in Northern Ireland. The scheme aims to make childcare more affordable and accessible for eligible working parents.

Currently the scheme is available to families who:

- Are eligible for Tax Free Childcare (TFC);
- Have a child who has not yet started primary school; and
- Are using registered childcare.

From 1st September 2025, the scheme will be extended to include school age children up to age 11, allowing eligible working parents to receive the 15% subsidy (up to the capped amount of £184 per month per child) on qualifying costs. This may also include some before and after school activities provided by schools or on a school's premises by a registered childcare provider.

### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR ME?

To benefit from the NICSS, you must:

- Be a working parent; and
- Be registered for TFC with HMRC – a government scheme that contributes 20% towards childcare costs.

From 1 September 2025, the NICSS will apply to:

- All registered childcare providers; and
- Some before and after-school activities in schools, as long as your school is registered for TFC. It will also be for your school to advise which activities are eligible under TFC.

Eligible families will include:

- Children aged 11 and under attending nursery, primary, or special schools.

- Children with disabilities attending post-primary or special schools, up to age 16.

### WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

You need to ask your school and/or registered childcare provider if they are registered for TFC, as only registered and eligible providers can apply the Northern Ireland Childcare Subsidy Scheme.

Registration for eligible children will open week commencing 21st July. The registration process for school aged children is simple and will take around 10 minutes to complete.

You will not be able to enrol a school aged child on to the scheme until 21st July.

To register, you will need:

- Your Tax Free Childcare Number; and
- A copy of your quarterly reconfirmation notice/certificate from HMRC.

If you have more than one eligible child, you will need to complete the process separately for each child.

If you are not registered for TFC, but would like to learn more about the scheme, please click [HERE](#).

### WHERE DO I REGISTER?

The Early Years - the organisation for young children, administers the scheme on behalf of the Department of Education.

For further details on the scheme and to access the registration portal go to the Early Years website: [www.early-years.org/nicss/parents](http://www.early-years.org/nicss/parents)

### NEED HELP?

If you need any assistance you can contact the Early Years Organisation:

Email: [nicssparents@early-years.org](mailto:nicssparents@early-years.org)  
Tel: 028 9066 2825 (Option 3)



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