

Friday 4th December 2020



TILDARG PRIMARY SCHOOL

OPEN DAY / SCHOOL VISIT:

While we can not hold our Open Day in the normal way, I am delighted to be able to invite prospective parents to contact me via phone or email, to make an appointment to visit the school. These school visits will take place when the pupils have gone home. Should you know of any other family who may be looking for a school in the area, please give them a call and encourage them to get in touch to arrange a visit.

The procedure to follow to enrol your child in a primary school in September 2021 is as follows. The online primary application procedure will open at 12 noon on Thursday 7th January and close at 12 noon on Friday 29th January 2021. You can keep up to date with the online primary application procedure on the EA website under the Admissions Section, (<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>), or via our School Website (www.tildargps.co.uk).

BE SAFE:

For health and safety reasons we ask that no pupils or parents enter the school grounds before 8.45am for drop-off, or before 1.50pm for pick-ups. Please adhere to the following Government and school regulations at drop-off and pick-up time (especially): wear a mask, keep a 2m distance from others, avoiding sharing lifts, do not mix with other households, keep your child close to you.

We would also ask that you leave the school premises once you have your child picked-up/dropped-off, to allow for social distancing, to help with congestion/parking and to keep everyone as safe as possible. We appreciate your help and support in following these safety guidelines.

In the run up to Christmas, **following these guidelines is crucial** to help ensure less disruption before and over the Christmas period.

Our current safety measures are working well, in these difficult times, and are required for many reasons. Therefore, at our recent Board of Governor's meeting, it was agreed that the current COVID measures will remain in place e.g. no breakfast club, no mixing of bubbles, 1:50 / 2:00pm finish, split break/lunch between F/KS1 and KS2, separate class entrances etc. We apologise for the inconvenience caused by some of these measures and we appreciate your support and understanding while we try to keep you, your children and the staff safe at Tildarg.

COOL 4 SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS:

The photographer will be in school on **Wednesday 9th December** to take individual photographs. Only children who are registered will have their photograph taken on the 9th. Please remember to register under your **child's name**, not the parent name, **before 7pm**, on Tuesday 8th December. These will take place in a special tent in the playground and only one bubble will be taken at a time.

CHRISTMAS EVENT—MOVIE NIGHT:

Although there will be no Christmas events for you to attend in school this year, the PTA have organised a movie night which will take place on Saturday 12th December at 7pm. A special treat box, which will be given to you in school, will be provided by the PTA for this event.



CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS:

As per our original/current plans, our last school day this term will be on Monday 21st December 2020, which will be a non-uniform day. P1-P4 will finish at the earlier time of **12 noon**, and P5-P7 will finish at **12.10pm**. There will be **no school dinners** on this day. **However, pupils may bring special snacks/sweets** with them on this day (no sharing snacks or drinks please). They can also bring **a small game/toy** to play with (no expensive/electronic games please). The last day of term will be our Christmas Party Day and a movie will be put on in each class.

We will return to school on Monday 4th January 2021 under the current measures. As soon as anything changes, or when we are told that COVID measures can be relaxed, we will let you know. Until then, current measures will remain in place.

GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES / REGULATIONS FOR SELF-ISOLATING:

(BUT NOT COVID POSITIVE): If your child has to self-isolate due to being in close contact with a positive case, or having someone in the house testing positive, but the child is not positive themselves, they **MUST complete school work while at home isolating**. Your child will receive a **present mark** for each day of self-isolation (code 8). **However**, if the work set by the teacher is **not** completed and returned to the class teacher by **each Friday, 12noon**, an **absent mark** will be recorded (as per guidance).

GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES / REGULATIONS FOR TESTING POSITIVE FOR COVID:

If your child tests positive for corona virus, they will be recorded as **ill**. In this case, your child should take the time to recuperate and get better. Therefore, work will not be set for them to complete and they will be recorded on SIMS as off ill (as per guidance).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REQUIRED BY SCHOOL FOR BOTH SITUATIONS ABOVE:

Please ensure you inform school, as soon as possible, if your child is required to self-isolate. You will be told to self-isolate by the PHA. They will send you an email with information stating why / when your self-isolation should start and end.

If you have tested positive you will also receive an email from PHA. It will state your test result and give the dates for your self-isolation. It is important that if your symptoms continue longer than this period that you contact your GP or the COVID helpline. You must not return to school until you have had no high temperature for at least a 48hr period.

The **emails received from PHA must be forwarded** to Mrs Dickson through the info@ account and to the class teacher.

SPECIAL NEEDS CO-ORDINATOR:

The role of SENCO is currently being filled by Mrs Dickson. If you wish to learn more about how children's needs are met within primary schools, please see the flyers on our school website (www.tildargps.co.uk). More information is also available on the E.A website (www.ea.org.uk).

MUSIC LESSONS:

We are hoping to start music lessons sometime in Term 2, 2021 (after the Christmas break). More information will be sent out regarding this in a separate letter. The Music Service has carried out extensive risk assessments. A separate area will be used for music lessons and no bubbles will be broken. If you, or any sibling who has now left Tildarg, are in possession of a hired musical instrument and you no longer wish to have school music lessons, please return the instrument to school before the Christmas break please.

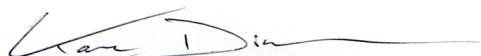
100 YEARS OLD

Some of you may have already seen the request that I shared via the School's NI App and our social media platforms. We would like to gather together photographs of Tildarg Primary School throughout the years to celebrate this wonderful milestone. If you have any photographs or can get access to some from a friend / relative I would greatly appreciate it if you could forward these to me via email (info@account, or kdickson628@c2kni.net), along with the possible year the photograph was taken. Your help in gathering these would be greatly appreciated.

We have been asked to pass on the following information to you by the Education Authority:

The Christmas Family Appeal

Sadly thousands of families throughout the country will be facing impossible choices this Christmas.... but you can help. It only requires a few online clicks to make a big difference. To donate please click the following link <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/EducationAuthority>. By making an online donation before Tuesday, 15th December 2020 to the Christmas Family Appeal we all can play our part in making this Christmas as magical as it can be for thousands of our local children. The following Video Presentation has been created by the Health and Wellbeing Team from the Education Authority. To view this video please click [here](#).



Mrs K. S. Dickson
(Principal)

**REMINDERS/
DATES FOR YOUR
DIARY**

- **School Photographer**
09/12/20 (Wed)
- **On-line Pantomime Beauty & the Beast.**
14/12/20 (Mon)
- **Christmas Holidays**
Tuesday 22/12/2020 –
Friday 01/01/2021
- **AQE 1**
09/01/21 (Sat)
- **AQE 2**
16/01/21 (Sat)
- **AQE 3**
23/01/21 (Sat)
- If you have any **child protection concerns** please speak to the following staff:
- **Designated teacher Miss Wright**
- **Deputy Designated Teacher Mrs McClay**

- **Designated Governor Mrs Hunter**

• Follow us on Twitter
@TildargPrimary

• Check out our school website
www.tildargps.co.uk

• Follow us using the **Schools NI App**

• Follow our PTA on Facebook : **Tildarg Primary School PTA**



Mrs K. Dickson
(Principal)

B.Ed (Hons), PQH
(NI)

Tildarg Primary
School
6 Tildarg Road
Ballyclare
Co. Antrim
BT39 9JU

Tel: 02893 323948
Email:
info@tildargps.co.uk
ballyclare.ni.sch.uk

Website:
www.tildargps.co.uk
Twitter:
[@TildargPrimary](https://twitter.com/TildargPrimary)

Where Your Child Matters