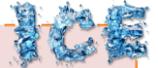




# DROMORE ROAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

# JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER



It's hard to believe that we're approaching half term break already! It has been a busy term, with lots of events and trips taking place. To keep you updated the website is amended regularly and we would encourage you to download our school app if you not already done so.

## Shared Education

As part of the Shared Education Programme, this term our Year 6/7 pupils are working with Year 7 from St Bronagh's Primary School on a 'Collective Memories Project'. The outcome will be to produce a film showing pictures of people enjoying Warrenpoint Park and also interviewing anyone who wishes to share childhood memories. If you would like to support this project through lending old photos of life in Warrenpoint Park, or by being interviewed, please contact Mrs McParland.

## Weather Policy

As the weather is getting significantly colder, just a reminder that our procedures during severe weather conditions are available on the school website. It explains the factors considered in deciding whether to close the school and how the school will inform parents if the school will be closed. The school text service and website app will be used primarily to inform parents.

## Punctuality

In recent weeks, there has been a noticeable number of pupils arriving after the 9am bell. Having pupils arrive into class at intervals during the morning is very disruptive for the other pupils and can be unsettling for your child. Please make a concerted effort to ensure your child arrives before the school bell. Thank you.



## BEE SAFE

P7 enjoyed a very informative morning at Newry Leisure Centre on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> February as part of the Bee Safe campaign. Pupils got the chance to take part in a number of workshops organised by Take 5, PSNI, First Aid, Translink, NIFRS and Home Safety. During the workshops the pupils got the opportunity to learn key safety messages in a fun and practical way, which will help them as they transition to secondary school.

## P7 Transfer

P7 Transfer Forms have been sent home and completed Transfer Forms need to be returned to the office by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 so they can be checked and processed by the school before returning to EA for Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February. Please look carefully at your first school choice's admission criteria and explain how your child meets the criteria on your form. This is what each school uses when shortlisting. Please speak to Mrs McGrath if you need any advice or support filling in the form.

## Parent Interviews

Meetings to discuss your child's progress will be held from Tues 11<sup>th</sup> to Fri 14<sup>th</sup> February. **Please note that the school will close at 1.30pm on these days.** Meetings will take place from 1.45 up to 4pm each day. Letters have already been sent out; if you have not already done so please return the appointment slip indicating your preferred day. You will then be texted your time and date of appointment. **If you require a translator, please contact the office with the date you require.** Literacy and Numeracy books will be sent home the weekend before interviews for a 'Book Look'.

## BURNS SKILLS SCHOOL

We are delighted that Burns Soccer is back this term. Our coach this term is Liam Bagnall, a former Sunderland FC player. Coaching sessions are going well and Liam has been very complimentary about the pupils' attitude and skill level. The pupils are also thoroughly enjoying the hip hop sessions on a Monday with Zara and are now beginning to learn more complex routines. Please note that Hip Hop Afterschool Club will run as normal on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February but that no other afterschool Clubs will run this week due to parent interviews.



### Internet Safety Day

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February, we plan to celebrate Internet Safety week in school by carrying out activities to reinforce how pupils can keep safe online by being SMART. We are also currently reviewing our e-safety policy and would value your input. An opportunity to do so will be given during parent interviews. Please remember that if your child has access to a mobile device that you can pop into your local O2 store for online safety help from a [Guru](#) - you don't even have to be an O2 customer!

### NSPCC Number Day (Mathematical Dress Down Day)

The school will be taking part in the NSPCC Number Day next **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February** to raise funds for NSPCC. We plan to hold a dress down day with donations going towards this great organisation!! Everyone can dress up wearing anything related to maths, e.g. numbers on your top, or lines, dots, a clock face or socks with stripes or dots. The children will also be taking part in fun mathematical activities during the day. A donation of £1 per child is suggested.

### Upcoming February Events

- 4<sup>th</sup> Feb – P6/7 Shared Ed with Amma (St. Bronagh's)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Feb - Y4/5 Amma in school
- 7<sup>th</sup> Feb – NSPCC Number Day (Dress down day – maths theme!)
- 8<sup>th</sup> Feb- St Mark's Cookery Workshop
- 11<sup>th</sup> Feb- Safer Internet Day  
Y4/5 Athletics taster day
- 11-14<sup>th</sup> Feb - Parent Interviews – school closes at 1.30pm
- 17-21st Feb – Half term break for pupils
- 26<sup>th</sup> Feb – Golf Workshop (Y5-7)
- 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Feb- Y4/5 Amma in school



### Credit Union Quiz

Four children represented the Y7 pupils at WBR Credit Union quiz at St Dallan's Primary School on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January. There wasn't much in the scoring so Ashley, Jamie, Christopher & Brody did the school proud.



### Trim Trail Play Area

Mrs McGrath and the school council met regularly in term 1 to explore installing a trim trail play area. This has been a slow process as the school has to use approved suppliers and installers. Currently, the Board of Governors have agreed financing and a design proposal has been submitted to EA. We are currently waiting on the EA to provide us with installation costs but hope that work will begin before the end of the academic year. We will keep you updated.



### Athletics NI

We are delighted that Athletics NI have offered the school a 4 week taster session. This was due to begin last week with our P4/5 class but due to unforeseen circumstances was postponed and will instead commence on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February.

### Open Legacy Golf Programme

We are pleased that Warrenpoint Golf Club have asked our school to be involved in this programme, which aims to drive an increase in golf participation, following the very successful Open Championship in Portrush last summer. 15 pupils from Y5-7 will be given the opportunity to have 2 free one hour workshops from 3-4pm on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> Feb and Wed 4<sup>th</sup> March. If your child is interested, permission slips will go home next week.

### Cookery Extended School

Once again, through our Extended Schools' Funding, we are offering pupils the opportunity to take part in a Cookery Workshop at St Mark's High School on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February. Unfortunately, only 20 pupils from Y5-7 can attend and places have already been allocated. If your child received a permission slip, please ensure it is returned as soon as possible so we reallocate places if your child is unable to attend.

### Half Term Break

School is closed for pupils from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> to Friday 21st February. School reopens Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February. Have a lovely relaxing break!