



Loanends Primary School

193 Seven Mile Straight Nutts Corner Crumlin BT29 4YR

Telephone: (028) 9443 2314 info@loanends.crumlin.ni.sch.uk www.loanendsps.com

31 May 2024

Dear Parent

JUNE UPDATE

- **Friday 7 June Sports Day.** Mrs Montgomery and Mr Hyde will provide specific details. If it is wet the next available day will be Tuesday 11 June. **Friday 7 June Sports Day.** Mrs Montgomery and Mr Hyde will provide specific details. P1-3 Sports will start at 10:00am and finishing at 11:30 approx: P4-7 start time is 12:30 pm with an estimated finish time of 2:15pm.
- **Ordering of Uniforms: WE HAVE CHANGED SUPPLIER THIS YEAR.**
 - **Jumpers, cardigans, KS1 Book Bags and PE Bags** can now be bought directly from Wallaces in Antrim (35 Church Street, Antrim BT41 4BE) These will be available to purchase from 3 June 2024. A 10% discount is available until the end of July.
 - **Ties:** to be bought directly from the school office – please pay via the school money app. The school will inform parents when these are in stock in school.
 - **PE Kit (P3-P7 2024):** To view this and place an order. Please use the link below. Please chose 'COLLECTION' when placing your order and these will be delivered directly to school for distribution. **The school office will inform you when deliveries arrive.**
 - **Blue Hoodies (P5 to P7 2024 only)** are also available on the link. **Same arrangements for collection/delivery as the PE kit.**

<https://schoolwearco.com/collections/loanends-primary-school>

Whilst these items are not compulsory, it is our aspiration at least, that each child should wear a plain white t-shirt and plain black or navy shorts or bottoms.

- **Monday 17 June: New P1 Parents Evening at 7:15pm.** (September 2024 intake)
- **Tuesday 18 June: P1 Induction Morning x2 sessions between 9:15am to 10:15am and 10:45am to 11:45am.** *Parents will already have been advised which session to attend.*
- **P7 Leavers' Assembly: Friday 21 June 2024 at 9:30am.** School will be funding a bbq for P7s and their parents after the Assembly - more details will be sent out closer to the time.
- **The PTAFAs will be hosting a sponsored day of bouncy castles and Ice-cream on Monday 24 June.** All classes will be timetabled for a slot during the day. Money raised will go towards the replacement of iPads, bought ten years' ago. More details will follow from the PTAFAs closer to the time.
- **The last day of term for P7 pupils: Tuesday 25 June at 3:00pm.** We wish all our leavers the very best as they transfer to their new schools in September.
- **School will finish** for all other pupils on **Friday 28 June at 12:15pm.**
- **P7 ENTRANCE TESTS**
 - **SEAG Registration Opens:** Monday 20 May 2024 @ 8:00am
 - **SEAG Registration Closes:** Friday 20 September 2024 @ 11:59pm
- **Outstanding Payments:** Please ensure that *all payments* for trips, music tuition, instrument hire, swimming, dinners and ties are made by **Friday 21 June** at the latest. Your cooperation with this would be greatly appreciated.
- **Please ensure all library books,** text books and reading books are returned to teachers, not later than the last day of term. There is a small charge of £5.00 for any lost books.

- **End of year reports** will be sent home during the last week of term. If you plan to be away on holiday, please leave a stamped addressed envelope into the office. Reports will not be posted out early.
- **Classes for next year:** Information regarding classes will be sent out with the end of year report.
- **Cash for Clobber Reminder:** At LPS we have registered for the 'Cash for Clobber' scheme run by Cookstown Textiles in conjunction with Eco Schools NI. The programme aims to teach school children the environmental and social benefits of recycling while helping those less fortunate and raising significant valuable funds for the school. The school gets 40p for every Kilogram and at the end of the school year, the organisation with the most 'clobber' wins an extra £1500. If you have any old clothes, bedding, curtains, shoes or handbags, you can put them into either one of the 50 'Cash for Clobber' bags available via the office, or alternatively you can put them in a sturdy bin bag. Please leave items into school at your own convenience and we will arrange for them to be collected. Please note, no duvets, pillows or soiled items should be included. Thank you in advance!
- **Free School Meals/Uniform Allowance:** Please apply online: <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants>

Due to the many pressures on family resources the number of free school meals has risen not only in Loanends but in other local schools as well. We would encourage parents to make use of these. The criteria for **Free School Meals** are as follows:

1. The parent/guardian is in receipt of Income/Income Related Employment and Support Allowance/Income based Jobseeker's Allowance or if a pupil claims Income Support in their own name.
 2. The parent/guardian is in receipt of the guarantee element of Pension Credit.
 3. The parent receives Child Tax Credit/Working Tax Credit and has an annual taxable income of less than £16,190.
 4. He/she has a statement of educational needs and is designated to require a special diet.
 5. Universal credit and have net household earnings not exceeding £14,000 per year.
 6. He/she is a child of an Asylum Seeker supported by the Home Office Asylum Support Assessment Team (ASAT).
- **Uniform Allowance-Primary/Special School Pupils:-** A pupil in full time education shall be entitled to a uniform allowance where the entitlement criterion is met at points 1, 2, 3 or 6.
 - **Please note that school will recommence on WEDNESDAY 28 AUGUST:** This is a **full school day for P2-P7**. P3 will finish at 2pm and follow the normal pattern of 3:00pm finish (Wednesday to Friday). From 2 September, the pattern for P3 is:
 - **Monday and Tuesday** 3.00pm
 - **Wednesday – Friday** 2.00pm

Please note the following with regard to the last week in August/start of the new term:

- **There will be no school bus available until Monday 2 September.** Parents will need to make their own arrangements to transport children to and from school from **from Wednesday 28 to Friday 30 August**.
- **All pupils will** require a break since there won't be Healthy Break available until **Monday 2 September**.
- **A packed lunch for everyone is required for three days: Wednesday 28 to Friday 30 August; school meals will be available from Monday 2 September.**
- **School milk will be available from Monday 9 September.** More information to follow in the September Update.
- Milk, dinners and healthy break should be ordered on the SchoolMoney App. Please order in advance and ensure prompt payment.

Planning Ahead for September 2024

- **PE Kit (P3 to P7 2024):** We have a school PE Kit for Loanends for the 2024-2025 school year. To view this and place an order, please visit the following link. When ordering, select 'for collection' and your order will be delivered to the school for distribution.

<https://schoolwearco.com/collections/loanends-primary-school>

Blue Hoodies (**P5 to P7 2024**) are also available on the shop.

Whilst these items are not compulsory, it is our aspiration at least, that each child should wear a plain white t-shirt and plain black or navy shorts or bottoms. Further information re sizing etc has been sent on Seesaw.

- **Arrival and Collection Times:** There is a “window” of 15 minutes for children to arrive to school in the morning. Class teaching will begin at **9:00am**. Time keeping for a some pupils hasn’t been great at both ends of the day, usually the same egroup of pupils. The side gates are locked at 9:00am; therefore all children should be in class by this time since lateness causes disruption and means that children don’t get the best start to the day. I also would be grateful if parents could please ensure pupils are collected at the appropriate time in the afternoons. Teachers and Classroom Assistants have other duties at the end of the day. Supervising pupils has a knock on effect. Please make every effort to keep to the times.
- **Morning Club:** This will also continue. Supervision will be in place in the Assembly Hall form 8:30am and payment of £1.25 per day can be made in advance by SchoolMoney. It is important that a space is booked in advance to ensure the appropriate level of supervision.
- **Thank you** to all parents who helped out this year with PTAFAs events, trips, transport, tree planting, Health Promotion Week and after school activities etc.

As ever, your time, talent, loyalty and commitment have been very much appreciated and contributes to all that we offer our pupils. We would love to have more parents willing to help out, particularly with PTAFAs, as on the ground support falls to a very small group of people and means it is difficult to man events. Any parent who would like to volunteer to help out with the PTAFAs, school events or activities must have the appropriate checks completed. If you would like to be included from September on our list, please speak to me.

A special thank you to Sophia Robb (P4) who once again raised money for school funds through the sale of sunflowers. A total of £160 was collected. Thank you! You are brilliant!

We also want to thank the P6 “Can Crushers” and their parents for continuing this work since Term 1. Whilst it is a lot of effort to raise £20 a time, the P6 girls seem to take enjoyment out of this daily ritual. Thank you girls for raising money and for being mindful of the environment.

...and finally: The staff and I are greatly appreciative of the tremendous support we have had from our parents this school year. Thank you for the cards and notes of encouragement as well as the buns, cakes, scones and biscuits that arrived periodically to the staffroom! Something magic happens in there...edible items just seem to vanish!

Our children are a credit to us and to you as parents in the way they conduct themselves and present themselves in public. This is evidenced and commented upon so often when we take our pupils on trips, residentials and sporting fixtures. Visitors to the school often comment upon this as well.

I am immensely proud to lead Loanends Primary School and equally proud of the pupils and staff who make up the Loanends family. Working in a school environment is a privileged yet challenging place, particularly as we work in a climate of declining financial support and direct services to school. I am indebted to the staff who, once again this year, despite Union Guidance, have continued to go above and beyond to provide the best for our pupils and have given them, what I believe, is the very best in terms of pastoral support, education and opportunities outside of the classroom.

I think we can say with pride that we have delivered EA's Vision – **“to inspire, support and challenge all our children and young people to be the best that they can be.”**

So, it’s almost time to recharge the batteries and get ready for a new wee group of Loanends pupils coming in. But in the meantime there is a summer to enjoy with family and friends.

Wishing everyone a lovely and enjoyable summer ahead.

Mrs L Armour
Principal

Linda Armour

CC Mr M Lucas
Chairman of the Board of Governors

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TRACY WISHART 07872072328
DM ON FACEBOOK / INSTAGRAM -
DOULA TRACY WISHART
CROWE95@HOTMAIL.COM

Tim Young
Opticians

156 Shankill Road, Belfast, BT13 2BE



02895 438282

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