



St. Teresa's Primary School

"Doing ordinary things extraordinarily well"



Autumn Newslines 2024

Parents / Guardians,

Welcome Back

A big welcome back to all our children and especially our Primary 1 children. Thank you for adhering to our drop off time (8.50am-9am) in the mornings and collections via either gate at 2pm and 3pm pick up times.

Can I ask you to NOT park at the corners / bends of Tarry Lane in the mornings or at pick up time, this causes a build up of traffic and difficulties for other users especially on a Friday. Please use the car park on Tarry Lane when walking children over to school. If you want to 'Drop and Go' in the morning please do not leave your car if possible.



Communication

School Website – for 'whole school' information will continue in September

Seesaw – each class will continue with this from September. All teachers will keep in touch with parents / guardians via the Seesaw App. Please make sure you are signed up to your child's teacher / class.

School App – for messaging / forms / bookings / payments this will continue throughout the year.

Newslines – will continue throughout the year.

Food Allergies / Healthy Break

Can I ask you to adhere to precautions we have in school for children with severe allergies? To date we have 2 children (who require epipens) and can I ask that NO nuts or fish are brought into school at ANYTIME. As we are a healthy eating school we require our children to bring in water, fruit or vegetables to eat / drink at breaktime. We hope to see an improvement in concentration and behaviours as we move forward together on this.

Absences from school

Absences from school during term time are discouraged and will affect your child's attendance rate. If your child's attendance rate falls below 85% the 'Education Welfare Officer' will contact you or pay a visit to your home. If you do need to take your child out of school, please notify Mr. Kearney in writing. (This does not include days of sickness; you can notify school about sickness using the Absence Form on our school app).

Music Service

Thank you for all who have paid deposits / consented for music tutors this year (so far). Mrs Murray (Violin / Viola) will be working with our children every Wednesday, Mr Murphy (Saxophone / Recorder) will be working with our children every Thursday.

A further letter will be issued soon outlining remainders of money to be paid to school for EA tutors / lessons.

School Development Plan / Annual Report

The Annual school report for last year can be read on 'school letters' within the Parents Area on the school website.

Financial Help!!!!

If you can help support our schools financial situation, please contact Mr Kearney. See below for some of our expenditures throughout the incoming year.

Any donations would help with the following:

- Accelerated reader - £4200 (3 years – ends 2025)
- Reading Eggs / Maths seeds - £5500 (3 years - ends 2025)
- Mathletics - £2200 (3 years ends 2025)
- GL Assessment - £3500 per year
- School App - £280 per year
- School Website - £360.00 per year
- School Counsellor - £3600 per year
- Twinkl - £900 per year
- New Rights Respecting Licence £350 per year



FOST

We are very grateful for our 'Friends of St Teresa's' (FOST) group who work very hard fundraising for money to support **our** children in school. They have met several times this year already – so if you can help with support or would like to join their team please get in touch.

This year FOST are hoping to fundraise in order to help:

- Purchase new laptops for our school
- Provide new outdoor games such as table tennis tables / basketball rings with back boards etc
- Art equipment for all classes
- Help towards our new counsellor

Key Dates: (on the calendar on school website too!)

18th Oct – PSNI Halloween Safety Talk P4 / P5 / P6 / P7

20th Oct – Pumpkin Patch in school 2-4pm (Tickets £7.50 per child available from School Office)

22nd Oct – School photographer in for whole school

25th Oct – Halloween Dress Up Day – finish at 1pm for all children for staff training

28th Oct – 1st Nov – School Closed for Halloween break (inclusive)

18th Nov – 22nd Nov – Parent Teacher Meeting for all children to finish at 1.15pm each day

26th Nov – Flu Vaccine for whole school

29th Nov – Christmas Pantomime in Waterfront, Belfast (Payment details TBC)

1st Dec – Santa Sunday in school 2-6pm with Santa/ Light Switch on / Choir etc

5th Dec – Open Afternoon for New Primary 1 children 2pm – 3.30pm

10th Dec – P3 Trip to Planetarium

17th & 18th Dec – P1 – P4 Christmas Plays at 10am (Tickets will be allocated closer to time)

23rd Dec – 3rd Jan School closed for Christmas Holidays (All children to finish at 11.30 on Fri 20th Dec)

6th Jan 2025 – Return to school for all children