



September

Newsletter

Welcome back to a new school year. A very warm welcome to our new pupils and parents. I hope you find our newsletter helpful and informative. Check our website regularly for updates and information.

Staffing

We would like to welcome Mrs Hilary to Milltown Primary as clerical officer. We sincerely thank Mrs Patterson for all she has done during her time with us and send her our best wishes as she embarks on new opportunities.

We also welcome Mrs Morrow to Milltown as a classroom assistant.

Milk

Milk is available in Term 1 from 23rd September - 20th December. If you wish your child to have milk at break-time it will cost £12.50 per child for this term. Please have milk orders and payment for the term in by **Monday 16th September**.

School Fund

Parents are asked to contribute to the school fund at the beginning of each year. The amount is £6.00 per pupil and £12.00 for families with two or more children attending the school. This contribution is extremely important to us.

Activity Clubs 1 and 2

Afterschool activities and homework supervision take place each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon. Each Friday Activity Club has a theme. Themes for September are:
Friday 13th September - Art and craft
Friday 20th September - Art and craft
Friday 27nd September - Sand jars

Clubs should be booked each Monday for the week ahead. Each session costs £2.50.

Swimming Lessons

P5/6/7 will be having swimming lessons at Banbridge Leisure Centre beginning on Thursday 12th September. Lessons will run for six weeks.

Music Lessons

Music tuition will take place on the following days:
Piano tuition each Monday, violin tuition each



Wednesday and woodwind tuition each Friday. Any pupils who would like to begin tuition, see the letter which was sent out to the oldest in each family (P3-7) and return the response **as soon as possible**.

Flu Vaccinations

School has been informed that flu vaccinations are scheduled for Wednesday 2nd October. Forms have been given out. **Please return all forms by Friday 13th September**.

Parent Teachers Association

I would like to thank last year's PTA for all their efforts in organising events and fundraising. Their help and support has been invaluable.

A PTA meeting is planned for **Wednesday 25th September at 2:45 pm** with Mrs Harvey in her classroom. If you are unable to make this meeting but would like to be involved in PTA this year, let Mrs Harvey or the school office know.

Activity Club, costing £2.50, will run on the Wednesday to look after children when you are in the meeting.

ASDA CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

We can earn money if you

use the Asda Rewards App when you shop either



in store or online. All you need to do is opt into the Cashpot for Schools campaign and select our school. Our postcode is BT32 4NR. Asda will then donate a percentage of your shop to school funds. This will not affect your own Cashpot earnings. This fundraising initiative ends on 30th November. Please make every effort to support this as all money raised will benefit your child in school.

Eco Council

Our Eco Council has been elected. They will lead in looking after our school and the wider environment. Pupils elected to Eco Council are:

- P1 - Ronan
- P2 - Betsy
- P3 - Grace
- P4 - Bonnie
- P5 - Roman
- P6 - Curtis
- P7 - Izzie



School Council

Elections have been held for School Council. Meetings will give pupils the opportunity to be involved in decision making within school. Pupils elected to School Council are:

- P1 - Lucy
- P2 - Henry
- P3 - Kenzie
- P4 - Harry
- P5 - Henry
- P6 - Eoin
- P7 - Amelia



Half Term

School will close on Friday 25th October for half term. P1-3 pupils and siblings should be collected at 11:50am and P4-7 at 12 noon. School will reopen on Tuesday 5th November.

Our full holiday list for the 2024-25 school year is available on the school website.

Contact Details

Please ensure that all contacts details held by school are correct. If you have changed your home address or phone number let school know immediately.



Traffic in School Grounds

A reminder that **no vehicles** should enter the upper playground at drop off or collection times unless special permission has been granted by the school. If you feel you may be eligible for special circumstances, please contact the school office.

Punctuality

It is important that your child is in school on time. This ensures pupils are informed of the structure of their school day and are settled for lessons to begin. Doors open at 8:40 am and school begins at 8:55 am. **Any pupil arriving after 8:55 am will be given a late mark which is recorded on our data system alongside attendance.** Ensure you allow enough time each morning for your journey to school.

Pupil Absences

All absences need to be coded accurately on our computer system. School should be kept informed of all pupil absences so accurate details are kept and appropriate procedures followed. **Contact the school office on the first morning of any pupil absence.** Please note that any absences which fall below 85% (other than for medical reasons) are automatically referred to the Education Welfare Service.

Homework

Your child's homework routine will be indicated by each class teacher. Parents/carers should ensure:

- All homework is handed in on time.
- Homework is completed neatly and accurately.
- Homework is signed by a parent.

It is important that all homework (including homework completed during Activity Club) is checked and signed by a parent.

Medical Needs

A reminder that if your child needs medication, a form should be completed prior to school administering any medication. Forms are available from the school office. Please ensure that inhalers are supplied for pupils already registered as having asthma. ****Nut Allergy please be advised that NO NUTS (or items containing nuts) SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL.** Your co-operation in this is important and much appreciated.

Water

Pupils may drink still, unflavoured water during the school day - no other drinks are allowed in bottles on desks. Please ensure all bottles have a pop up lid.

Playground Equipment

Playground equipment, including the agility trail and castle tower, should only be used under school staff supervision. Children should not use this equipment at drop off or collection times.

Please contact school if you have any questions or concerns. Together, as a school staff, we strive to ensure every pupil is safe, happy and learning.

Kind regards,
Mrs Wright