



Drumahoe Primary School – Parent Memo: February 2024



Uniform:

I am once again delighted with the standard of uniform this year. It is great to see **almost** everyone adhering to the policy of **plain** black jog pants on P.E. days (x 2 days per week), and the full school uniform (x 3 days per week). Please ensure that your child adopts a positive attitude to school by wearing the correct uniform on the stipulated days – **only black shoes or black trainers are acceptable with full school uniform**. Any child who attends school in the incorrect uniform **must** have a note of explanation.

Keeping in Touch:

The school has in place agreed procedures for keeping in touch with parents. If you have a query that you need answered the best way to contact us is through ringing the school office or using Seesaw/Google Classroom. Our Facebook page is not always monitored for messages. Please be mindful of teacher's work hours if using Seesaw / Google classroom to send a message to your child's teacher. Staff are not expected to respond to any messages before 8.30 in the morning or after 4.00 in the afternoon.

I would also ask you to be mindful of how you address concerns with the school staff. Please know that we will always be here to listen to you and to work alongside you to resolve any issues if they should arise. In all conversations please be courteous and respectful.

Safer Internet Day (S.I.D.):

Safer Internet day took place on Tuesday 6th February. The theme this year was 'Inspiring Change' and the day was designed to inform children about managing influence, making a difference and navigating change online. We expect all children to be safe and responsible when using any I.C.T. and Safer Internet Day showcases what our children know about keeping safe online. We would encourage all parents to have a chat with your child about online safety and how to treat people when online. Unfortunately, misuse of the internet, especially social media, can cause a lot of upset to our children.

Book Fair:

The Book fair will be in school next week on Monday 12th, Tuesday 13th and Monday 19th February from 2.00p.m. until 4.15p.m. The children will be able to browse the selection of books that are available to buy on Friday. If you can spare some time to help with the sale of books, could you please contact Mrs Glenn in the office on 02871302284. Your help and support at this popular event would be very much appreciated as this enables us to purchase additional books for the school.

World Book Day:

World Book Day takes place this year on **Thursday 7th March 2024**. This year, we are asking the children to come to school dressed as a character from their favourite book. Please do not feel that you need to go out and buy a costume, there are lots of websites that have ideas for home-made costumes for World Book Day.

If you have any costumes that you would like to donate to the school that can be resold, please feel free to do so. These will be accepted from tomorrow on and will be on sale at the front of the school from Monday 4th March.

Eco Committee:

Our Eco Committee have been very busy recently as they are trying to secure a 'Green Flag' for the school. The Green Flag is awarded to a school to show they have achieved Eco School status. This empowers our pupils to make a difference in their school and local community and shows that as a school, we care about issues such as sustainability, climate change, waste etc. and want to make a long-lasting change.

As part of the process for securing the Green Flag, the Eco-Committee have asked if everyone could come to school on Tuesday 13th February wearing something green and to bring a donation of £1 which will be donated to 'Keep Ireland Beautiful.' It would be great if our school community could get fully behind the children in securing the 'Green Flag' award.

Car Park / Traffic:

Unfortunately, I am once again having to write about correct use of the car park and road safety. Cars should not be parked in the staff car park and the disabled bay should only be used by blue badge holders. I will be randomly patrolling the car park and if you are in violation of the parking rules, you will

"Developing the potential of everyone to the full, within a caring and stimulating environment."

be asked to move your vehicle. Persistent offenders may revoke their right to park on the school grounds.

There have also been a number of incidents of cars speeding on the Drumahoe Road, endangering pedestrians and speeding through the school gates. Any such incidents witnessed by parents or members of the public, should be reported to the school office, if possible citing the registration number of the vehicle involved. Such incidents will now be reported to the police. This is done to protect our children and other parents who do show courtesy when parking at the school.

School Photographer:

Cool for School Photographers will be in school on **Friday 8th March** to take individual portraits, P1 and P7 class photographs and family groups from within school. More details to follow closer to the time on how to register online.

Half-term Holiday

The school will be closed for half-term from **Wednesday 14th February** to **Friday 16th February** (inclusive).

St. Patrick's Day Holiday

School will be closed on **Monday 18th March** for St' Patrick's Day

Easter Holidays:

School will close on **Friday 22nd March at 12.00 pm** for the Easter Holidays and will re-open for the Summer Term on **Monday 8th April 2024**.

Additional Spring & Summer Term Closings:

School will be closed for pupils on the following dates:

Monday 6th May to Wednesday 8th May (inclusive) (Bank Holiday and staff training)
Monday 27th May and Tuesday 28th May (Bank Holiday and Staff training day)

Other Summer Term important dates:

- Tuesday 23rd – Friday 26th April 2024 – P6 Trip to Gortatole
- Tuesday 14th – Friday 17th May 2024 – P7 Trip to Edinburgh
- Wednesday 5th June 2024 – Sports Day(provisional)
- Thursday 20th June 2024 – Fun Night BBQ
- Reports Home – Friday 21st June 2024

E Walker
Principal