

Bushmills Primary School & Nursery Unit

September 2017 Newsletter



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Welcome Back!

It's hard to believe that the summer has gone and already the long, clear evenings are fast disappearing.

Although the number of 'good days' were few and far between, I trust everyone had a relaxing and pleasant break and are hopefully well rested and ready to once again embark on a new school year.

September as always brings changes to Bushmills Primary School & Nursery Unit as we welcome our new pupils into Nursery and Primary One.

During the past week, preparations in school have been on-going as staff look forward to meeting their new classes. Also during the summer months some work has been completed both within and outside the school building. Although these have been minor projects I do hope you recognise the improvements.

For everyone here in school it is my hope and prayer that this incoming year will be one which will be enjoyable and exciting and will open up many opportunities and challenges.



Extended Schools



I am delighted once again to report that Extended School Activities will commence on Monday 4th September. Please note that due to funding cuts activities will only run from Monday to Thursday with the charge now being £2.00 Full details are as follows:

MONDAY

P1 + P2 - (2pm-3pm) - £2.00

P3, P4, P5, P6 + P7 - (3pm - 4pm) - £2.00

TUESDAY

P1, P2 + P3 - (2pm-3pm) - £2.00

P4, P5, P6 + P7 - (3pm-4pm) - £2.00

WEDNESDAY

P1 + P2 - (2pm - 3pm) - £2.00

P3, P4, P5, P6 + P7 - (3pm - 4pm) - £2.00

THURSDAY

P1, P2 + P3 - (2pm-3pm) - £2.00

P4, P5, P6 + P7 - (3pm-4pm) - £2.00

At this stage this is only a temporary timetable until the Education Authority approves our proposed plans. Further updates will be available in due course.

**Extended Schools will begin on
Monday 4th September 2017**

School Dinners

Please note we have been informed by the Education Authority (EA) that School dinners will increase to £2.60 per day, £13.00 per week. Nursery dinners will also increase to £2.50 per day, £12.50 per week. A copy of the menu is attached.



Where possible, pupils are asked to bring their dinner money for the week on a Monday morning.

Milk Money

Milk money has increased to £1.05 per week and must be paid a week in advance, (this is to accommodate milk orders being processed by Ballyrashane Creamery.)

Milk money **must** be paid on a Monday in order for your child to receive milk the following week.



E.g. any child wanting milk the week beginning Monday 11th September will have to bring their money on Monday 4th September.

Any child wanting milk next week commencing Monday 4th September should bring their money to school tomorrow Friday 1st September.

Water Bottles

Just a quick reminder that all pupils in Primary 2- Primary 7 should now have their own "School Water Bottles" which have been marked clearly with their name. Rather than paying for water on a monthly basis, pupils can now bring their own personalised bottles with them to school each day.

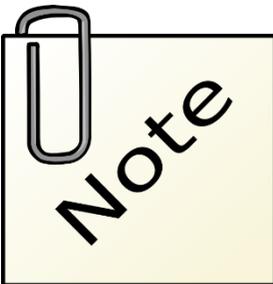


Please note, that these bottles should be filled at home with water only, if required these can be refilled at school throughout the day. If for any reason your child requires another water bottle, these can be purchased from the school office at a cost of £2.50.

Absences

In order to enable the school to authorise any absence a note (signed and dated) must be sent into the school with your child on the date that he/she returns to school, explaining the reason for the absence.

If possible, when a child has an appointment a note must be sent to the school that morning informing the class teacher when they will be collected in order to attend the appointment.



Please note that "Absence Notes" can be collected from Mrs Collins in the school office and completed if required.

School Crossing Patrol

Please note that school crossing patrol times will be as follows:

Monday—Friday

8:30am—9:10am

1:50pm—2:10pm

2:50pm—3:20pm



Could I also take this opportunity to remind all parents that school starts at 9:00am sharp for all pupils (Nursery - Primary 7). Playground supervision takes place from 8:50am - 9:00am.

I would ask that as parents you encourage your child/children to line up promptly once the bell rings at 9:00am so they are ready once their teacher comes to the playground to collect them.

School's Out

P1 & P2

1.50pm Daily

P3

1.50pm Tuesday & Thursday

3.00pm Monday, Wednesday & Friday

P4 -P7

3.00pm Daily



School Uniform

It is great to see 1st September and all pupils arriving into school looking very smart in their school uniform. Could I please remind you (if you have not already done so) to ensure that all school uniforms are marked clearly with your child's name and class. Sadly, every year a number of school sweatshirts, skirts, trousers etc. are found although due to the fact they have no names, we are unable to return them to their owners.



Breakfast Club



I am delighted to report that Breakfast Club will run on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8:20am—8:50am. The cost will remain at £1.00. Breakfast Club will commence on Tuesday 5th September.

Homework Bag

Please note, should your child require a new homework bag, this can be purchased from Mrs Collins in the School Office at a cost of £4.00.



Diary Dates



Dates for
the Diary:

Please find attached to this newsletter a list of Diary/Holiday dates for the coming academic year. I trust that you find this list informative and hope that by sending holiday dates out in advance this will help any families who may be planning ahead regarding holidays for next year.

Although all dates are important I would like to draw your attention to the three weeks in May, i.e. Revision Weeks and Assessment Weeks and would request all pupils are in attendance during these weeks.

Car Park Reminder

Could I please remind parents that all pupils (when leaving school) will be walked by their teachers to the school gate, beside the bicycle shed, where they must be collected.

I would again request that cars should not be entering the school grounds to drop off or pick up pupils as the safety of our children is paramount!