



OMAGH COUNTY PRIMARY SCHOOL

18th March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Return to School:

We have received a letter from Minister Weir late on Tuesday re the return to school for Year 4-7 pupils. We are delighted the children are returning to school. It has been wonderful having Nursery - Yr 3 back already and we are busy working to get school ready for pupils to return safely.

The **week beginning 22nd March**, school will run as Term 1.

School will be close on **Friday 26th March at 12.30pm for the Easter Holidays and re-open Monday 12th April 2021**

School dinners will be available for all children from Monday 22nd March 2021

Uniform:

We appreciate that with the short notice of school re-opening on Monday and many shops not being open that shoes and certain items of uniform may not fit and we do understand this. However, there is an expectation that children should be in their full school uniform or school PE kit.

After Easter:

- Children will be expected to wear clean full school uniform including black school shoes. School polo shirts are permitted to facilitate regular cleaning and handwashing.
- Alternatively, children will be permitted to wear a black bottoms (no stripes) and trainers with school polo shirt and school jumper to school on PE days, each teacher will inform your children when their class have PE. This will take place outside as much as possible.
- Please do not send a PE kit to school at this stage.

We are delighted to see a relaxation of COVID restrictions and hope that these will continue over the forthcoming weeks. However, where we have so many families coming together we must be very mindful of our responsibility to ensure we do all that we can to limit the spread of infection.

Parents:

- When dropping children off at school please resist the urge to congregate and have a catch up
- Please do not enter the school grounds in the morning. Children should enter the school gates and line up in their class bubbles. (Nursery and Year 1 excluded)
- All parents on school grounds **must** wear a facemask, unless they are exempt for medical reason.
- Please be mindful and respectful of social distancing at all times.
- Please ensure your child removes their school uniform after school every day when they come home from school.

School Arrival and Departure:

- Pupils should wash their hands before leaving home.
- Pupils will arrive at staggered times to avoid congestion.
- Staff will instruct pupils where to line up in the playground, if it is very wet pupils will be instructed to go straight to their classrooms.
- Pupils should as much as possible line up independently.

Organisation of School:

- Classrooms have been organised with all children facing the same direction.
- Children will be organised into class bubbles with minimal contact with other classes.
- The school and the playground has been organised into four zones, with each zone allocated their own entry and exit points, staff will be on hand to guide children in the early days!
- Staff and pupils do not have to wear masks, though there may be circumstances where this is necessary.

The following times should be adhered to from Monday 22nd March. No child should be on school grounds before 8.45am when they will be directed in by a member of staff.

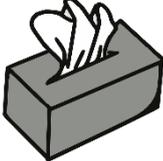
Class	Arrival Time	Pick Up Time	Entry/Exit Door
Nursery	8.55am 12.30am	11.30am 3.00pm	Nursery
P1	8.50am	1.55pm	P1 building
P1	8.55am	2.00pm	P1 building
P2 Room 2 (Mrs McFarland)	8.45am	1.45pm	Junior Entrance
P2 Room 4 (Mrs Crosbie)	8.45am	1.45pm	Front Entrance
P3 Room 3 (Mrs Mathers/Mrs McMullan)	9.00am	2.00pm	Front Entrance
P4 Room 6 (Mrs Dempsey)	8.50am	2.50pm	Junior Entrance
P4 Room 7 (Mrs Alcorn)	8.50am	2.50pm	Front Entrance

P5 Room 8 (Miss Lockington)	8.55am	2.55pm	Front Entrance
P5 Room 11 (Miss Orr)	9.00am	3.00pm	Back Entrance
P6 Room 12 (Mr Crozier)	8.50am	2.50pm	Back Entrance
P6 Room 9 (Mrs Stronge)	8.45am	2.45pm	Back Entrance
P7 Room 11 (Mr Morgan)	8.45am	3.00pm	Back Entrance
P7 Room 14 (Miss Doherty)	8.50am	2.50pm	Back Entrance
LSC Room 5 (Miss Beattie)	9.00am	3.00pm	Junior Entrance
ASC Room 1 (Mrs Feeney/Mrs Martin)	9.00am	2.00pm	Junior Entrance

Visiting School for an Appointment?

- Parents should not enter the school building except when attending a pre-arranged meeting or if an emergency situation arises.
- Parents and visitors on entering the building they will be expected to wear a mask. They must also use the hand sanitiser, sign in and wait for the school secretary to greet them.
- Parents are please asked to maintain social distancing in the playground when dropping off or picking up their children.

WHAT TO BRING TO SCHOOL

<p>1. Lunchbox</p> 	<p>2. Water bottle</p> 	<p>3. Medication (if needed)</p> 	<p>4. Box of tissues.</p> 
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1. A **lunchbox** which is clearly named which can be cleaned every day, please also include something healthy to eat for break time, (NO NUTS OR KIWI FRUIT). Information on school meals will be issued as soon as this is available. Break will not be available to buy.
2. A **water bottle**, clearly named which is wipe able. Water fountains will not be available. Only water should be in the water bottle. Other healthy drinks are permitted in lunchbox for lunch time when eating food. (Metal bottles are most durable, hard plastic bottles often break when they fall off the tables!)
3. **Medication** if needed, eg inhalers, epipens etc these should be brought to school on the first day, clearly named with an administration of medicines form which is available on the school website.
4. **NO SCHOOL BAGS -A strong plastic A4 zip wallet** clearly named, this will be used to carry home reading books and to keep school loaned books safe. Reading books will

be issued in due course, staff will be following guidance on the handling of books ensuring everyone's safety.

5. **A box of tissues/wipes** to be kept in school.

Children have been given individual folders for school which will contain everything else that they need for school use. **Please do not send school bags. A pencil case may be brought into school, but it must remain in school until the end of term.**

Money:

All money should be sent into school in a sealed envelope with your child's name, class and amount clearly marked on the front and what the payment is for

Health:

- Please inform the school office if you have recently, or intend to, travel abroad.
- Please download the NI Covid App to your phone, (Test, Trace and Protect)
- PLEASE do not send your child to school if your child or anyone in your household has any of the following symptoms.
 - A high temperature, (hot to touch)
 - A new, continuous cough,
 - A loss of, or change in sense of smell or taste.
 - Sore throat
 - Sore head
 - Fatigue or muscle pain

If your child or anyone in your household has any of the symptoms above you should get a test for Covid-19 and follow the Public Health Agency advice.

Children will engage in regular handwashing during the school day.

Children will be reminded of good handwashing techniques and we would ask that parents reinforce this at home. Handwashing is extremely beneficial in reducing the spread of the coronavirus so it is vital that children engage regularly in this simple act.

Following current DE guidance, staff will not be wearing PPE, unless administering first-aid, medication or intimate care needs. If possible, medication should be administered at home.

Please reinforce the following, which is expected in school. We have child friendly posters to remind children of these important actions.

- Using a tissue: "catch it, bin it, kill it".

- Coughing/sneezing into a tissue or elbow
- Washing hands with soap
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth
- 1m social distancing from friends (aeroplane arms and 2m from staff)
- Independently putting on and taking off coat, opening lunch box and items of food

We acknowledge that some children may feel anxious, while others cannot contain their excitement about returning to school- our priority will be the social and emotional well-being of all our children and we will be actively addressing this alongside Literacy and Numeracy during Term 3.

Daffodil Tea Party:

Local charities have been hit hard by the pandemic, yet have very much been complimenting and supporting the NHS by supporting patients who would normally have been in hospital.

As this is usually Marie Curie Daffodil Appeal month we would like to encourage you all to register for your family afternoon tea and give a donation.

Plan your own Family Daffodil Tea Party:

Families can register for the tea party they will be given a password to an area on our school website. This will be your ultimate guide to hosting the perfect tea party. In this area you will find tutorials, downloadable recipe cards and art and craft activities for all the family to create a fun filled afternoon tea party, which everyone can contribute to. Your ultimate guide will be made live on Wednesday 24th March to give everyone plenty of time to prepare.

How to host
**DAFFODIL
AFTERNOON TEA
FOR
DUMMIES**
Marie Curie
By Omagh County Primary
School + Nursery
Wednesday 24th March

*"The ultimate virtual guide
to hosting afternoon tea."*

**"From setting the scene to
showstopper bakes there is
something for everyone in the
family to get involved in."**

Relax in the comfort of your
home as a range of local
experts walk you through the
different steps to creating the
perfect afternoon tea.

**REGISTER
TODAY!**
www.omaghcouny.org

Featuring Omagh County Primary School, Omagh District Council, Omagh Chamber of Commerce, Cupid Celebrations

A local Marie Curie representative will tell everyone a little about the work of Marie Curie and how the donations made, will be used. The Home Economics Departments in our local feeder secondary schools have all contributed a range of recipes that can be used by a novice or with children; and more challenging recipes for those who want to develop their culinary skills. There will be craft activities for both young and old, so that your afternoon tea will have all the trimmings of a high tea at the Ritz- centre piece, placemats and fancy napkin folding. We are creating a collage wall where we hope everyone will upload their photographs, so that even if we cannot be together in person we can be united virtually. We hope you will join us in our Daffodil Tea Party and spread the word- we could all you with a little bit of cheer

Daffodil Rocks:

March marks the start of Spring when the weather gets better and more people get out for walks. It is also Marie Curie Great Daffodil Appeal month. Could you paint rocks with daffodils and/or Marie Curie logo and leave them for others to encourage people to participate in our daffodil tea party or donate to Marie Curie?



School Daffodil Tea Party:

On Friday 26th March to celebrate our return to school each bubble is going to hold a daffodil tea party of their own. Children can come in their own clothes- preferably something yellow!!

There will be sandwiches, cocktail sausages, sweet treats and a gift for every child to take home.

All we ask that children give a donation to Marie Curie.



Daffodil Tea Party
Friday 26th March

Marie Curie Cancer Care

For pupils in Nursery - Year 7

Thank you for reading. I apologise for the length of this letter. These are unprecedented times and we do need to be fluid.

We are looking forward to seeing you all again very soon.

J.Funston
Principal

