

Annalong Primary Matters

September 2024

www.annalongps.com

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am delighted to welcome back all our pupils. I hope you had a great summer despite the weather. I would like to particularly welcome the Nursery pupils, P1 pupils and other new pupils who are starting our school for the first time. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of a few things that will help the continued smooth running of the school as well as inform you of forthcoming events.

P Chambers

Class Organisation

Primary 1 – Mrs Stevenson

Primary 2 – Mrs Black

Primary 3 – Mrs McKibbin/Mrs Hanna

Primary 4 – Miss Edwards

Primary 5 – Mrs Beattie

Primary 6 – Mrs Cunningham/Mr Chambers

Primary 6/7 – Mrs Freel/Mrs Cunningham

Term Dates

Half-Term – Monday 28th October-Friday 1st November

Term Ends – Friday 20th December at 12 noon
The full holiday list can be found on the Annalong PS App (Parent Area) and on the school website.

You can subscribe to the school calendar on the website which will transfer all the important dates to your phone.

Change of Details/Circumstances

If your **contact details or other circumstances have changed** i.e. change of address, mobile number or child's medical details, then please contact the school using the communication slip within the App or by emailing:
pchambers413@c2kni.net

School Fund

Over the years we have asked parents for a voluntary contribution to school funds to assist with paying for essential resources. As you are a

parent aware with budgetary constraints this income is very important to the school. We would ask for a contribution of £20 per family. This is a voluntary donation and can be paid via the random payment section in the school app.

The **Annalong Primary School App** is now used to book activities, pay for school meals, communicate with, and notify us of absences. The App is our main form of communication with parents. Please make sure you have ticked to receive notifications and chosen your child's class.

Download the App from the App Store and use access code 11111 to log on for the first time. If you continue to have difficulties, then please contact the school.

School Meals

School meals are available to all children.

The prices remain at £2.60 for Primary children and £2.50 for Nursery children.

Please book using the above App for **both paid and free meals**. There is an option to specify either on the App.

If you believe that you are entitled to free school meals and/or help with school uniform, please contact the school. Eligible families and the school stand to benefit from each successful application.

As there is a **transaction charge** each time you use the App to pay for meals or other activities, the cost to the school is reduced when you pay for that week's meals in one transaction.

Small Talk NI sessions will begin with Nursery and P1 pupils on Monday 16th September and these classes will receive information about what these involve. This is an additional programme of Speech and Language that the school pays for to help our younger pupils to become confident communicators.

Healthy Eating

The school has a Healthy Eating Policy. Pupils should only drink water in class. A water cooler is

available to refill water bottles throughout the day. Pupils should only bring fruit/vegetables or bread-based snacks at break time. Please remember not to send in any products either in a packet, spread or in a bar.

The **After School Programme** begins on Tuesday 10th September for Primary 4-7 pupils with Kickon Soccer returning to provide coaching at a cost of £2.50 per session.

2-3 club resumed on Monday 2nd September for P2 and P3 pupils from Monday-Thursday each week at a cost of £2.50 per day. Primary 1 pupils will be able to attend 2-3 club from Monday 1st October.

Homework

Reading, spellings, tables/number facts will begin on 23rd September for P4-7 pupils, and Monday 30th September for P1-3, written homework will also begin on Monday 30th September for P4-7 pupils. Please speak to your child's teacher if you have any concerns about your child's homework.

School Uniform

Children are expected to wear their school uniform every day unless advised otherwise. Trainers are only allowed to be worn on a day when PE is timetabled. **Please could you make sure uniform and in particular jumpers are named.**

PE Days

P1 – Monday and Friday

P2 – Tuesday and Friday

P 3– Tuesday and Thursday

P1-3 Pupils can wear trainers into school on their PE day.

P4 – Wednesday and Friday

P5 – Monday and Friday

P5/6 – Thursday and Friday

P7 – Thursday and Friday

P4-7 pupils may wear their PE kit into school on their PE days.

Attendance

The class register is marked twice daily. A mark is given for AM attendance (morning) and for PM

attendance (afternoon). If a child has a pre-arranged medical appointment, which lasts no more than half a day, they will be given a present mark. Please can I remind you to ensure children are in school for 9am to ensure minimum disruption to classes. You must provide a reason why your child is off using the absence form on the school app in the Parent area.

Pupils should remain at home if they are unwell. If pupils suffer from diarrhoea or vomiting they should remain at home for 48 hours after their last bout of sickness. Please see the PHA guidance (School Website) on pupil attendance at school for a variety of illnesses.

Social Media

The school has a **Facebook account** to further help communication with parents and the local community. Please use the school app to communicate with school as messages will not be monitored on social media.

Queries/Concerns

Just to remind you that most day-to-day queries/concerns can be answered by the class teachers. If you need to see a teacher about a more serious issue, please make an appointment to see the teacher or Mr Chambers at an appropriate time.

Mr Chambers will be available after school Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and during school on Monday - Wednesday.

School Contact Details

Email: pchambers413@c2kni.net

Phone – **02843768336** or use the **Communication form on the School App.**

Please remember that we are a nut aware school. Products containing nuts or traces of nuts must not be brought to school.