



Educating, Encouraging, Caring



Shaping the future with
learning, kindness and care.



Londonderry Primary School Newsletter

May 2026

A message from Mrs Weir

It is hard to believe that we are almost in June and approaching the end of another busy and successful school year. This year has been a very different one for me, spending more time out of the classroom than in it. However, I have been very grateful for the many pupils who have popped into the office along the way to share their news, achievements, funny stories and, of course, plenty of smiles. I have also thoroughly enjoyed the opportunities to cover classes and step back into the middle of the wonderful buzz of classroom life where there is never a dull moment!

We already have so much to celebrate this year, including the hugely successful P6 and P7 residential trips. These experiences created wonderful memories, encouraged independence and teamwork, and gave pupils the chance to challenge themselves in new ways, all while surviving without Wi-Fi!

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank the staff who gave up their time to organise these trips and sacrificed precious family time at home to provide these opportunities for our pupils. Trips like these simply would not be possible without the goodwill, enthusiasm and energy our staff bring so willingly.

Another enormous thank you must go to our staff and parents who took part in the Belfast Marathon. The fundraising efforts have been incredible, and we are well on our way to achieving a library that will be a fantastic asset for our school community. A representative from the Education Authority will visit the school later this month to hear our plans and help identify the perfect location for our new library.

Of course, we also promised the children a "Triple Treat" if we reached our fundraising target.....and they made sure we delivered! On the week beginning 1st June there will

be no homework. On Friday 5th June we will have a non-uniform day and extended break outside.

As we move into the final weeks of term, there is still much to look forward to. Sports Day is always a highlight of the school calendar, and we are excited to celebrate the enthusiasm, participation and teamwork shown by all our pupils; alongside some highly competitive parents and staff on the sidelines!

We look forward to our P7 Leavers' Service as we mark the end of an important chapter for our oldest pupils and wish them every success for the future. Another exciting milestone ahead is pupils meeting their teacher for next year, helping everyone feel prepared and excited for the year ahead.

We are delighted to welcome our new P1 intake on Friday 29th May and again on Monday 8th June. We hope they are just as excited as we are as they begin the first stage of their school journey with us.

At this time of year, it is important to reflect on and celebrate the achievements and progress of every child. Whether through academic success, sporting achievements, creativity, kindness, resilience or personal growth, we are incredibly proud of all our pupils and the effort they show each and every day.

Finally, thank you to our staff, parents and wider school community for your continued support throughout the year. Together, we continue shaping the future with learning, kindness and care.

Warm regards,

L. Weir

Change to online bookings

Bookings will open on a Monday and close on Thursday evenings at 8:00pm. This adjustment ensures that office staff are available during the booking window to assist promptly should any issues arise with the system.

We kindly ask that all bookings are made within this timeframe. Unfortunately, bookings cannot be accepted after the closing time unless there is an emergency or a confirmed system fault. To avoid disappointment, we strongly encourage you to book early.

Summer Fair



Key Reminders

- Tuesday 2nd June: Sports Day
- Wednesday 3rd June: P6G Peace Plus Showcase, Scrabo Hall
- Tuesday 6th June: P5 Chesters Challenge (3 weeks)
- Friday 5th June: Non-Uniform day
- Friday 5th June: 2pm Finish for all
- Friday 5th June: Summer Fair
- Monday 8th June: P4A Airtastic
- Monday 8th June: P1 will spend the morning with P7 to allow the new P1 children into school
- Thursday 11th June: P6 and P7B Rugby
- Friday 12th June: Sponsored Fitness Day
- Tuesday 16th June: Selected children to Regent House for Music
- Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th: Amazing Journey Bible Stories visiting school
- Friday 19th June: P6G Shared Ed outing
- Saturday 20th June: Stormont Park Run
- Tuesday 23rd June: Awards Day
- Wednesday 24th June: Meet new teacher for 2026-27
- Monday 29th June: School Finishes at 2pm for P7 Leavers Assembly
- Tuesday 30th June: 12.10pm finish (No dinners in school or Dragons' Den)

Forward Planning

- Tuesday 25th August: First day back for 2026-27

School News & Highlights

Marathon Success: One step closer to our school library

What a day! An outstanding amount of money has been raised towards our new school library (£6,273): proof that our school community really can go the extra mile! A massive thank you to all the parents, families and staff for the support, encouragement and donations along the way. Special thanks to Mr Barr for organising everything alongside the PTA.

Most importantly:

- ✓ Everyone survived
- ✓ Everyone finished
- ✓ Everyone is still smiling

P7 Residential : What a fantastic two-night residential trip to Dublin!

From the excitement of Emerald Park to sweet success at the chocolate factory, plus swimming, bowling and plenty of laughs along the way, our pupils packed a lot into a few days! Safe to say there were some very tired faces on the journey home. Most importantly, memories were made that will last for years to come.

A huge thank you to our staff, Mrs Lowry, Mr Robinson, Mr Barr and Miss Bell, for giving up their time and energy to make the trip possible. Trips like these simply could not happen without their enthusiasm and commitment. We also want to say how incredibly proud we are of our pupils. Their manners, behaviour and enthusiasm were a real credit to the school throughout the trip. Well done everyone!

P6 Residential: Ganaway

Our P6 pupils recently returned from an unforgettable trip to Ganaway! From adventurous activities to teamwork challenges, the trip was packed full of fun, laughter, and plenty of muddy memories. Pupils pushed themselves out of their comfort zones, encouraged one another, and showed fantastic resilience throughout the week.

For some, it was their very first night away from home, a huge step (for both pupils and parents!). Everyone embraced the experience brilliantly.

Whether climbing, problem-solving, or simply trying to stay awake after midnight chats, our pupils represented the school superbly. Friendships were strengthened, confidence grew, and memories were definitely made.

A huge thank you to the staff, Mrs Bingham, Mr Adams, Miss Bell and Mrs Watters, who survived on minimal sleep and maximum patience to make the trip such a success. Ganaway 2026: fun was had, fears were faced, and stories will be told for years to come!

P7 Couch to 5K

Our P7 pupils have been tackling the Couch to 5K challenge with great enthusiasm, determination and a few sore legs along the way! From the first jog around the playground to building up confidence and stamina each week, the pupils are demonstrating fantastic commitment and resilience.

To keep the momentum going, many pupils followed it up with the Sunday morning Comber Park Run. A brilliant initiative promoting fitness, wellbeing and perseverance, with plenty of smiles, encouragement and personal bests along the way. #ParkrunPrimary

Peace Plus

Our pupils from P4A, P5LK and P6G thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the Peace Plus Shared Education Programme this year alongside St Finian's and The Model Primary.

Through a range of exciting trips, musical activities and shared learning experiences, pupils had the opportunity to build new friendships, develop confidence and learn alongside children from other schools.

The programme provided fantastic opportunities for teamwork, creativity and fun, with plenty of memories made along the way. The project ended with a wonderful showcase for parents at Scrabo Hall, where pupils proudly shared everything they had learned and experienced throughout the programme. A super experience for everyone involved!

Make sure you are signed up to Seesaw so you can access photographs and up to date information relevant to your class.

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Time
Tuesday 2 nd June	Sports Day	FS: 9.30am-10.30am (School) KS1 10.50am-11.45am (<i>St Patrick's Tennis Court</i>) KS2 1.30pm – 2.45pm (<i>St Patrick's Tennis Court</i>)
Friday 5 th June	Summer Fair (<i>2pm Finish</i>)	5.30pm
Friday 12 th June	Sponsored Fitness Day	All Day
Wed 17 th & Fri 18 th June	Amazing Journey	All Day
Saturday 20 th June	Stormont Park Run	
Tuesday 23 rd June	Awards Day	
Monday 29 th June	P7 Leavers Assembly	2pm Finish for all
Tuesday 30 th June	Last Day	12.10pm Finish

Contacting the school

If you need to contact the school, please follow our communication pathway.

Start with your child's Class Teacher, then the Key Stage Leader followed by the Vice Principal, and finally the Principal if required. This helps us support you and your child as quickly and effectively as possible.

Key Stage Leaders:

P1& P2: Mrs Hutton (Foundation Stage)

P3&P4: Mr Adams (KS1)

P5, P6 & P7: Mrs Lowry / Mr Robinson (KS2)

Wellbeing & Safeguarding Tip

Open Communication. A little conversation each day can make a big difference to a child's wellbeing.

This month encourage children to:

- ✓ Enjoy plenty of fresh air, exercise and sleep
- ✓ Be kind and inclusive to others
- ✓ Speak to a trusted adult if something is worrying them

Contact Us

Phone: 02891 814325

Email: info@lderryys.newtownards.ni.sch.uk

Website: www.lderryys.co.uk

Office Hours: 8:40am – 4:00pm

School Facebook Accounts

Londonderry Primary School: Shares photographs and reminders about events happening in school and the local area.

Londonderry Primary PTA: Post details and photographs of their events.

Londonderry PS – School Meals: Post their menu and any planned events from the kitchen.

Dragon's Den:

Mobile 1: 07395 702083

Mobile 2: 07543 453794

The telephone numbers for Dragon's Den are only to be used if you are running late or your child is not attending holiday scheme on a day you have booked for. The school office is to be contacted for any other queries or bookings.