

It is hard to believe the children have been back at school over 2 weeks and the Summer holidays are long gone. It has been a long Summer and I apologise for this first newsletter as it is very long!

Uniform - could you please ensure all the children have full school uniform and all uniform is labelled with your child's name. School uniform includes wearing plain black shoes. Trainers **should not** be worn as part of school uniform.

Medical -Can I please remind all parents we are a **nut-free school**.

Data Collection - it's important we have all your details up to date. As you know we provide a text service to inform parents of events so please ensure you complete the forms that were sent out with all recent details including any medical conditions.

School Day - Please remember children can come into class from 8.45 with the school day starting at **8.55 sharp**. Children should not be in school before 8.45 unless they are attending the breakfast club. If the children arrive in class after 8.55 the teacher will have already started that morning's lesson and children continually arriving late can be very disruptive for the class as well as upsetting for the child who is running late. Please note if a child arrives in school after 9.00 they will need to go to the office to sign in with Mrs Bredin.

Breakfast Club and After Schools Club -Please note if the children attend the breakfast club there is a charge of 60p. I know sometimes children forget their money and then pay the next day, but sometimes last year Mrs Nicholl, for After Schools Club, was having to send out letters to parents who had forgotten for several days. This is a lot of admin time.

Refurb - The contractors are hoping to finish the first phase by 18th September. It will be terrific to get a look at how the rest of the school will look and we are really excited about this. I know the building work is disruptive at times but the contractors work very closely with us to minimise this and I'm sure you will agree it will be worth it in the end.

Child Protection update - an updated child protection policy was sent out last December. Please note there is a slight amendment to this as Mrs Walker is now deputy designated teacher for child protection within the school and I am currently the designated teacher.

Staffing - during the Summer we employed Mrs Lynch and Mrs Nixon as classroom assistants within the school and we are delighted they have joined us. Unfortunately, at present, Mr Scholes and Mrs Robb are both still off sick. As you will know Miss Sayers is currently teaching P3 and Miss Mullan P7 and both teachers are working so hard and working so enthusiastically.

Meet the teacher - this year teachers will be organising a meet the teacher meeting after school for parents. We hope to have a P7 meeting next week if possible, with other classes P2-P6 having a meeting w/b 21st September. I realise the dates we arrange might not suit all parents but if possible please try to come along so we can share the joint measures we can do together for the needs of your child. This will not replace the one to one meetings with your teacher, that will still go ahead in

Retirements - After 28 years of long service at the school Mr Greenwood has now entered a new phase in life following his medical retirement from teaching. We all wish him the very best for his future and I am sure you will join us in thanking him for his long service within the school.

Gordon Hill, our crossing patrolman, has also had to retire and we also wish him all the best after a lot of years' service. As yet Transport has not appointed a new patrolman and Michael our caretaker is still filling in this role when he can. Please note there might be times when this is not possible but we will try to arrange safe measures for crossing the children at home time.

Road Safety - I am really glad to say that after months of working with DRD the safety work has been completed at the back gate. There is an electronic sign that will be installed shortly warning drivers to slow down at various parts of the day. Please help us by reminding your children about road safety.

Free School Meals- Please make sure if you are entitled to free school meals you fill out the relevant forms that can be obtained from WELB or if you contact the office. Even if your child doesn't have dinner if you apply for this the percentage numbers within the school can help us with extra income from the department of education.

Dates - some parents have asked about upcoming holidays. Some dates school will be closed are: 29th October to 3rd November, 21st December to 1st January, 15th February to 17th February and 21st March to 1st April.

Book Fair - the book fair will be in school from 1st October to 6th October. We always rely on the fantastic support of parents to help us open the fair in the morning to sell books to the children and possibly open one night (Tuesday). Please contact the school if you are available first thing in the morning from 9.00am or Tuesday night from 7.00pm to 8.00pm.

K Baldrick (Acting Principal)