

Windsor Hill Primary School

Thursday 9th November 2023

Dear Parents,

I trust you all had an enjoyable half term break last week despite the weather. We had some brilliant farming or Scarecrow costumes on 26th October for our Harvest assembly. We very much appreciated everyone's help with this event and congratulate all our class winners: Mila Ljubetic Nanez, Ethan Fitzpatrick, Arthur Wilson, Theo Pynappels, Matthew Johnston, Emily Wilson, Cora Fitzpatrick and Emilee Gordon.



Anti-Bullying Week

Week beginning Monday 13th November has been designated Anti Bullying Week in Northern Ireland. This Year's theme is **Make a noise about Bullying**. While our whole school community actively encourages positive relationships between our pupils and strongly discourage bullying in school on an ongoing basis, Anti-Bullying Week provides an extra focus and raises awareness in a different way. During Anti Bullying Week, whether in PDMU / Paths or during class discussion, each class will take the opportunity to discuss the importance of Reaching out and together looking after each other.

Odd Socks Day – Friday 17th November

This is an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique! There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or for parents to buy costumes. All you have to do to take part is wear odd socks to school, these can be any kind of socks at all, 'silly socks' if you are feeling creative and as colourful or plain as you like.

Pupils are also welcome to upload a picture of their odd socks to the class Seesaw page and from there they can be shared with the class.

Attendance



As we progress into the winter, we have our seasonal bugs and colds about, and while we ask parents to be cautious and not to send children to school if they are ill, it is important that when your child is well that they attend school every day to achieve their full potential in school. Odd days off can unsettle children and result in pupils missing important stages in their learning.

While teacher do their best to catch children up on their return, it is not the same as learning in class together. Attendance is monitored monthly by the EA Education Welfare Service who will request referrals should attendance fall below an acceptable level.

<https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/de/attendance-matters-a-parents-guide.pdf> Department of Education Leaflet for parents.

Christmas Concert

It is planned that we will have a whole school Christmas Concert on the afternoon of **Wednesday 13th December** and the morning of **Thursday 14th December 2023**. We plan to invite parents and friends to attend and are providing good notice so that everyone will get the date into your diary and have time to request time out of work as needed. (Further details about tickets etc. will be sent home towards the end of November.)



Traffic at the Gate

As the days get colder and the evenings close in, we ask parents to exercise caution at the school gate at pickup and collection. Mrs Henning works hard to keep everyone safe, but it is essential that everyone approached the school slowly and only park where they are not obstructing others.

Newry High School Open Evening

This year Newry High School's Open evening is on **Wednesday 22nd November from 7 – 9pm**. Mr Brown and his staff would be delighted to welcome our P6 & P7 pupils and parents to see around the school. Application dates have not been published as yet, but our P7 parents will be applying for places in post primary schools around the beginning of February. Details of open evenings / days / afternoons for all other local post primary schools should be available on school websites or alternatively I would recommend that you contact schools directly for this information.

Thank you for your continued support and please feel free to contact school should you require any additional information.

Yours faithfully,

I.McKane

Principal