



Windsor Hill Primary School

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Principal: Miss I McKane

Vice-Principal: Mr P. Morrow

Wednesday 5th January 2022

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Welcome back to school after the holidays. We wish all our pupils, parents and friends a Happy, Healthy New Year in 2022.

Thank you to everyone who donated money in lieu of Christmas Presents. We were delighted to be able to donate £530.00 to The Southern Area Hospice. Thank you also to everyone who donated food for Newry Larder Foodbank on Festive Friday – Christmas Jumper Day in December.

Open Enrolment for September 2022

Information regarding enrolment to primary school is now available on the EA website at <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>.

The P1 online application procedure opens on Monday 10th January 2022 and closes on 28 January 2022 at 12noon (GMT). While digital applications are preferred, support is available for everyone who needs it with paper applications – just contact the office and Miss McKane will call you back. Parents of children who are eligible to enrol next September are very welcome to contact the office to arrange a time to speak to Miss McKane, see around the school or discuss their child's application. These appointments will be planned for after school in the light of Covid.

AT THE BEGINNING OF A NEW TERM PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

School Milk – School milk will resume from today, 5th January 2022, for those pupils who pre-ordered and paid for milk last term.

Healthy Eating Policy – Healthy Breaks – parents continued support of this programme, which aims to reduce sugar attacks on young teeth, is appreciated. For their break time snack pupils should bring a healthy fruit snack and drink only milk or water. Fruit can be purchased from the school canteen at break time costing 30p / portion. Please note, if you are sending a drink to school for lunch time that fizzy drinks are not permitted in the dinner hall or classrooms.

School Meals- It would be very much appreciated if payment for school meals is brought every Monday for the week with your child's name and the days they wish to have dinner clearly marked on the front of the envelope. Free school meals application forms are also available from the office for anyone who may be eligible. Please speak to either Mrs Whiteside or Miss McKane for more information.

School Uniform – As we begin a new year and a new school term, I take this opportunity to encourage everyone to wear full school uniform to school every day, except on the PE days when school tracksuit is permitted.

Due to health and safety concerns no child should be wearing ear-rings to school. Everyone's co-operation with this request is very much appreciated.

Supervision before school - The doors to school open each morning at 8.45am, school starts at 9.15am. There is no school supervision before 8.45 am. Breakfast club continues to be available daily from 8am, cost £2.00 per day and should be booked in advance. (email booking are acceptable.)

School Attendance & Punctuality – The beginning of the New Year is an appropriate time to once again encourage all parents to ensure that our pupils are in school punctually every morning for lessons. While we continue to operate out trickle start up until 9:15am each morning, lessons start promptly after this. Please establish a routine to get the children into school in good time for the start of lessons. Being late and ‘casual’ missed days at school disrupts children’s routine and education - they really miss out!

Of course some absences are unavoidable and if your child is absent from school, please remember to send a written explanatory note with him/her on their first day back to school. Without a written note, absences are recorded as unauthorised on the system. Additional sheets of absence note slips are available from the school office at any time.

Changes to contact details - Please keep us informed of any changes of address, telephone number or emergency contact details. It is particularly important that records of mobile numbers are up to date so that, in the event of an accident or illness, parents can be contacted quickly and also for the effectiveness of our text messaging service.

Football Club

It is scheduled that Fiona will resume Football club on Thursday 13th January. This week’s club will be carried forward from before Christmas as football had to be cancelled the last week. New registration forms for the week beginning 20th January will be distributed next week.

School Closure reminder:

Exceptional Closure	Wednesday 16th February 2022
Half Term	17th, 18th & 21st February 2022
St Patrick’s Day Holidays	Thursday 17th March 2022
Exceptional Closure	Friday 18th March 2022
Last day of term before Easter	Tuesday 12th April 2022 (Half Day)

At the beginning of a new term we trust that the children will all quickly settle again into the routine of school. If you have any concerns, or are unsure of any matter regarding your child’s education or welfare, please do not hesitate to contact school.

In an emergency your first point of contact should be the Principal or Vice Principal but if you would like an appointment with the class teacher, arrangements for this can be made through either the principal or school secretary.

Covid infections mitigations in school.

Please be assured that our staff are doing all that they can to minimise the risk of Covid infection in school and also appreciate your help and co-operation with this.

Consistent Groups

In compliance with Department of Education advice to school we continue to operate ‘Consistent Groups (Class bubbles)’. All staff are wearing face coverings in corridors and public areas of school and enhanced cleaning and ventilation is rigorously adhered to in all classrooms.

Adults accompanying pupils into school

As we limit the numbers of individuals coming in and out of school and ask that **only P1 pupils** who may not be ready to come into school on their own are accompanied into school. Everyone bringing pupils into school must **wear a face mask**.

Thank you for your continued interest and support.

Yours faithfully

I. McKane
Principal