**EDENDERRY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Newsletter September 2023**

It is lovely to have the pupils back in school and to see how keen, enthusiastic and eager they are to learn. I am looking forward to hearing of their many successes as the year progresses. Primary 1 pupils have settled into the school routines very well and I am sure they too will be wonderful assets to our school. As a staff, we are grateful to teach such wonderful children and we are very thankful for the support of parents, grandparents and Friends of Edenderry.

**EDENDERRY PRIMARY SCHOOL SAFEGUARDING TEAM**

**Designated Teacher:** Mrs C Crory (Vice Principal) **Principal:** Mrs K Orr

**Deputy Designated Teachers:** Mrs H Bicker & Mrs L Watson

**Designated Governor for Child Protection:** Mrs H Topping **Chairperson of the Board of Governors:** R West

Children are made aware that there is always an adult in the school who will listen to any worries they may have. Please remind your child of this.

**REMINDER**

**FRIDAY 29th SEPTEMBER 2023 – SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING**

**MORNING DROP OFF**

It has been noted that a small number of parents when parking are not using the bays or are parking very inconsiderately. This is causing congestion not only in the carpark but also on the Lurgan Road. Room must be left for school buses to get around the carpark. When you have dropped off or collected your child, please exit the car park quickly to ensure those parked behind you are not blocked. This is especially important in the morning as people need to get to their work.

I have noted that in the morning the footpath at the gates is often blocked by parents chatting after pupils have been dropped off. This is resulting in children having to step off the path to get into school. You will appreciate how dangerous this is for children in a busy carpark. Again, for the children’s safety please exit the grounds quickly.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Classes start at 8.45am.** Please ensure your child is in before this time. Arriving late is unsettling for the child and the class. You will also find that the traffic is lighter if you aim for a 8.30am-8.40am drop off.

We acknowledge that if a child is sick he/she should be kept off school. All absences must be explained in writing on the child’s return to school.

**Every single day a child is unnecessarily absent from school equates to a day of lost learning.**

**UNIFORM**

From **Monday 2nd October all P4-P7 pupils should wear their shirt and tie to school each day**. Pupils should bring their yellow polo shirt and black shorts for PE.

P1-P3 parents will be informed by class Dojo of uniform requirements on PE days.

The lost property box is already starting to fill. Named items are returned to pupils. **PLEASE** ensure your child’s clothing is named.

As the weather starts to change please ensure your child brings a **NAMED** coat with a hood to school. Our priority will be to let children play outside as much as possible at break and lunch.

**DINNER, BREAKFAST CLUB & AFTERSCHOOL CLUB**

The above can all be booked and paid for online. School meals continue to be priced at £13.00 per week or £2.60 per day. These meals can be booked in advance up to midnight on a Sunday evening for the incoming week. The menu is available on the school website. Please note that this can be subject to change due to food deliveries. If you have any difficulties booking or registering, please do not hesitate to contact our school office for assistance.

**HEALTHY BREAK**

We ask that parents provide a healthy snack (no crisps, sweets or chocolate) for pupils Monday-Thursday. A treat may be given on Friday.

**FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

If your circumstances change, please remember your child may be entitled to **‘Free School Meals’**, applications can be made online at [www.mealsanduniform@eani.org.uk](http://www.mealsanduniform@eani.org.uk)

**FRIENDS OF EDENDERRY**

Friends of Edenderry are planning events for this term. More details to follow. ***The next meeting will be on Monday 13th November at 7pm in the School Staffroom.***

**SCHOOL FUNDS**

School fund to be paid online using the school money app Eduspot **£15.00 per child or £25.00 per family**.

Remember, money raised by Friends of Edenderry is used to support your child’s education. All donations are gratefully appreciated. A letter from Friends of Edenderry will be forwarded to you when this is set up. If I can also remind you of the importance of completing and returning to school the Gift Aid form which will provide additional funding.

**MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING**

A huge thank you to all who contributed to it organisation and to those who were able to attend our coffee morning. To date, approximately **£1600** has been raised. If you would like to add to this, please forward donations to school next week.

**NSPCC & BARNARDOS – in lieu of presents**

****The staff very much appreciate the kindness shown by parents at Christmas through gift giving. However, this year we are asking parents **NOT to purchase gifts** for staff.

****During the school year the pupils benefit from contributions made by NSPCC & Barnardos. This Christmas, we would like to give back to them.

Money collected from our Nativity, Carol Service and in lieu of presents will be given to these two very worthy causes.

**DATES FOR YOUR DAIRY**

HALF TERM HOLIDAY Monday 30 October - Friday 3 November 2023

FLU VACCINE Monday 4 December

P1-P3 Nativity Play 12, 13 & 14 December (more details to follow)

Carol Service Tuesday 19 December @ 10.00am

Christmas Holidays Friday 22 Dec – Wednesday 3 January 2024