



Monday 26th June 2023.

Dear Parents

We have come to the end of a very busy year with lots of outstanding achievements and activities throughout the year.

### **Staff**

Thank you to our Staff for using their remarkable skills and talents to provide an outstanding education to our pupils at Loughries.

### **PTFA**

Thank you to our PTFA who have provided the following activities to support our school:

September 2022- provided refreshments for prospective parents at our Teddy Bears' picnic.

October 2022- Pumpkin Colouring competition for the whole school providing prizes for each class.

Halloween night – provided 150 goodie bags for the children with entertainment of a Party DJ & Snow Globe inflatable along with crisps, juice and glow sticks. Refreshments were sold and a raffle was held. They raised over £200.

December 2022 purchased a PA system for the school.

Grand Opera House Christmas 2022 Pantomime - the PTFA paid for the tickets for pupils and staff and transport there and back.

Open Afternoon- provided refreshments.

Christmas Fair was held on 10th December – the event raised approximately £400.

Selection boxes were provided for all the pupils in the school.

February 2023 - the PTFA subsidised the cost of the hoodies for P7.

Valentine's Colouring competition – a prize was given to each class. This raised just over £30.

March 2023 - provided an end of term treat for all children and gave every child an Easter Egg and provided chocolates for staff.

May 2023 - provided P7 pupils with a Best Wishes note and a small gift the day before they all received their new school notifications.

Fun Night – there were lots of fun stalls and the PTFA raised nearly £600 from the evening. A separate raffle prize for a Stena Line crossing was kindly given from a school family and that raised a further £400.

June 2023 – the PTFA provided free tea / coffee and refreshments for families at the School Sports Day and provided a haribo treat and juice for all pupils.

PTFA will be giving all P7 children a gift voucher to wish them well.

The PTFA have provided electric pencil sharpeners for each class.

If you would be interested in joining the PTFA then please contact the school with your name and contact details which will then be given to the PTFA.

## **P7**

The P7 class created a fun charity morning for all the boys and girls. They started in May designing games for the children to play and designed posters to encourage children to play their games. They raised an incredible £185 for MacMillan Cancer. Well done, P7!

We celebrated the P7 Leavers' Assembly last Friday at the Ards Evangelical Church. There was a solo by Chloe Graham on the clarinet, all of the children played their tin whistle, the children shared their memories at the school, the children received their Record of Achievement with a graduation keyring, then the children performed a short play and finally ended with a song.

We would like to wish all our P7 children the very best at their next school.

## **Music**

The following children passed their Initial Grade violin exam in June 2023: Sarah Elliott, Jessica Hope, Ivy Matovu. Well done, girls!

## **Mrs Gibson**

It's a baby girl! Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Gibson on the safe arrival of their baby. We would like to wish them all the best as new parents.

## **Non-uniform day – Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> for P7 and Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June for P1-P6**

It will be a non-uniform day for our P7 class who will leave on Tuesday 27th June at 12 noon. For our P1 to P6 children our non-uniform day will be on Friday 30th June.

## **Pick-up times on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

12:15pm for P1/2, 12:20pm for P3/4 and 12:30pm for P5/6.

## **School Uniform**

This is available from Signature Schools and there is a special offer on until 31st July. Information is also provided on our website. If you have any outgrown uniform which your child no longer requires, then please send this into school from tomorrow. The preloved uniform will be displayed in our canteen on the last two days of June and during the last week of August. You may help yourself to the uniform.

## **School Reports and IEP evaluations**

These will be handed to the children today. If your child has an IEP, then two copies will be given to you. I would appreciate it if you could sign a copy and return this to school for our records. All children will receive a reply slip to confirm that you have received the report. Please return this to school as soon as possible. I appreciate your support with this.

## **Reading books**

Please check at home to see if you have any reading books and please return them to school this week.

## **Parent/Teacher Information Meetings Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August**

These are planned for Tuesday 29th August: P7 9:30am, P5/6 10am, P3/4 10:30am, P2 11am. Information will be shared with you regarding the year ahead in each class.

## **2023/24 Start Dates & Operation Times**

School will recommence on Wednesday 30th August with a drop off from 8:45am. Our new P1 children may walk into school to their classroom. The P2-P4 should walk to their playground and P5-P7 should walk to their playground. A bell will ring at 8:55am for the children to line up, walk into school and be ready to start at 9am. The class teachers will take their register at 9am and any child arriving after the register has been taken will receive a late mark. If your child is unable to attend due to sickness, then please email the school with your child's name and reason for their absence. The EWO works very closely with the school and monitors all of the children's absences. For Wednesday 30th and Thursday 31st August it will be a 12:30pm pick up. Please collect your youngest child first. On Friday 1st September dinners will be available.

## **Breakfast Club**

This will be available from Wednesday 30th August from 8:15am. The cost will remain at £2 a day and is available to book via School Money. For the first week School Money will be online from Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August and then every Friday to book this for the following week.



## **School Dinners**

These will commence from Friday 1st September. They can be ordered via School Money on Wednesday 30th August. The menu will be displayed on our school website and emailed to parents when the school receives this from the catering team. The cost is £2.80 a day; if there is an increase then you will be notified of this. Each week the online payment system will be available from every Friday. Dinners should be booked before 7pm on Sunday night so that class dinner sheets are available to the teaching staff. If you are entitled to Free Dinners, please complete the application form even if your child does not intend to take the school dinners. Please click on the following link for school meals and uniform grants:

<https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants>

If your child has any dietary requirements, then a form should be completed and given to school. This is available from the school Office.

## **IWB**

We plan to have new interactive whiteboards in each classroom for the start of the school year which will benefit and enhance the education of all our children. I intend to initially use our school budget to purchase these as we have been given a very good quote for them and prices will increase again in August. However, we will need to continue to raise money for the cost of these and the PTFA and the school will hold further events to raise the money. The PTFA have a Just Giving page on their Facebook page to help raise the money as well.

## **School Fund**

The Financial Committee has agreed to return to School Fund contributions via School Money. This will be set up in September. Please cancel any direct debits you may have set up for this year.

## **Glue**

I would like to remind you that glue is available to purchase at a cost of 50p from Mrs Boardman in the Office.

## **Diary Dates for 2023/2024**

Please find attached the School Calendar which is also available on our website. Our website is kept up to date with events which happen throughout the year.

Thank you for supporting your child with their education this year. The role of a parent supporting a child with their education is very important. I wish you and your family a safe, pleasant and relaxing summer.

Yours sincerely

*I Thompson*

Mrs Thompson

Principal

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