

Drumahoe Primary School – Parent Memo: May 2022



P6 and P7 Trip to Gortatole: The P6 and P7 pupils thoroughly enjoyed their School Trip to Gortatole, before and after Easter. All of the staff at the Gortatole Centre and the teaching staff that accompanied the children on the trip said they were fantastic ambassadors for our school. Everyone commented on how polite and well-behaved the children were, a credit to their families. We would like to thank Mrs Hegarty, Miss Thompson, Mrs Doherty, Mrs McCandless and Miss Smyth for giving up their free time to supervise the trip and to Mr Scott for organising the trips (along with Mrs Glenn in the office) as well as accompanying the children.

School Fundraising: The recent PTA Fundraiser for the Easter Hamper raised a very impressive £503. The winner of the hamper was Ollie Walker (P2). Thank you to the King family for their generous donation of the hamper and Easter Eggs.

Marathon for Cancer Charities: The school team completed the relay of the Belfast marathon on Sunday 1st May. So far a marvellous £2200 has been raised.

On behalf of the school, I would like to thank you, the parents and the entire school community for these great fundraising efforts. Your support is very much appreciated and means that our school and other local charities that carry out such vital work will have funds to help them in their efforts. I also want to pass on the thanks of the Robinson and Snodgrass family for all your kind donations. Just to let you know that we will be closing the Go Fund Me Page this Friday 13th May, any last minute donations would be very welcome and we will keep you informed as to the charities that have benefited from your contributions.

Bicycles/Scooters: Now that a bit of better weather is with us we will have larger numbers coming to school on bicycle/scooter. Can I remind everyone that bicycles/scooters must be pushed whilst on the school premises and that a helmet should be worn for safety purposes.

Diary Dates: The holiday dates for **next year** are on the App and on the back of this memo and I respectfully request that you arrange your vacation within these dates as prolonged absences from school often leads to interruption of work and consequent lack of progress. It is **not** practical for the school to provide work for children when on holiday.

N.B. We will endeavour to keep to these dates if at all possible but sometimes circumstances beyond our control dictate otherwise. Any changes will be communicated as early as possible.

Kadet Klub: Please note that any queries, bookings, emails etc. for Kadet Klub should now be brought to the attention of Miss Smyth who has taken over the leadership of the Kadet Klub. Her email address is:

asmith410@c2kni.net

Sporting Events: It's great to see that sporting events are beginning to get up and running again. The school football team is participating in a Football Blitz on Friday 13th May at the Vale Centre and the school netball team is participating in a Netball Fun Day in the Foyle Arena on Wednesday 8th June.

Summer Term Closings: School will be closed on **Thursday 2nd** and **Friday 3rd June** for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and on **Monday 6th June** for staff training.

Jubilee Celebration: The school will be holding a street party in school on Wednesday 1st June to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Parents and friends of the school are invited for tea/coffee and biscuits in the courtyard area of school any time in the morning from 9.45am – 12.00pm. The children will be outside at the following times:

Foundation Stage (P1 and P2) 9.45am – 10.15am

KS1 (P3 and P4) – 10.30am – 11.00am

KS2 (P5, P6 and P7) – 11.15am – 11.45am

The children are invited to attend school on that day in a 'royal themed' costume. After the street party the children will be able to avail of a Jubilee lunch provided by the staff in the Dining Centre. Each child in the school will also be presented with a commemorative coin to keep as a memento of this remarkable occasion.

School Reports: Academic Reports will be sent home on 24th June. If you have any queries in relation to your child's report, you can discuss these with your child's teacher by ringing the school and organising a suitable time for a telephone call with your child's teacher.

P1 Induction Morning: P1 parents and pupils for the next school year will visit school on the week beginning Tuesday 7th June 2022. We are really looking forward to welcoming all our new pupils and their parents to the "Drumahoe family" in September 2022. We do have limited places available for Primary 1 and reception in September. If you know of anyone who would like further information, please ask them to ring the school office (02871302284).

Sport's Day: Sport's Day (**House colours to be worn**) will take place on **Tuesday 14th June**. If the weather is inclement, Sport's Day will be held on the first day of suitable weather during the week. This year we are looking forward to welcoming parents back to this event. More details on the arrangements to follow.

House Cross-Country: The House Cross-Country competition will take place on **Friday 10th June** with the following starting times: Foundation Stage (P1 & P2) @ 1.15 p.m.; Key Stage 1 (P3 & P4) @ 1.30 p.m. and Key Stage 2 (P5-P7) @ 1.45 p.m.

Family Fun-Night/B.B.Q: We are delighted that this P.T.A. event will take place again this year after a long absence due to the pandemic. The Fun Night will take place (weather permitting) on **Thursday 23rd June** from 6.30 – 9.00 p.m. The first half hour of the evening (6.30 – 7.00pm) will be an autism friendly half hour. No music will be played and the lights from

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rides etc. will be switched off. This year, as with previous years, we will only be admitting children and families who have a connection with the school. **If you are able to assist in any way at the Fun Night/BBQ please either ring the Office (71302284) or call and leave your name with Mrs Glenn N.B. School closes at 1.00 p.m. on that Thursday to allow us to set up the different events.**

Drumahoe's Got Talent – Monday 27th June is the date of the final of the 'Drumahoe's Got Talent' House Competition when we will search for Simon Cowell's next protégé/protégée.

Leavers Assembly: The P7's Leavers Assembly" will take place on **Wednesday 29th June 2022**. Further details for the parents of the P7 pupils will be issued by Mrs Hegarty and Mr Scott closer to the date.

Uniform donations: Glendermott Presbyterian Church are planning to hold a uniform bank of used uniforms from local schools. We would like to encourage them with the donation of used uniforms from our school. We will provide more details of this as we get them.

Non-Uniform Day – the last day of term (**Thursday 30th June 2022**) has been designated as a non-uniform day to raise money for the School Fund. I will be asking that the pupils bring a minimum donation of £1.00 to their Class Teacher for the privilege of not having to wear uniform. The donation will also get them free into a "Farewell Disco" that we will be running for everyone (P1-P7) in the Assembly Hall from 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon – each key stage will be in the hall for 30 minutes.

Many thanks

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Wall'.

Principal



DRUMAHOE P.S. HOLIDAY LIST – 2022/2023

2022:

Autumn Term:

Tuesday 30 August – Wednesday 21 December (**inclusive**)

School Days:

Staff Development Day:

Closed:

Friday 30 September

1 day

Half-Term:

Closed:

Monday 31 October – Friday 4 November

5 days

Christmas and New Year: Autumn Term ends for pupils at noon on Wednesday 21 December 2022.

Closed:

Thursday 22 December 2022 – Tuesday 3 January 2023 (**inclusive**)

9 days

2023:

Spring Term:

Wednesday 4 January – Friday 31 March (**inclusive**)

Half-Term:

Closed:

Wednesday 15 February – Friday 17 February

3 days

St Patrick's Day:

Closed:

Thursday 16 – Friday 17 March

2 days

Easter: Spring Term ends for pupils at noon on Friday 31 March 2023.

Closed:

Monday 3 April – Friday 14 April (**inclusive**)

10 days

Summer Term:

Monday 17 April – Friday 30 June (**inclusive**)

May Day Bank Holiday:

Closed:

Monday 1 May – Tuesday 2 May

2 days

Spring Bank Holiday:

Closed:

Monday 29 May – Tuesday 30 May

2 days

School will close at noon on Friday 30 June 2023 for the Summer Vacation.

You are notified well in advance of all holidays and I respectfully request that you arrange your vacations within these dates as prolonged absences from school often leads to interruption of work and consequent lack of progress. It is not practical for the school to provide work for children when on holiday.