



October 2021 Newsletter

It has been a great September in school. All the classes are well settled into their new routines and are enjoying their learning. It is lovely to see clubs up and running this week and an increasing sense of normality in our day to day lives. Here is some information you will need to know for the rest of this half-term.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Parental Consultations will take place via phone call this term. The arrangements will be as follows.

- Phone calls will take place during the week beginning 18th October, between 2pm and 4pm.
- On Monday, please send a SeeSaw message to your class teacher giving 3 preferences for which day you would like to receive this call. In order to provide as much flexibility as possible, we will not be offering specific times unless it is completely necessary. It is unlikely that a teacher will be able to provide every parent with their first preference day.
- The class teacher will confirm with you on SeeSaw what day your phone call will take place.
- Phone calls will last approximately 10 minutes.
- School will close early during this week to facilitate these calls. Dismissal times will be;
 - P1, P2, P3 – 1:30pm
 - P4, P5 – 1:40pm
 - P6, P7 – 1:50pm

School Photos

Our school photographer will be in school on **Thursday 7th October** to take individual photographs. This will be done under the usual social distancing and hygiene measures. You should already have received a pre-registration link via email. If you wish to have a photograph taken you *must* use the pre-registration link to inform the photographer. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer family photos this year. I apologise for the disappointment this will cause.

School Policies

Over the next few weeks we will be adding some draft policies to our website (including Uniform, Use of the Internet and Social Media). I would encourage all parents to read these policies and provide any feedback by the end of October.

Traffic

We are very aware that a number of parents find the traffic situation very frustrating. Please be assured that I continue to raise this with the relevant agencies and am seeking improvement to the infrastructure around the school and enhanced support from the Education Authority. As part of this I will be issuing an online questionnaire in the coming weeks to capture your concerns as evidence of the need for improvement. In the meantime, I ask for your continued patience. I also ask that you continue to make full use of the 20 minute drop-off window. A further suggestion is that, at the turning circle, parents do not exit their vehicle. I know for you it is only a few seconds, but those seconds add up and contribute to the build-up of traffic.

School Fund

Thank you so much for all the contributions we have had to school fund. It is this income which can help us fund projects such as Accelerated Reader, Athletics and new ICT equipment so we appreciate your ongoing support.

PTA

If you are interested in joining the PTA this year, please could you email me at gwalker844@c2kni.net.

Dates

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| First full day for PI (Dinners should be pre-booked, please contact office if you are having difficulty) | 6 th October |
| School Photographer | 7 th October |
| Flu Vaccinations | 13 th October |
| Parent Teacher Interviews (early finish) | 18 th - 22 nd October |
| Half Term | 25 th October – 29 th October |
| Back to School | 1 st November |

Dr G Walker
Principal