

Wednesday 29 June

LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER

Pupil Voice Fundraiser in memory of Mrs Henderson and for Ataxia UK

A super big well done Pupil Voice, all of the children had a great day and we raised an absolutely incredible £5000 for Ataxia UK. Thank you so much for your kindness and support for this event and a big thank you to Mrs Shaw who coordinated the event with The Pupil Voice. And finally, well done Alice Kerr & Amy Linton who set up a sweet treats and loom bands stall, raising approximately £85©

Key Dates

Thursday 30 June Last day for all pupils. There is no breakfast club and no school dinners, children will finish at:

12.00 Y1 -Y4 12.05 Y5 - Y7

Thursday 25 August First day of the new school year. Children should arrive at school between 8.45 & 9.00 am and

proceed to their classrooms. The classroom assistants and I will be in the playground and at doors to direct the children. Teachers will be in their classrooms in order to receive the children. **School**

will finish at 12.00 Y1 - Y4 & 12.05 Y5 - Y7. No dinners will be served.

Friday 26 August Children should arrive at school between 8.45 & 9.00 am and proceed to their classrooms. The

classroom assistants and I will be in the playground and at doors to direct the children. Teachers will be in their classrooms in order to receive the children. School will finish at 12.00 Y1 – Y4 &

12.05 Y5 - Y7. No dinners will be served.

Monday 29 August Children should arrive at school between 8.45 & 9.00 am and will finish at the times outlined

below. Unfortunately, breakfast club and canteen won't commence until Thursday 1 September.

ON MONDAY 29, TUESDAY 30 & WEDNESDAY 31 AUGUST ALL CHILDREN SHOULD BRING A

PACKED LUNCH TO SCHOOL.

Start Times for 2022/23

Punctuality

Going forward we will maintain our staggered start (8.45 – 9.00) as it has proved to be very beneficial for pupils, parents & staff. It is absolutely vital that all children are in school, in the classroom by 9.00 am. An increasing number of children have been arriving after 9.00 am. Not only have the missed the initial activities which serve to settle the children and 'get their brains going' but they have missed the key instructions for the day and the beginning of the first lesson, leaving them at a huge disadvantage. CHILDREN WHO ARRIVE AFTER 9.00AM WILL BE MARKED AS LATE.

- The parents of those children who are regularly late in September will be contacted by their child's teacher.
- Should lateness persist teachers will discuss this with parents at Parent/Teacher Consultations in October.
- Should the issue not be resolved I will be in contact with parents.
- Continued, persistent lateness throughout the school year will be recorded on a child's report.

I fully understand that everyone can be late on occasions however persistent lateness really does impact on how your child performs and achieves on a daily basis, affecting their overall progress.

Playground One Way System

The one-way system has served us well over the last 2 years and an unexpected benefit that we have noticed, is that the children are much more confident, coming into and going out of school ... there are fewer 'big people' and they are all walking in the same direction.

However, as we move towards a more normal school year we will begin the school year without the one-way system as a 'wee' trial. Should I find that the children are getting lost or feeling anxious due to the number of 'big people' then we can always re-instate the system. My priority always has been and always will be, the children.

Finish Times 2022/23

The finish times will be as outlined below.

Y1 & Y2 1.45 pm (Monday – Friday)

Y3 2.45 pm (Monday & Tuesday), 1.45 pm (Wednesday – Friday)

Y4 2.45 pm (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday), 1.45 pm (Wednesday)

Y5 – Y7 2.50 pm (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday), 1.50 pm (Wednesday)

The earlier start and the shorter lunch break have proved to be hugely beneficial to the pupils and the staff. At lunch time there are fewer first aid incidents and fewer issues to be resolved (which can take staff 20-30 minutes following a lunch break), allowing staff more teaching time and children more learning time. This affords us the slightly earlier finish time. The early finish (which lots of primary schools operate) on a Wednesday facilitates:

- Literacy & Numeracy Boost programmes for children in Y5, Y6 & Y7
- Pupil Voice and Eco school committee meetings supervised by a teacher.
- Year group planning for teachers, allowing them as partners to reflect on the lessons taught that week and to plan (along with classroom assistants) for the lessons that will be taught the following week.
- Subject curriculum leaders e.g. literacy, numeracy etc to review their curriculum area in terms of teachers' planning, lessons taught and also to meet with and advise teachers.

Uniform

Don't forget that uniform will return to our pre-covid arrangements and all children should wear full school uniform every day. A PE kit of navy shorts and a white t-shirt should be brought into school for PE.

Uniform Allowance / Free School Meals

You may be entitled to a uniform allowance and/or free school meals. Please take up your entitlement, particularly for free school meals as the number of free school meals in a school has a huge impact on the overall school budget. If you have any queries, please contact the Free Schools Meals and Uniform Allowance Helpdesk. The Helpdesk operates Monday – Friday from 9am to 4.30pm and can be contacted via email: mealsanduniform@eani.org.uk or by telephone 028 9041 8044. In addition, Mid and East Antrim are operating a school Uniform Scheme, please see the leaflet below.

I hope that you all have a lovely summer and enjoy spending time with family and friends. Thank you once again for your very much appreciated support and I will see you all in August.



School Uniform Scheme

We are seeking donations of unused and preloved uniforms for the Mid and East Antrim uniform scheme. You can drop off donations at our centres from Monday 20th June.

If you would like to donate, please bring your items to one of our Household Recycling Centres before the end of term.

If your school would like to arrange a group pick up, please call 028 9600 1333

Please make sure all items are in good, clean condition, are bagged, and are labelled with the school's name.

Items needed:

- Blazers / Shirts / Blouses / Ties / Polo Shirts
- Trousers / Shorts
- Skirts / Pinafores / Summer Dresses
- Sweatshirts / Jumpers / Cardigans
- PE Kits / PE Equipment / School Bags
- School Shoes / Trainers / Football Boots
- Coats / Waterproofs Jackets

Ballymena

• Waveney Road Household Recycling Centre

Larne

- Redlands Household Recycling Centre
- Glenarm Household Recycling Centre
- Larne South Household Recycling Centre

Carrickfergus

• Sullatober Household Recycling Centre

The donated uniforms will be available to those who need them, free of charge from Mid and East Antrim Community Advice Centre local offices, from Larne Market and Pop-Up shops in each town during the month of August. For all enquiries, call **028 9600 1333**





