



## June (End of Term)

**'LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER'**

A super big well done Pupil Voice, all the children had a great day and we raised £357 for Cancer Research.

Monday 26 June	Y7s last day
Tuesday 27 June	All children will have the opportunity to meet their new teacher
Friday 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

In order to support parents as you make arrangements in terms of uniform we hope to host a uniform swap shop at the end of June, beginning of July. If your child's uniform is in **good condition** but is too small for your child then you could send the uniform (**please ensure that the uniform is washed & clean**) into school by Wednesday 28 June. From Thursday 29 June to Thursday 6 July (8.00am – 4.00pm) uniform will be available in the Assembly Hall for parents to peruse and take any items (**THERE IS NO COST but if you wanted to leave a small donation for PTA you can do so**) that might be of use to them. Any leftover uniform will be collected on Friday 7 July and taken to either Carrick or Larne Leisure Centres for Mid and East Antrim to use as part of their School Uniform Scheme.

**IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE SWAP SHOP THERE IS NO REQUIREMENT FOR CHILDREN TO WEAR UNIFORM NEXT WEEK.**

I hope that you will be able to support us in this endeavour as we work together to support one another in very challenging financial times.

**When we return to school in August all children should wear full school uniform (including black school shoes) every day. A PE kit of navy shorts and a white t-shirt should be brought into school for PE.** Uniform is available from the following suppliers: Gary's Menswear, Cuddys, Gordons and Jeanius. Please see the fliers below.

### 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 CURRENTLY RECEIVE FREE SCHOOL MEALS YOUR ENTITLEMENT WILL END ON FRIDAY 30 JUNE. EVERYONE MUST REAPPLY/APPLY AS SOON AFTER 30 JUNE AS POSSIBLE AT [freeschoolmealsanduniforms.eani.org.uk](https://freeschoolmealsanduniforms.eani.org.uk)** in order to ensure that your free meals are in place for the beginning of the new school year (it can take 6-8 weeks to process the applications and unfortunately we are unable to provide free meals unless you are on the EA register). 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](mailto:mealsanduniform@eani.org.uk) or by telephone 028 9041 8044.

## Pupil Reports – Attendance & Standardised Tests (Y3-7)

### Attendance

Your child's percentage attendance and the number of days that they have missed in the academic year 2022/23 is recorded on your child's report. **Good attendance is an essential ingredient If you want your child to fulfil their potential and make the progress that they should be making.**

The Department for Education describe attendance in the following terms.

- |                                    |                  |   |
|------------------------------------|------------------|---|
| ▪ <b>Regular Attendance</b>        | <b>95 – 100%</b> | <b>Children are missing &lt;1 day per month</b> |
| ▪ <b>At Risk Attendance</b>        | <b>90 – 95%</b>  | <b>Children are missing 1+ day per month</b>    |
| ▪ <b>Chronic Attendance</b>        | <b>80 – 90%</b>  | <b>Children are missing 2-3 days per month</b>  |
| ▪ <b>Severe Chronic Attendance</b> | <b>&lt;80%</b>   | <b>Children are missing 3+ days per month</b>   |

### Standardised Test Scores

Y3 – Y7 standardised test scores are also recorded on your child's report. Please see the information below which explains the scores.

### Classes for 2023/24

All of the children were informed today of who their new teacher will be for 2023/24. We have a few changes in terms of staffing.

- Miss Dunlop will cover Mrs Shaw who will be on maternity leave.
- Miss Bloomfield & Mrs Hagan will be teaching Y2, Monday – Tuesday & Wednesday – Friday respectively.
- Mrs Hill & Miss Bloomfield will be teaching Y5, Monday – Wednesday & Thursday – Friday respectively.

Teacher 2022/23	Teacher 2023/24	Teacher 2022/23	Teacher 2023/24
Y1 Mrs Parkes	Y2 Mrs Hagan/Miss Bloomfield	Y4 Miss Love	Y5 Miss Dunlop
Y1 Mrs Kidd	Y2 Miss McClay	Y4 Mrs Murphy	Y5 Mrs Hill/Miss Bloomfield
Y2 Miss Dunlop	Y3 Mrs Graham	Y5 Mrs Hill/Miss Bloomfield	Y6 Mrs Knipe
Y2 Miss McClay	Y3 Mrs Clarke	Y5 Mrs Shaw	Y6 Miss Roddick
Y3 Mrs Graham	Y4 Miss Love	Y6 Mrs Knipe	Y7 Mr Baird
Y3 Mrs Clarke	Y4 Mrs Murphy	Y6 Miss Roddick	Y7 Mr Addis

### August & September

The newsletter next week will outline the plans for our return in August and the key dates for September.



**Whitehead**  
Primary School  
& Nursery Unit

**'LEARNING AND GROWING TOGETHER'**

### **STANDARDISED TEST SCORES – JUNE 2023**

In addition to your child's assessments throughout the year, he/she completed commercially produced (GL Assessment) 'standardised tests'. There can occasionally be a little confusion and worry surrounding these tests so, hopefully, this information will help you to understand the entire assessment process.

***We continually monitor and evaluate your child's progress in school by –***

- ***Looking closely at his/her written work***
- ***Listening and observing how he/she can explain what he/she is doing***
- ***Watching how he/she interacts with the other children in the class***
- ***Discussing progress with parents throughout the year***
- ***If required, taking advice from external professionals e.g. psychologists***
- ***Recording their progress during assessments and weekly tests etc.***

This gives us 'the big picture' and enables us to report everything to you in the Annual Report, not just scores from recent assessments.

In Y3-7 standardised tests in English (PTE) and Maths (PTM) are completed to see how your child is doing compared to every other child in Northern Ireland. It is a complicated process and should not be used solely to determine your child's progress. Like any test, there are many factors that can alter your child's score e.g. tiredness, anxiety, insecurity etc and it is therefore important not to use these scores alone to evaluate your child's progress. They are not tests based on the work covered in class; rather they are more 'general questions' which test your child's ability to apply what they know to problems etc.

Standardised tests are used as a 'rough guide' to inform teachers and parents as to how a child is doing but must be used together with all other available information to form an accurate report of progress. It would be much easier not to share these results with you but, we believe strongly in the parent-school partnership and so are sharing these details with you in the understanding that they are simply another guide to progress and not a definitive mark in your child's assessments.

### ***What is a standardised score?***

A standardised score is between 70 and 141.

It is not a percentage or made of marks added together.

It is calculated by combining your child's age and score in each test (using an unknown formula)

A score of 100 is deemed to be in the middle – i.e. an average score

The standardised scores are sorted into nine 'groups' called 'stanine bands'.

There are nine possible stanine bands or groups.

<b><i>St. Score Range</i></b>	<b><i>Stanine Band</i></b>
70 - 73	1
74 - 81	2
82 - 88	3
<b>89 - 96</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>97 - 103</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>104 - 111</b>	<b>6</b>
112 - 118	7
119 - 126	8
127 +	9

Most children score somewhere in the middle stanines (4,5,6) with a score between 89 and 111.

A good way of further understanding the stanine bands (groups) is to divide them up into three groups: the lower, middle and upper stanines.

<b>Score Range</b>	<b>St. Band</b>	<b>Progress</b>
70 - 88	1-3 (lower stanines)	Below Average
89 - 111	4-6 (middle stanines)	Average
112 - 141	7-9 (upper stanines)	Above Average

***Put simply,***

***A standardised score between 70 and 89 is below average.***

***A standardised score between 90 and 110 is average.***

***A standardised score greater than 112 is above average.***

Have a look at your child's standardised scores on their report and see which category they 'fall into' but please do not worry about these scores. Next year's score could be different!

***Hopefully this has helped you to understand the whole process a little better. If you have any concerns, please contact me.***





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## **CUDDYS SCHOOL SAVINGS CLUB**

Want to take the hassle out of buying school uniform this year AND save money? Choose early when all sizes are in stock, reserve in our savings club and receive 10% discount. We will store your uniform until the end of the summer holidays. If your child has grown simply swap to a larger size.

[www.gortnaghprinting.co.uk](http://www.gortnaghprinting.co.uk) 028 8676 3377

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