



The Wee Friday Note

Friday 17th January 2020



Thought for the week

"If you are not willing to learn, no one can help you.
If you are determined to learn, no one can stop you." (Zig Ziglar)

1. **P1 2020 Admissions** – applying for a P1 place at Cregagh Primary School can now be done online at <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>. The Education Authority have confirmed that it will also accept paper application forms for the last time in January 2020. Parents can make applications for P1 places from 7th January through to the end of the month. We are happy to give a helping hand to any parent who wants/needs some help with this application process – whether it's online or paper forms. Just ask at the office and Miss Murphy will arrange some help for you.
2. **School Fund** – thanks to those families who have already paid in full (£15). We would greatly appreciate any outstanding school fund paid as soon as possible. Thank you ☺
3. **Winter bugs, flus and colds** – Christmastime may be over but we are still in the middle of winter. At this time of year, lots of us catch bugs, flus and colds. It's *impossible* to avoid everything but *important* to do as much as possible. Please reinforce the message (by regular reminding) that regular washing of hands is *very* important – especially after using the bathroom. Also very important is reminding the children about good habits when blowing noses and sneezing. All these good habits can help reduce sickness being spread.
4. **Hand sanitizer gels in school** – KS1 children (P1-4) should not bring these into school and use them. While older children (P5-7) may bring them into school, they should only use their own and **not** share with friends. School has 3 antibacterial foam dispensers that children have access to. The solution in these is mild and does not contain chemical alcohol (one of the ingredients in other hand sanitizer gels that causes such stinging irritation if rubbed into eyes). Parents should regularly check their children's school bags and pockets for what their children are taking from home and into school.
5. **After School Activities** – our after-school activities are back up and running, including Ukulele Band Club (P5-7) and Badminton Club (P4-7) will both be starting in January and running through to the end of June. These Clubs are led by fully qualified, professional tutors and therefore attract a charge. Ukulele Club tuition costs £3 per week and Badminton Club costs £2 per week. Badminton Club is now full but we have made a waiting list in case a place becomes available.
6. Our **Programme for Parents** with Alex Barnes on Wednesday afternoons is also back up and running. This term, Alex has organised a brilliant afternoon training programme for parents and carers called *Walking on Eggshells*. This course looks at different ways parents and carers can work with children who are challenging their authority and whose behaviour is increasingly difficult to manage. The programme is being run by **Parenting NI** and is delivered in a nice relaxed atmosphere where no one is 'put on the spot' by being asked to speak out or answer questions. *Why not try it for one week and see what you think?* (Alex Barnes – Parents Worker ☎ 07740545129)

Important Dates for your Diary

- 🕒 **Monday 17th to Friday 21st February** – half-term break (5 school days)
- 🕒 **Tuesday 17th March** – school closed (1 school day)
- 🕒 **Monday 6th April to Friday 17th April** – Easter holidays (10 school days)
- 🕒 **Friday 8th May** – early May bank holiday (1 school day). Government moved this date from its original 4th of May position due to Victory in Europe (VE) Commemorations across the UK.
- 🕒 **Friday 22nd to Monday 25th May** – late May bank holiday & School Development Day (2 school days)
- 🕒 **Thinking of summer holidays already?** Our holidays for next school year have not yet been ratified by the EA but it is expected that our pupils will start back to school on Thursday 27th August 2020. The first two, or possibly three, days back school will finish at 12 noon.