



The Wee End of Term Note

June 2021



*"Children are not a distraction from more important work;
they are the most important work." ~ John Trainer*

- 1. Thank you!** Let me begin this final note home by saying a heartfelt "thank you" to all parents & families for your support & cooperation over the past school year – which has certainly been the most challenging I can remember in my 22 years at Cregagh Primary School (1999-present). Never has our school motto, "Together, we make a difference" been more true. 2020-21 saw our school, its families & its surrounding community pull together & in the same direction. What a difference that made! I will be in touch mid-August with an update on what restrictions (if any) are still required to be in place for the children restarting school. Thank you again & I wish you & your family a very happy, healthy & relaxing summer break ~ Mr Heggarty ☺
- 2. Coffee & doughnuts for Poppy** – school has been actively engaged with Poppy & her family from the beginning of their very difficult journey together, supporting them in various ways. However, we were delighted to join the wider community effort to show our love & support for Poppy by 'dough-nating' (couldn't resist it ☺) the proceeds from our tea/coffee stall at Sports Day & our *Buy A Doughnut for Poppy* morning last Friday. Together, we managed to raise a significant amount of money which will be presented to the family. Nice.
- 3. New teachers** – Next school year, Mrs Standley & Mrs Butt will be moving year groups & working together to teach P4. I've every confidence that this 'Job Share' arrangement, likely to last for a couple of years, will work well & it's an added bonus that the children moving into P4 already know both teachers ... especially after such a difficult year of Covid lockdowns & restrictions.

Classroom teachers for 2021-22

HIU 1	Miss Christie	HIU 2	Mrs Pearson
P1	Miss McKendry	P5	Mr Higginson
P2	Mrs Lyons	P6	Mr Irwin
P3	Miss Shaw	P7	Mr Larmour
P4	Mrs Standley & Mrs Butt		

- 4. School bags & pencil cases 2021-22** – unless advised otherwise by DE/PHA, the girls & boys will be allowed to bring school bags, lunch boxes & pencil cases to school when they return after the summer. I will confirm this with parents late August.
- 5. School day 2021-22** – we hope to return to our pre-Covid times & practices in late August/September (school gates opening at 8:45am when supervision of pupils by staff starts; lessons starting at 8:55am and the whole school finishing at 2pm on Fridays only **however, I cannot confirm this until late August.**)
- 6. School Uniform 2021-22** – as you know, we recently asked children, parents, staff & school governors about making some colourful changes to our school uniform. As you'd expect, there were a few different opinions but the most popular option by far was school making the school jumpers (& polo shirts too, it turns out) available in the 4 colours that feature inside our school badge: navy, red, yellow & green. Parents can 'mix & match' these colours as they like or stick with the navy & light blue that we have traditionally worn. The cost for the items in the new colours is the same as the current uniform.

7. Pre-loved Uniforms – if you have any items of Cregagh PS school uniform that you no longer need but are in good condition, please consider donating them to our pre-loved school uniform shop over at Mount Merrion Parish Church. MMPC can be contacted directly by parents to find out what they have available. Thanks.

8. Free School Meals 2021-22 – Applications for FSM have been open since May to re-apply for next year. This is done online at <https://freeschoolmeals&uniforms.eani.org.uk/#no-back> & only takes 10 minutes. You will need to send proof that you receive benefits. If you don't have a recent letter from the Benefits Office, they will send you a new one if you ask them to over the phone (Holywood Road Belfast Office & Knockbreda Benefits Office numbers are the same: 0800 022 4250). Good to sort out now rather than wait until August when these offices get super busy.

9. School Fund 2021-22 – our school fund has remained the same for over 10 years. From September 2021, school fund will increase to £20 per family for the school year (equivalent to 10p per day). This can be paid all at once or termly through our **ParentMoney** school App in August/September.

10. Gold & Super Gold Awards 2020-21 - well done to the 125 girls & boys (out of 165 pupils) who had enough Green Frogs for Gold and very well done to the 78 girls & boys who were awarded Super Gold this year. Children were not penalised for school closures due to Covid. They were also not penalised if they had to self-isolate & school was informed (which we have on computer). Good to Be Green points are awarded on a daily basis, should a child be sick or absent or on holiday, no points are awarded. Where a child is sick for a prolonged period of time, school makes special provision for this directly with parents: as this is private, other parents don't hear about this. As an extra-ordinary Christmas treat, all pupils were given a £5 gift voucher for Greenway (usually used as art of this reward scheme) to help encourage them.

Of course children are disappointed if they don't meet the cut-off for getting Gold (most do) or Super Gold (usually about 50% of our pupils every year) but the scheme is not just about Gold and Super Gold – what about all the other prizes along the way: Green, Bronze & Silver? Also, it is a very bad life-lesson to teach children they that they get every reward going just because they are entitled to them! Sometimes disappointments can be opportunities for learning too!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

➤ **2021-22 school year commences:** Friday 27 August 2021 (children return to school) – 12 noon finish all pupils.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

Standard Uniform	
GIRLS	Boys
Navy, red, yellow or green sweatshirt* (with school badge)	
Light blue, red, yellow or green polo shirt* (with or without school badge)	
<i>*Sweater & polo shirt colours can be mixed & matched as desired</i>	
Grey skirt or dark grey trousers	Dark grey trousers
Grey or black tights or grey/white socks	Grey or black socks
Black shoes (flat heels) or black trainers	Black shoes or black trainers

Summer Uniform (optional)	
GIRLS	Boys
Light blue, red, yellow or green polo shirt (with or without school badge)	
Dark grey school shorts	Dark grey school shorts
Blue checked cotton dress	
Navy cardigan (with or without school badge)	

P.E. Kit	
P1-P7 Indoor P.E.	Black plimsolls Navy shorts (with or without school badge) White or light blue t-shirt (with or without school badge)
P1-P7 Outdoor P.E.	Trainers Navy shorts (with or without school badge) <u>or</u> tracksuit bottoms (with or without school badge) White or light blue t-shirt (with or without school badge) School sweater (with school badge)

- All uniform must be clearly labelled/marked with child's name & checked throughout the year as labels & markers wear off!
- Uniform available from: The Signature Works, Castlereagh Business Park, Unit 5b, 478 Castlereagh Road, Belfast BT5 6BQ & ONLINE at: cregaghprimary.thesignatureworks.co.uk



CREGAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Holiday List for Pupils 2021-22

AUTUMN TERM (2021)	SPRING TERM (2022)	SUMMER TERM (2022)
New term commences: Friday 27 August (children return to school) – 12 noon finish all pupils	New term commences: Thursday 6 January 2022 (children return to school)	New term commences: Monday 25 April (children return to school)
Monday 30 August – Bank Holiday . School closed.	Half-Term Holiday: Monday 14 February to Friday 18 February (5 school days)	Early May Bank Holiday: Monday 2 May (1 school day)
Tuesday 31 August – 12 noon finish all pupils	St. Patrick's Day: Thursday 17 March (this has been made a mandatory closure day for 2022)	Spring Bank Holiday: Thursday 2 June (1 school day)
Wednesday 1 September - first full school day	Spring Term ends: Friday 8 April - 12 noon finish all pupils	Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday: Friday 3 June (1 school day)
Hallowe'en Holiday: Monday 25 October – Friday 29 October (5 school days)	Easter Holiday: Monday 11 April – Friday 22 April (10 school days)	Summer Term Ends: Thursday 30 June – 12 noon finish all pupils
Autumn Term ends: Wednesday 22 December - 12 noon finish all pupils		
Christmas Holiday: Thursday 23 December – Wednesday 5 January 2022 (10 school days)		

NOTES

1. These school holidays may be subject to change due to factors outside of school's control – such as future Covid-related closures or DE directives.
2. This 2021-22 holiday list is also available on our school website. It has also been emailed to all parents who have provided school with their email address.
3. **One additional school closure day (School Development Day) has yet to be added to the calendar above.**