



The Wee Friday Note

Friday 25th February 2022



"Just because you're struggling does not mean you're failing" - Anon

1. SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2022/23

Applications for Post-Primary places closed on 23rd February. Any parents who have missed this deadline should contact EA Admissions directly.

2. World Book Day - Thursday 3rd March 2022

On this day, we want our pupils to come to school dressed up as a character from their favourite book. If your child does not want to come in to school dressed up, then he or she should wear school uniform as normal (it is not a 'uniform free' day). The children will get to participate in fun Literacy activities throughout the day. Remember to check the school's website and SeeSaw for pictures of World Book Day, which will be shared shortly after 3rd March. The internet is full of WBD dressing up ideas and parents don't have to buy expensive costumes or spend lots of money for the children to look amazing! In fact, most of the time the very best costumes are the home-made ones; plus, the children love creating their costumes. A contribution of £1 should be made on this day; with all funds raised going towards purchasing new books for our school library. Thanks for supporting.

3. COVID Update

Please stay vigilant, test children when necessary & keep children off when necessary. We currently have staff and pupils off with Covid, so it hasn't disappeared. Remember that we continue to keep our classrooms well ventilated to help combat Covid infection. Please make sure your children wear enough layers of clothing to school to keep them warm.

4. Return of "223 Stay & Play Waiting Club" for use by P1-3 Parents

I hope to restart our popular 2pm to 3pm waiting club week beginning Monday 7th March. The reasons we have not been able to start it sooner are simple: staffing, lack of funding and Covid restrictions in school. Few things parents should know:

- School must pay the staff who provide supervision. This cost cannot be met from the school's small budget. In the past, I have found external funding to subsidise the cost to parents. Not this year, unfortunately.
- Our classes are still organised into consistent groupings called *bubbles*. Breakfast Club takes place in our school hall with children from each class sitting in their own *bubble*. This is not so easy with younger children who will inevitably mix and be close to each other as they play. Parents using our **223 Club** must accept that this will be the case: although mitigations such as hand washing, well-ventilated rooms and being outside as much as possible will be used.
- To cover the cost of supervision and a small snack, the cost will be £2.50 per day per pupil (£10 for all 4 days). Like our Breakfast Club, places will be limited and allocated on a first-come-first-served basis. An online booking and payment form will be sent out next week in preparation for restarting Monday 7th March, 2pm-3pm.

5. SCHOOL FUND

It would be very much appreciated if any outstanding School Fund could be paid as soon as possible – either in full or in instalments. £20 per family per school year. Thank you so much!

6. FRIENDS OF CREGAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Since 2014, I have tried with varying success to establish a PTA in our school. People are busy and find it difficult to commit time. However, I am not giving up! Next week, I'll be sending home an invitation to parents (present & past) to get involved with a *Friends of Cregagh Primary School* association. The focus will be on fund-raising and organising events for our school community to enjoy together. Watch this space!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 14 th to Friday 18 th February	Half-term holiday (5 school days)
Thursday 17 th March	St. Patrick's Day. School closed
Friday 18 th March	School holiday (1 school day)
Friday 8 th April	Spring Term ends. School closes at 12 noon
Monday 11 th April to Friday 22 nd April	Easter holiday (10 school days)
Monday 25 th April	Summer term begins