



The Wee Friday Note

Friday 9th October 2020



"I am still learning" Michelangelo (age 87)

1. **Thank you parents!** Last week I wrote to you about late drop offs and late pick-ups and the problems this was causing staff. This week has seen a genuine improvement in punctuality which has really helped. Thank you 🙌
2. **COVID** – school is aware of several positive cases in its immediate catchment area. This is a reminder that Covid is currently on the rise across Belfast and N. Ireland. Please be extra careful and keep reminding your children to keep to their class bubbles on their way to-and-from school.
3. **Cool for School Photos** – proofs went home this week for parents to look at and decide whether they want to place an order. Remember: all orders for photos must be done ONLINE. School is not involved in the ordering or payment process. Any proofs/payments sent into school will be sent back home - online only!
4. **Teacher-Parent Interviews** – these will take place during the week starting Monday 19th October. As per the Department of Education's Guidelines for Schools, this term's teacher-parent interviews will take place by either video-conference call (Zoom) or telephone call. Teachers will be in contact with parents soon to arrange a suitable day and time. Children will go home at 1pm Monday-Thursday and 12 noon on Friday 23rd.
5. **Healthy breaks** – around 15 years ago, our school was contacted by the Health Trust's Dentistry Service to inform us that children living in this part of East Belfast has the worst dental hygiene in all of Belfast. I'm glad to say that many years on things are much better! Children drinking more water instead of sugary and fizzy drinks is one reason for this improvement; better teeth-brushing is another. Remember children can only bring plain water to school with them each day (Friday is also water only).
6. **Lunchboxes** – remember, children are now allowed to bring their lunch to school in a lunchbox. Still no school bags. Lunch boxes should be carefully washed and wiped over with disinfectant before they come into school (to protect us) and when they get home (to protect you). Thank you 😊
7. **Parents' Work with Alex** (Family Worker) – Remember, Alex our parent worker is here to help and she is brilliant! If you need advice on anything to do with family life and the challenges of raising kids, give her a call or text (07740545129). Alex is totally confidential and very easy to chat to. Check out our school Facebook page where we put details of all the different things Cregagh Primary School is offering to parents through Alex.
8. **Next 'Afternoon at the Movies'** – our last 'Afternoon at the Movies' raised just over £50 for school funds – thank you to all those who contributed. The next time we repeat this will be after break time on Friday 23rd October. On this day which happens to be the last day of this half-term, all children will be going home at 12noon.

Important Dates for your Diary

- 🌐 **Every Wednesday and Friday** – school closes at 2pm for all pupils. Please collect in good time.
- 🌐 **Monday 19th October** – Teacher-Parent Interview Week begins. Children will go home at 1pm every day this week (as per usual during Interview Week).
- 🌐 **Friday 23rd October** – school will close at 12 noon (no lunches or dinners) on this day to facilitate staff welfare training.
- 🌐 **Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October** – Halloween holidays (5 school days)
- 🌐 **Christmas Holidays** – NOTE CHANGE OF DATE – School will now close on Friday 18th December at 12 noon not Monday 21st December (as indicated before the summer).