

ENNISKILLEN MODEL PRIMARY SCHOOL

27th June 2022

Dear Parent

As we come to the end of yet another school year you may find the following information of interest. This year has been difficult at times because of COVID-19 but hopefully things are getting back to normal - children benefit greatly from being in school. The support from parents and staff in dealing with all throughout the year has been much appreciated.

There has also been considerable change this year and thankfully a lot to celebrate. We have settled well in the new school - the grounds are nearing completion and much community involvement has ensued. A recent donation of an outdoor classroom on behalf of Caleb and Callistus Hughes (P7) has enhanced the site – thank you boys for the lovely gesture and for gracing the school for the past seven years. This, in addition to Mrs McGarry's securing of a 'green' grant for £12,000 from TidyNi, will enable us to further develop the site – for example, a new garden area is planned.

A questionnaire may filter your way to help me once again evaluate elements of our School Development Plan – via Survey Monkey and notified by Text/Google Classroom. If so, thank you for taking the time to respond as soon as possible – this will help me plan ahead.

Well done to the Primary 7 children and staff who have worked very hard for their **Leavers' Assembly** last week. They performed their play 'The Greatest Show' very competently. I would like to wish all the P7 pupils (and some other children in the school who are leaving, notably from the Language Centre) all the very best in their new schools come September.

A lot of our pupils also performed beautifully at an Official Opening on Wednesday past and the feedback from many of the dignitaries regarding how they presented themselves on the morning has been lovely.

Recent **Sports Days** were very well organised by Mrs Murray, Mrs McGarry and Mr Rainey. I would like to thank this year's sponsors - Mr Allen from CHRIS ALLEN ARCHITECTS, Mr Nixon on behalf of *encirc* and the Cooke/McManus family – helping with ice cream and sticker/medal costs, for example.

**P.T.A. SUMMER FUN NIGHT –
TUESDAY, 28th from 6.00 to 8.00p.m. (school grounds)
All very welcome**

Thank you to the many parents and businesses who have supported this event

Term Ending: School closes on Wednesday next (29th) at **12.00 (P1, LC, P2 and P3) and 12.15 (P4, P5, P6 and P7)** and will not re-open again to pupils until **Wednesday, 31st August**. It is easier for Helen/teachers if the designated time is adhered to and avoids the relaying of messages to change leaving times on the last day of term. Please do not rely on buses operating on the last day and no lunch is required that day.

Your help in ensuring that children remove all belongings from school by Wednesday will be appreciated. Children will be asked to check items in lost property before the end of

term – items not claimed will be put in the clothing bank at the beginning of July.
Similarly, all borrowed library and textbooks need to be returned before the end of term.
A stock take is currently being undertaken. The school will be open for most of July should you need to return something.

Summer School Club:

As previously mentioned, there are six school organised club days – 6th, 7th, 8th, 13th, 14th and 15th July (8.30a.m. to 3.00p.m.) These are in addition to Star Camp and Multi Sports clubs spanning other weeks. Slots can be booked by telephoning the office before the end of this week.

Reminder: School Uniform Sales: Several of the local shops will sell some/all the personalised items that are required (sweatshirts etc.) We also have some good quality second hand stock – if interested, please leave your details at the office and someone will be in touch.

Please find some information below/overleaf regarding our **Uniform policy** – this policy is well received with high standards being maintained throughout the year/school however COVID-19 modifications have altered the standard somewhat. Thank you for your co-operation and hopefully the information will help parents when preparing for the new school year. PLEASE ENSURE THAT EVERYTHING HAS BEEN LABELLED.

BLACK SHOES ARE TO BE WORN - TRAINERS MAY BE BROUGHT TO SCHOOL FOR OUTDOOR USE, IF FELT NECESSARY;
SANDALS (WHITE, BLACK, BROWN, NAVY BLUE) MAY BE WORN WITH THE SUMMER DRESSES/ SHORTS;
BOOTS ARE NOT PART OF OUR UNIFORM;
GIRLS SHOULD WEAR WHITE SOCKS OR GREY TIGHTS – SHORT OR LONG (I PREFER WHITE SOCKS TO GREY);
GIRLS SHOULD ONLY WEAR HAIR BANDS THAT ARE SMALL AND SUITABLY COLOURED TO BLEND IN WITH OUR UNIFORM;
FOR SAFETY REASONS JEWELLERY IS NOT CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE (SMALL STUD TYPE EARRINGS ARE ACCEPTABLE);
A MODEL SCHOOL P.E. KIT (P3 AND UP) IS ALSO COMPULSORY – THE SCHOOL IS REVIEWING ITS POLICY WITH REGARD TO CHANGING FOR P.E. (MODIFIED AGAIN THIS YEAR DUE TO COVID-19) – details to follow next term.
HAIR SHOULD BE KEPT NEAT AND TIDY WITH ALTERNATIVE STYLES BEING AVOIDED INCLUDING SHAVED LINES AND BRAIDS, FOR EXAMPLE (BOYS AND GIRLS)

School Reports: Reports are being sent home today. PTE (Literacy) and PTM (Numeracy) standardised scores (P3 and up) are also being forwarded. Details about arrangements for next year have been included on the report and accompanying letter. **Inevitably, circumstances can change and if so, you will be notified over the summer.** Children will be spending some time with their new teacher (and in their new classroom) before the end of term.

As always, the senior leadership team, teaching and non-teaching staff in school have been very dedicated and co-operative and I would like to thank them for their support throughout the year. Given everything all have remained very positive and professional.

Staff changes:

We say farewell to a few staff who have helped during the years. Mrs Hadnett (P3) and Mrs Hassard (P3) are both retiring. Their service to the school over many years has been invaluable – thank you. Details about replacements will follow prior to the new term. Mrs Courtney has

extended her career break into next school year and consequently Mrs Clifford will continue to cover for her. Congratulations to Mr Rainey as he prepares to get married in early July.

Our new caretaker, Mr McClintock has settled into his role well and it is lovely to have the position filled. Mrs Black did a wonderful job during the vacancy.

REGISTERING OF CHILDREN DUE TO START SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER 2023 OR LATER

The school keeps a computer database which records names/addresses/dates of birth of children who are due to begin primary one in the next few years – 2023 on. If you have not registered your child to date, you can do so by telephoning the school or by sending the relevant information to the office. Keeping this record means that all subsequent correspondence from us will be automatically forwarded to parents. Children who are due to start Primary One in September 2023 will need to have turned four on or before the 1st July 2023

The Clothing Bank adjacent to the school (just off the Castlecoole Road) has been well utilised again this year. As a result, 20% (approximately £150) has been raised for the N. Ireland Cancer Fund for Children.

Please find details below (and enclosed) highlighting a few suggestions about activities that may keep the children from being bored over the holiday.

EDUCATION CITY

READING CHALLENGE



Bug Club online reading books are available to pupils in Primary One to Primary seven during all of July and August. Pupils have their usernames and passwords to log in. There are plenty of titles to keep your child reading over the summer.

Libraries NI is pleased to announce that local libraries are now open for browsing and access for study facilities. The Book and Collect Service will continue to operate in all libraries and will remain in place at this stage. This service is also supported by Libraries NI's popular online resources (via the Libby App) providing free access to eBooks, audiobooks, eMagazines and eNewspapers. Many parents have valued access to free reading materials for tablets from this source. Why not register online at <https://www.librariesni.org.uk> or pop into our local library in Enniskillen to get you child registered

enniskillen.library@librariesni.org.uk

Tel: 028 6632 2886

To keep children reading over the summer will be a tremendous help.

Keep an eye on our website for updates. Mrs Hurst has done an excellent job during the year by keeping the website as up to date as possible – thank you. Likewise, Google Classrooms are being kept active and it is planned to use these widely come the new school year – your child's new teacher will take over ownership of the relevant class Google Classroom. The school's Facebook pages also help to reiterate important information.

Thank you for your on-going support. Have an enjoyable and safe summer break.

Yours sincerely

W. Glass
Principal