ENNISKILLEN MODEL PRIMARY SCHOOL

May 2023

Dear Parent,

Now that we have settled into a new term, the following information/reminders may help all to plan.

We are hoping to have our Sports Day on Friday, 31st May. If any parent would be keen to offer some sponsorship, please leave your details at the office. This will help cover the cost of medals etc.

Some guidance was issued in relation to the current programme of after school activities. These will run until later in May.

PLEASE NOTE ACCOMPANYING INFORMATION IN RELATION TO OUR SUMMER SCHEMES. WE HAVE MODIFIED THINGS A LITTLE FROM HOW WE OPERATED DURING THE SUMMERS OF 2021, 2022 and 2023. Releasing this information now may help parents when planning childcare etc.

REMINDER: KEY EVENTS IN MAY AND JUNE:

MAY Wednesday, 1st P4 swimming starts Thursday, 2nd P4 swimming starts P7 school trip meeting (7.00 p.m.) Friday, 3rd Lowry Corry football match Monday, 6th Bank Holiday – school closed Tuesday, 7th P4&P5 standardised tests start Monday, 13th P3 standardised tests start Friday, 17th 'Come and Learn through Play' afternoon (pre-school pupils) Tournaments Day (P4 to P7) Monday, 20th P7 School Trip Week (Chester/Manchester) Monday, 27th Bank Holiday – school closed Tuesday, 28th Staff Development Day – school closed to pupils Wednesday, 29th P6 Magilligan Trip meeting (7.00p.m.)

Friday, 31st

Sports Day (P1 to P7) - weather permitting. If wet, we will try to reschedule for a day next week

JUNE

Tuesday, 4th West Midlands Theatre performance - 'Sigurd and the Dragon' Thursday, 6th D-Day 80 Celebration (School/Community focus) Friday, 7th F&ODC Cross Country Competition (P4 to P7) - Bawnacre Wednesday, 12th P4 swimming ends P6S Magilligan Field Trip Thursday, 13th P1M Outdoor Play Morning (weather permitting) P4 swimming ends P6S/R Magilligan Field Trip Primary 1 (new) Induction Evening for parents (7.00p.m.) Friday, 14th P1McC Outdoor Play Morning (weather permitting) P6R Magilligan Field Trip Primary 1 (new) – Induction Afternoon – 2.30p.m. Tuesday, 18th P7 Leavers' Assembly dress rehearsal (1) Wednesday, 19th P7 Leavers' Assembly dress rehearsal (2) Thursday, 20th P7 Leavers' Assembly main performance (7.00 p.m.) Friday, 21st Primary 1 (new) – Induction Afternoon – 2.30p.m. Monday, 24th Reports to go home today Tuesday, 25th P7 pupils – post primary transition day P.T.A. Summer Fun Night - tbc Friday, 28th End of Term (shorter day)

A testing programme is operating this term and affecting all P3 and up classes. In line with previous years, you will receive an end of year report in late June which will explain how well your child has performed.

The school endeavours to maintain exacting standards regarding uniform and appearance. This policy is exceptionally well supported by parents of children who attend this school – thank you. This term, I am keen that standards are maintained –

uniform, black shoes, jewellery, no nail varnish etc. Appearance includes hair styles/cuts. I am not interested in what might be acceptable in other schools – inevitably all schools vary in their policy/implementation of policy. The wearing of P.E. gear on designated P.E. days is allowed (P3 and up) – leggings/tracksuit bottoms should no longer be worn on these days.

Many facets of our Safeguarding and Child Protection practices have been kept under review. Key information is on display in the foyer (office window) and a tab has been created on the Home page of the website to keep parents up to date. This includes various telephone contacts for support services etc. The personnel who oversee Safeguarding and Child Protection are as before and again details are on display and on our website – Mrs West is the newest point of contact (Deputy Designated Teacher).

An 'Operation Encompass' programme operates which means that any domestic incident out of school (involving the PSNI) will automatically be relayed to us as soon as. This is to ensure that extra vigilance takes place if children have been adversely affected by the incident.

Attendance has improved since January as has regular and punctual arrival to school (before 9.00a.m.) In accordance with Department of Education policy, we are now required to track attendance patterns (including persistently late arrival times). Punctual and regular school attendance makes an enormous difference.

VARIOUS HEALTH AND SAFETY MATTERS:

1. The school operates a 'NUT FREE' policy – please ensure that breaks/packed lunches do not contain nuts of any description. <u>Likewise, we are keen to operate a healthy break and packed lunch policy. Crisps, sweets and chocolate are discouraged. Some staff have detected slippage of late. We do allow the occasional 'treat' day, as directed.</u>

2. The pedestrian lights close to the school should always be used properly by adults/pupils. The adjacent roads are busy and using the green pedestrian light is crucial.

3. The school grounds are well served by zebra crossings but care needs to be taken to ensure they are used properly. When accessing the car park areas at the start and end of the school day, pupils remain the responsibility of their parents/ guardians and although there are staff on duty, they are not responsible for safe passage. 5mph speed signs are on display.

4. Dogs must be kept on leads, off the playground area and far away from pupils/ other adults.

5. Your child's use of social media should be tightly controlled. Messaging can create many problems if not monitored.

REMINDER: NEXT SCHOOL YEAR: The school will re-open to pupils again on <u>THURSDAY, 29th AUGUST</u> and a holiday list for the 2024/2025 school year has been posted on the website. After a long summer break it is considered better to bring the children back for two days (29th and 30th August) rather than a full week. Thank you for taking this into consideration when planning holidays etc.

ENROLMENT: Please ensure that children due to start school in September 2025 are registered with Helen. She maintains a database which helps a lot when circulating application details closer to Christmas.

Should you require any further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for the support of all amidst many difficulties.

Yours sincerely,

W. Glass