

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Tel: 02879418415

### **Money Details**

38 Oaklea Road Magherafelt BT45 6HX

SCHOOL DINNERS ARE £2.60 A DAY. Snacks are 30p a day. SNACK OCT £5.10 NOV £6.30

Money should be sent into school on a Monday for the week ahead or month ahead. It is easier if money is paid for the month ahead.

#### 123 CLUB P1 - P3 (SEPT/OCTOBER)

If you wish for your child to attend this club and have not already filled in a form, please collect one from the school office and return it to school accompanied by the money due as soon as possible. The children will be kept apart within the club as much as possible to prevent class bubbles mixing. The tables and surfaces are all cleaned down before the club commences. This club can be paid for with cash, childcare vouchers or a separate cheque (not to be included with dinner money please).

All cheques should be made payable to 'Woods Primary School'. We are registered with Employers for Childcare, Sodexo, Care 4 and Busy Bees childcare vouchers.

Please note that if your child enrols for a particular day it is every day in the session e.g. every Monday.

#### EARLY BIRD CLUB 8.15-8.45am

Where? In the school hall or outside in the playground weather permitting £1 a day

Vouchers can be used as payment or correct CASH.

We will try where possible to maintain class bubbles in the club and practise social distancing. Surfaces will be cleaned before and after the club.

Visit our school website to see some photos of our children enjoying life back at school. If you have not returned your child's photo consent form, please do so ASAP.

Please note school will close early on Friday 23 October as follows: P1-3 1.15pm P4-7 1.30pm

# WE ARE AIMING TO BE A 'NUT FREE' SCHOOL



WE HAVE A NUMBER OF PUPILS WHO HAVE NUT ALLERGIES ENROLLED IN OUR SCHOOL. THEREFORE, WE WOULD ASK ALL FAMILIES TO HELP US TO PREVENT ANY INCIDENTS OF SERIOUS ALLERGIC REACTION.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND IN BOXES USED FOR CEREALS CONTAINING NUTS FOR CRAFT ETC. DO NOT SEND ANY NUTELLA OR NUT CONTAINING FOODS IN YOUR CHILD'S LUNCHBOX.

WE WOULD ALSO ASK THAT YOU ONLY PACK ITEMS THAT YOUR CHILD CAN EAT INDEPENDENTLY IN SCHOOL. E.G. IT IS NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE TO PEEL OR CUT UP APPLES.

School Holidays 2020/21 (All dates Inclusive)

# Autumn Term

Half term Break 26-30 October (5 days) Christmas Holiday 21-31 Dec (9 days) 1-4 Jan (2 days)

#### **Spring Term**

Half term Break 15-19 Feb (5 days) St Patrick's Day 17 March (1 day) Easter Holidays 29, 30, 31 March (3 days) 1-9 April (7 days)

> Summer Term May Holidays 3, 4 May (2 days) 27, 28, 31 May (3 days) 1 June (1 day)



Wednesday 14 October 2020

Thursday 15 & Frid 16 October

PHOTOGRAPHER IN SCHOOL – Make sure you are looking your best! Single photos will be taken and family photos of children in school. No parents or pre-school children to come into school this year due to COVID 19 restrictions.

P7 Parent Interviews via telephone appointment or face to face as requested and pre-arranged.

Flu Immunisation Clinic in school – Please make sure that you return your consent form to your child's teacher ASAP.

Friday 23 October

Wednesday 21 October

Early Closing Today P1-3 @1.15pm P4-7 @ 1.30pm

## P7 PARENTS

IF YOUR CHILD PLANS TO SIT THE RAINEY SCHOOL ENTRANCE TEST ON **30 JANUARY 2021** THEN PLEASE NOTE THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORMS TO RAINEY ENDOWED SCHOOL IS 2.00 PM ON **FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER 2020.** VISIT THE RAINEY WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

#### **Healthy Breaks and Lunchboxes**

The Northern Ireland Curriculum includes the need to educate children to make healthy choices for themselves in relation to food, drink, habits and lifestyle. We encourage our pupils to think about having a balanced diet and try to include physical activity in their daily routine in order to help exercise their bodies.

We are asking parents to support us with this aim and encourage your children to bring a healthy break to school, if they are not participating in the school healthy break initiative.

We would also encourage healthy lunchboxes in school which means keeping sugary snacks and crisps to a minimum. This is also part of our ECO work in school. Please visit our school website for more information and ideas on what to include in a healthy lunchbox.



We would like to remind parents of the importance of your child reading at home and completing all homework on time. Written homework should be signed by parents to show that you feel that your child has done their best. It is important that children take special care of all reading books and/or textbooks sent home as these items cost money to replace and the budget is especially limited this year. Please ensure that you remember to send in all books/textbooks loaned to your family over lockdown as we cannot afford to replace missing books due to the restricted financial climate we are in at present.

# Provision of Free School Meals for Children off school due to Covid 19

The Department of Education will continue to provide food for those pupils entitled to FSM who are unable to attend school due to Covid-19.

The EA school meals catering service will make food provision, by way of a 5-10 day food parcel to the value of a FSM for the required number of days. This will be provided for children who receive Free School Meals but are self-isolating as a consequence of their own positive test for coronavirus or who are self-isolating as a consequence of a positive test for coronavirus of a member of their household, and who are engaging in distance learning; and required by the school, on the advice of the Public Health Agency, not to attend school and who are engaging in distance learning.

When parents become aware that their child, who normally receives Free School Meals in school, falls into these categories they should phone school to arrange for food provision. When they phone school parents should state reason for child's absence and anticipated number of days of absence due to COVID 19. Parents and school will agree on a time for another person who is not sick or in isolation to collect the food parcel and deliver to the family. It should be noted that food provision cannot be made for FSM pupils not attending school for any other reason other than COVID 19.

## WOODS PRIMARY SCHOOL – SCHOOL FUND ICT, LITERACY AND NUMERACY RESOURCES

Thank you to those parents who have supported our school by sending in their parental contribution for AR and Mathletics. Please note that our school already heavily subsidizes the AR scheme. The Department of Education do not fund Mathletics or Accelerated Reader in schools and unfortunately due to our catchment area and low percentage of free school meals we do not get access to extra funding that many other schools do benefit from. Therefore, without parent support we will not be able to continue with these programmes in school. Can I ask parents to please send in their suggested contribution by 21 October 2020. We know that both programmes have been used in our school for some time and both have had a positive impact on our pupils' progress in Literacy and Numeracy. We want to continue to have access to these educational programmes but to do so require a parental contribution.

CONTRIBUTION FOR AR AND MATHLETICS IN SCHOOL			
P4 - 6 Child	£15 PER CHILD		
P7 Child	£10 PER CHILD (The DE have funded IXL for P7 therefore Mathletics will not be used in P7 this year).		
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Signed		(Parent)	(Date)