

Orritor Primary School and Nursery Unit



249 Orritor Road
Cookstown
BT80 9NE

☎/Fax 02886751412
Web: www.orritorps.co.uk

Principal:

Mr A Frizzell BA (Hons) PGCE MEd
Email: afrizzell135@c2ken.net

Vice Principal:

Mrs K Black BA (Hons)

Friday 21st October 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian,

As we approach the end of the first term, please find some information which will help you plan the incoming weeks.

Half-Term Break

The school will be closed from Monday 31st October to Friday 4th November inclusive. School will recommence on Monday 7th November for all pupils.

Parent-Teacher Interview Week

Please remember that interviews take place next week beginning Monday 24th October. All pupils will go home at the earlier time of 1:50pm and there will be no buses owing to the cost of £525 to make the time change. To help with pick-ups and to try and reduce the volume of traffic at one time, the following arrangements will apply, where possible:

Pupils who have brothers and sisters in Nursery can leave at 1:30pm with them.

Pupils/families will be released from around 1:40pm to parents who have arrived early to try and ease the flow of traffic.

Thank you for your cooperation and support with this.

Parent Support Group

The PSG met on Tuesday 11th October and elected a new Chairperson, Julie-Ann Bell and a new Deputy, Victoria McKnight. The PSG have organised several events between now and Christmas; these are available on the flier on the school website. Christmas tree decorations must be pre-ordered before the half-term break.

Non-Uniform Day

Our School Council met and have decided on Charis Cancer Care as their charity for the year. We will have a non-uniform day on Friday 28th October to support this cause.

Healthy Eating Week

Many thanks to everyone for their effort in supporting our healthy eating week. Special thanks to the kitchen for the fun which they injected into dinner time!

Parking at Pick-up Times

The PSNI have contacted us to highlight the importance of parking safely outside of school. They have suggested that parents should reverse into spaces, rather than driving in; this is particularly important at pick-up times where there is a large volume of traffic at one time. Reversing in will mean that people will be able to see better when leaving the school. I would ask for your cooperation and support with this to try and reduce the chance of an accident occurring.

Foodbank

We were delighted to be able to send a substantial collection of food to the Halo Helping Hands Foodbank in Cookstown. Many thanks to everyone for their generous contributions.

Yellow Day

We are delighted to have raised £355 on Yellow Day for the mental health charity.

Open Afternoons

Please spread the word that our Open Afternoons for P1 and Nursery will take place on Wednesday 16th and Thursday 17th November. More information on sign-up for sessions will be available soon.

Nursery – Health Visitor

The Health Visitor will be in for Nursery reviews on Thursday 10th and Friday 11th November.

Flu Vaccine

The flu vaccine will be administered on Tuesday 8th November.

Breakfast Club

Sign-up for Breakfast Club during the week of Monday 7th November will be open next Wednesday to Friday as usual.

Homework

After discussions with staff, it has been highlighted that there are several pupils who are underperforming and putting in little effort to their homeworks. Homeworks are an important part of learning and are a way of keeping parents informed of progress and ability, alongside giving teachers further opportunity for assessment. Following on from the half-term break, we will be 'clamping down' on homework and the standard which is acceptable. Please ensure that pupils do homework carefully, neatly and with due consideration. If pupils are struggling with homework, please encourage them to have a go and then write a note to this effect to their class teacher.

Morning Drop Offs

There are several pupils who are regularly late to school; please make every effort to be in school on time. Pupils can enter school between 8:45am and 9:00am. After 9:00am is considered late and should be avoided.

As always, many thanks for your continued support for our school. Have a great half-term break!

Yours Sincerely,

Andrew Frizzell

Mr Andrew Frizzell
Principal