

Parent/Carer Update: Mon 15th March 2021

Dear parent or carer

Another week done and closer to us all being together again. See information below including news of Green Day on Tuesday and our Birthday Party on Friday. Please also note the calendar change for the end of term 2 and beginning of term 3. We are very hopeful that Tuesday will bring good news for our Year 4-7 pupils.

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy celebrating Mothers' (and special others) Day together

Many thanks for your continued support – this will pass.

Mrs D Graffin

Mrs Deirdre Graffin

Principal

Dates for the diary

Mon 15 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Week 9 remote/blended learning continues for Y4-7 Y1-3 pupils attend school this week
Tues 16 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GREEN DAY: wear something green! Special Green Day dinner. More info below. Post primary applications close at 4pm
Wed 17 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Patrick's Day – school closed for Y1-3 & remote learners
Fri 19 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y7 return Education Authority health & wellbeing art task Y1-3 local walk NRPS BIRTHDAY PARTY. More information below.
Change of dates	
Wed 31 st March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Last day of Term 2. School closes at 11am
Thurs 1 st April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teacher training day (moved from 12 April)
Mon 12 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal School day (fingers crossed) <i>No longer a teacher training day</i>



It is almost the 1st birthday of when we all began our remote learning journey. That also means that **everyone has had a COVID birthday** –celebrating with just a few family members and missing being able to invite all your classmates. Now you can celebrate that birthday with all your school friends!

You're Invited!

New Row Birthday Party Afternoon

When? Friday 19th March 2021

beginning with a birthday lunch

Where? Your classroom

*A little cake for everyone * A few party games * Lots and lots of singing of Happy Birthday *Treats*

Wear your own clothes - Remember your smile!

No presents please – being together is the best gift of all!

Green day

We will celebrate this on Tuesday. Wear something green and we will have a chance to perform our songs for other classes. We will also have a special Green Day dinner.

Y1: 5 little leprechauns

Y2: I'll tell my ma

Y3: Molly Malone

Reminder – we have PE in school so dress for these activities, too (outdoor shoes)



Those celebrating at home – please send in a picture via Seesaw and we will make a little video to share.

IMPORTANT: information for parents of Y7 pupils

Applications to Post Primary School

Applications are open online: <https://admissions.eani.org.uk/postprimary/ApplicationDigitalAdmissions>

- You can apply at any time up to **4pm on Tuesday 16th March.**

It is vital that you read the admissions criteria for any school you are applying to for your child

We are more than willing to help parents at this time. Please phone the school and we will talk you through it or return a call at a later time to offer our help, support or guidance.

Year 7 Education Authority Primary Schools Programme

Our school will be involved in a health and well-being programme organised by our local EA.

Packs have been designed with activities and tasks to explore different themes linked to health and well-being. There is also an explanation page which talks you through finer details.

These are available to collect from school and thank you to everyone who has already called at the office. For children with siblings at school in P1-P3 they have taken your pack home for you.

For next Friday, 19th March, please complete and leave back to school the art task which organisers will be collecting again from us. These can be left off when you come to collect your final 2-week remote learning packs before Easter (or maybe if you are returning to class on 22nd March). If you have any queries or questions please get back in touch with the school or contact Mr Hasson via Seesaw.

Y4-7 pupils

We are looking forward to also welcoming back Y4-7, hopefully sooner rather than later. NI Executive will make an announcement on Tuesday and we will be in touch about arrangements as soon as this information is shared with us. In the meantime, keep doing what you are doing – and do not underestimate how great that is. Do what you can each day – keep reading, keep connected through Seesaw and keep getting out for walks. The end is in sight!

Welcome back, Year 1, 2 & 3!

It was brilliant to welcome back our Y1-3 pupils. They were full of smiles – and so were we! By the end of the week it was plain to see that they were exhausted after a very busy week reconnecting with friends and getting back on track in the classroom. Many thanks for all parents and carers who were very observant of the arrangements. Reminders:

Parents/Carers: At drop off and collection times

- You must follow social distancing rules and wear a mask
- Do not linger or loiter at the school gates.

Reminder: Lockdown Stone #2



Remember to finish off working on your second lockdown stone and leave it at the front door – those already returned are lovely!

Important Reminders

- If your child is sick, do not send them to school
- Ensure anyone with COVID-19 symptoms does not attend school
- Wash hands thoroughly and more often than usual to prepare your child for returning to school
- Promote respiratory hygiene using the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
- Minimise contact and maintain social distancing when possible – stay in your bubble

Dress for outdoors

Remember that your child will be spending time outside so will need to have a warm coat – with a hood - and sensible shoes every day. There will be daily PE lessons.

Breakfast club

EA continues to advise that Breakfast and Afterschools Clubs should be suspended until further notice.

Supervised Learning: Vulnerable pupils & children of key workers

This childcare provision continues to operate within our now very limited capacity. It is very important that parents whose children are attending interact with Seesaw by checking in daily to see what work has been set and for feedback & messages from teachers. It is also very important that children attending bring their work pack every day.

ParentPay

We are aware that refunds are owed for overpaid milk and break. We are processing these and amounts owed will be returned in due course

Online safety at home Week 9: 4 steps to manage children's digital wellbeing



Want some information and advice on how you can help your child manage their thinking and actions to avoid and deal with risks online? Our weekly online safety messages continue whilst we are engaged in remote learning. **The latest one is included at the end of this newsletter.** Click on the link to visit our Online Safety advice page where you can access the original document with live links to activities and videos:

<http://www.newrowps.com/parent-area/e-safety-advice-a/>

World Book Day 2021



Thank you to all our families who helped us mark a World Book Day with a difference by sharing photos of everyone sharing stories at home. The video is now shared on the website so have a look and see who you can spot!

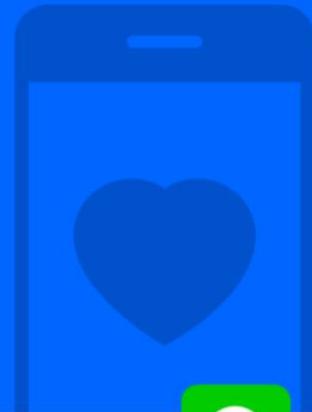
This too, shall pass.

*When things are bad, remember: It won't always be this way. Take one day at a time.
When things are good, remember: It won't always be this way. Enjoy every great moment.*

4 steps to manage children's digital wellbeing

internet
matters.org

Get advice to help children develop critical thinking, self control and coping strategies to deal with online risks.



Step 1 Understanding the online risks

Help children get to grips with the types of risks they might be exposed to based on the website, apps and devices they use. For example if they're on social media having a conversation about issues around managing relationship online, cyberbullying and sexting will **help them to know what to look out for** and take appropriate action.

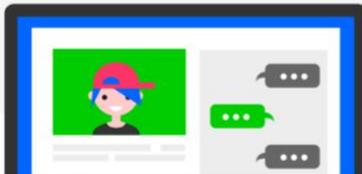
Step 2 Knowing where to go for help

Equip your child with the knowledge of where to get support. Whether it's a helpline like Childline, reporting tools on apps or a supportive network of friends and family, it's important they know that if they can't talk to you about something **there are a number of places that can support them.**



Step 3 Learning from experiences

Encourage children to explore the digital world in an age-appropriate way, so they can learn to **manage challenges** and develop good judgement. It is not possible to teach them self-control, risk management or **how to take advantage of online opportunities** if they are not given the chance to practice online.



Step 4 Recovering from experiences with the right support

Even with the best intentions there may be times that children are affected by something they experience online. **To support them assess the situation and find ways to deal with it together.** Depending on the situation seek advice from specialist organisations or your GP to give them the **best chance to recover and regain their confidence.**

