New Row Primary School 43 New Row Castledawson BT45 8AP 028 7946 8426 We care



Principal: Mrs D Graffin B.Ed. M.Ed. PQH(NI)

We learn

We share

Update: End of August 2019

Welcome to our new school year! I hope you all had a lovely break and are ready for another busy year. In the interests of getting our new year off to a smooth start, here are a few reminders and updated information. Our regular weekly note will be circulated and available online from next Monday I look forward to welcoming you all on Friday & Monday and hope you enjoy your last few days. Mrs Deirdre Graffin *Principal*

2019/20: Information & Dates for your diary						
Fri 30 th August	School opens for all Y1&7 pupils only 9.30-12 noon.					
	No Breakfast club or afterschool club. No canteen break or milk. Bring a snack.					
	Y2-6: Transition visits 10-11am					
	Any parent who feels that their child would benefit from a visit to their new classroom &					
	teacher is welcome to come along and visit at any time between 10 & 11am on this day.					
Mon 2 nd Sept	School reopens for all other pupils. No swimming for Y6.					
	Breakfast club from 8.15am (£1 includes breakfast - payable through Parent Pay)					
	P1: Intake group A attend until 1pm (after dinner)					
	School Dinners available: £2.60 (payable through Parent Pay)					
	Canteen break available: £5.50 every month (payable to kitchen)					
	Afterschool club 2-3pm & Homework club 3-4pm (£2 per hour. Book/pay via Parent Pay)					
Tues 3 rd Sept	P1: Intake group B attend until 1pm (after dinner).					
Wed 4 th Sept	P1: Intake group C attend until 1pm (after dinner)					
Thur 5 th Sept	All P1 pupils attend until 1pm until Friday 27 th September.					
Fri 27 th Sept	School closes at 1pm for all pupils. Last shorter day for Y1.					
Mon 30 th Sept	Y1 stay until 2pm					
	of all school closures for 2019/20 can be found on the website and provious potes					

A full list of all school closures for 2019/20 can be found on the website and previous notes.

Uniforms: Just a reminder: Plain black/dark trainers (dark soles). Bottoms without any logos or stripes <u>Make sure all items of uniform are labelled!</u>

Staffing update

All staff are busy this week getting the classrooms and teaching materials ready for their new year. Mrs Scullion has decided to extend her maternity leave for a little longer and we wish her well at this busy time in her life. We are pleased to welcome Miss Laverty to cover Y4. Miss Laverty has already spent time with Mrs Scullion and Miss McCollum and is looking forward to getting to know the children and settling down to work. Mr Hasson will now take Y6 through to Y7 and Miss Walls will teach Y6. The teachers have also decided to switch rooms to enhance the 'moving on' experience. There are also several other non-teaching staff joining us, looking forward to getting to know and support the children.

Y1		Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7
Miss Gribb	in	Miss McNicholl	Miss McCollum	Miss Laverty	Mrs McElroy	Miss Walls	Mr Hasson
Y1 room		Y2 mobile	Bottom of corridor	Middle room	Beside staffroom	Space mobile	Giants mobile

REVISED Parent Pay registration

<u>Our office is now cashless</u> so all payments, bookings etc are made online. It is vital that <u>all</u> parents register for this. This includes children in receipt of free school meals. The only exceptions will be charity collections and small payments for bus trips. Parents of Y1 will receive registration instructions on their child's first day (Friday) and can register over the weekend. Contact the office immediately if you are having issues and we will help you with the registration process.

Payments due from 2018/19? Please settle asap. They have been carried over in Parent Pay accounts.

School Meals 2019/20

School meals remain at £2.60 per day.

REVISED As our office is cashless, meals cannot be booked/paid for through the office

- Meals are booked online before 9.30am of the day the dinner is to be taken. It can be booked and paid for further in advance e.g. dinners for Mon – Fri can be booked & paid for on Sunday evening.
- Meals will not be able to be booked after 9.30am. Meals cannot be booked through the office.
- Parents/carers pay for the dinners at the time of booking. If a meal is booked but not paid for, it is not included in the final list the canteen receive and no dinner will be prepared. It is like putting something on your shopping basket online but not going through checkout.
- Free School Meals: these meals must still be booked before 9.30am. The account will show that money is owed but this is cancelled out when the final list is generated by the system and no money will be owed.

Free School Meals

• Registration for free school meals: Remember to reapply every year. Until official notification, parents/carers must meet the cost of the meals. Not sure if you are eligible? Apply and see!

School break

Milk is £4 per month or £40 for the year. Payable via Parent Pay.

There is no mechanism to book and pay for canteen break through Parent Pay. We will investigate this later in the year. Until then, this should be paid directly to the kitchen (£5.50 per month, £50 per year). **Medical needs register & related paperwork**: Does your child have diabetes, allergies, asthma etc? Please call in to the office and share this with Sharon. There is important paperwork which must be completed annually to ensure your child is supported in school.

Drop off & Collection

All children Y1-7 enter through the front doors from 8.50am (unless attending breakfast club). Y1 & 2 are escorted to their rooms and dropped off promptly.

Children in Y3-7 can make their way to the classroom on their own. Parents should not need to enter the classrooms. This is very important in developing your child's independence, confidence and self-esteem. On occasion, parents/carers might wish to pass on a quick message to the teacher. However, I know you understand that mornings are not the best time to discuss concerns, raise queries about school work etc. Teachers are very busy in the morning getting ready to welcome their class, making such discussions difficult. Parents are free to make an appointment to have a chat at a time when both are free to talk, without having to think about children in their care.

Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6 & 7
Front door	Y2 door	Front door	Front door	Back gate	See below
Sept 1pm, Oct 2pm	2pm	Mon-Wed 3pm, Thur & Fri 2pm	3pm	3pm	3pm

Children in Y1-5 are collected by an adult from the school.

Children in Y6 & 7 who have written permission may walk home. They will be escorted to a collection point in the car park or crossed over the road at the end of the lane.

Level access & path update:

There were a few technical and legal issues which hampered the completion of our pedestrian access project. This is now nearing an end. Pedestrian access is via the path from the chapel car park or the ramp at the front of the school onto Chichester avenue.

Pedestrians – pupils, parents, carers, staff or visitors – must no longer use the school lane. This is for vehicles only. Anyone using bicycles or scooters will need to use the ramp at the front of the school, entering & exiting on foot.

Parking: Parents/carers can park in the chapel car park by using the spaces to the right as they drive in the gates. In the interest of the safety of all school users, it is vital that the area at the bottom of the path is kept completely clear of vehicles. New lines will be painted on the ground next week to reflect this.

Many thanks for taking the time to read this thoroughly. Enjoy your last few days! Mrs D Graffin