



Weekly Update: Friday 2nd October 2020

Dear parent or carer

Thankfully we have made it to the end of another week, cheered on by beautiful weather. Thank you for keeping up to date with activity on SEESAW. It is very important to keep engaging with SEESAW through our regular weekly messages. In the unfortunate event of a class having to isolate, it is through this that daily tasks will be shared, to be completed in the blank exercise book you should all have received.

Once again, thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Mrs D Graffin

Mrs Deirdre Graffin

Principal

Dates for your diary

Mon 5 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y1 pupils begin their extended day: 9.15am – 1.50pm Y4-7 Fitness Challenge continues
Tues 6 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Friends of New Row AGM 6pm
Wed 7 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music lessons (Violin) with Mrs. Mullan
Fri 9 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y7 Transfer Club 8am Music lessons (flute/clarinet) with Mr Tohill
Thur 15 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Photographer for Y1 & 7 pupils only. Other classes/families later in year
Fri 16 th Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Flu Vaccination in school GL registration closes for Y7 pupils at 2pm

Reminders

Clothing Collection: This will definitely be going ahead and we are waiting on confirmation of a collection date, so please hold on to those bags for a few more weeks!

Music tuition: has resumed for both Strings and Wind instruments with Mrs Mullan and Mr Tohill respectively. There is no further information about fees for the year.

Education Authority are instructing their tutors to focus on existing students and wait until later in the term/year before considering new starts.

Start of school: Y2-7 children should arrive at 8.50am. *It is very important that children are not 'dropped off' before 8.50am as there is no supervision.* The back gate closes at 9.05am. Latecomers must go through the front door. Any busy house can have a late morning but when it happens more than once a pattern can build up and this is to be avoided.

Start of school: Y1 children are now well-used to the hustle and bustle as everyone arrives at the start of the day. From Monday 12th October all Y1 should be in school for 9am start. Until then, if it is possible and they are happy to do so we will welcome them from 8.50am.

PE Arrangements

As part of New Row Fitness Challenge we are out and about every day easily meeting Dept of Education's target of 2 hours of activity per week. Please make sure your child wears a pair of sensible shoes every day which are suitable for walking, jogging and light exercise. Y5-7 should bring gear on PE day – school kit with their jumpers if it is cold. It will be outside until further notice. Y1-4 do not need to wear specific PE gear.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Y6	Y5	Y7	Y4 (no gear needed – just sensible shoes/trainers)

Parent Teacher Interviews



We are awaiting further guidance on how we can manage Parent/Teacher meetings. All schools seem to be making different arrangements (or none at all).

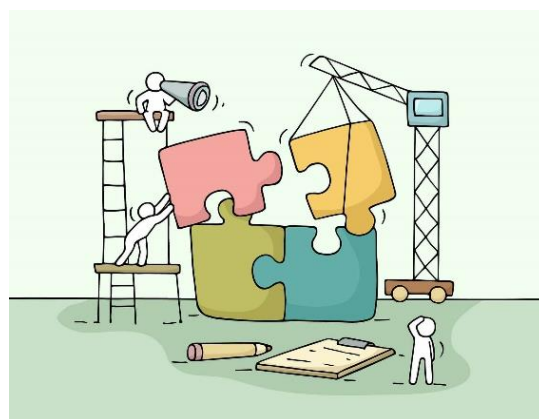
We will begin with trialling Y1 baseline interviews. These will take place w/b 12th October. Specific details will be communicated to Y1 parents on Monday. Interviews will be held in our Recobox (outdoor classroom) with additional time between interviews to allow for cleaning.

Teachers of Y2-7 will also be in touch by phone over the coming weeks with some parents to share individual plans or other key information.

As further guidance is available we will act to ensure parents are kept informed and involved in learning. We do hope that Parent Interviews can go ahead in a suitable format as soon as is practical.

A story that shows how special our New Row community really is ...

Parent 1 works in an office environment & contacted me to offer a donation of 10 drywipe whiteboards for classroom use...but they were in Belfast. SO I contacted Parent 2 who asked around. Parent 3 volunteered to help out and was able to organise for their collection from Belfast and delivery to New Row. BUT they needed to be mounted on walls. SO Parent 4 volunteered to come during their working day to fit these around the school in classrooms and other rooms. Result: New whiteboards in classrooms alongside our Interactive panels – super teaching environments! Thanks so much to Parent 1, 2, 3 and 4 (you know who you are) who are just typical examples of the great network of support our children are privileged to have. #bestschool #bestsupport #teamwork ☺



Friends of New Row AGM

Friends of New Row AGM will take place on Tuesday at 6pm, postponed from Term 3 due to Lockdown.

- This will be a lovely opportunity to celebrate the work of our very supportive group of families and friends
- Normal AGM business will take place i.e. annual reports and election of officers for 20-21
- The reports will be shared in next week's update along with revised committee details.

Are you interested in hearing more or joining the committee? There is still time to register your interest by emailing: info@newrowps.castledawson.ni.sch.uk. Depending on numbers, we will decide by Monday morning if we will meet in person or via Zoom.

Even if you are not able to make the AGM, your assistance is always appreciated as we require the help of parents and friends throughout the year.

Reminder: Reading arrangements

- Remember that all reading books must be returned each week. This allows us to work within a 72-hour quarantine system. *Only when a book is returned can another be given out.*

Reminder: Homework Arrangements

- Homework diaries have been re-introduced for Y4-7.
- Y2-7 Children have two homework books/folders (A & B) and only one is in use per week.
- Homework books stay at home all week and are returned on Friday.
- Arrangements for spelling tasks remains the same –materials are not returned to school.
- Y1 homework: Mrs Scullion will communicate arrangements directly via Seesaw

Teachers will continue to use [SEESAW](#) to supplement homework arrangements, so please check for notifications regularly.

Faith development and promotion



In **October** we continue to learn to pray the **rosary**. We will begin by focussing on the Joyful mysteries and pray together.

How to pray the rosary

- Starter prayers: Our Father, 3 x Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father
- For each story, think about what was happening.
 - While you are thinking, pray Our Father, 10 x Hail Mary, Glory be to the Father.
 - You don't have to pray all 5 stories (mysteries) at once – just pick one, think about it and say OF, 10xHM & GB (can you work out what this means?)

The Joyful Mysteries (Happy stories from the bible)

1. The Annunciation. The Angel Gabriel told Mary she was going to have a baby – Jesus.
2. The Visitation. Mary went to tell Elizabeth that she was having a baby and Elizabeth told Mary she was having one, too!
3. The Nativity – the story of Christmas
4. The Presentation of our Lord Jesus in the temple (when he was a baby). The wise men in the temple said he would be a great leader.
5. The finding of Our Lord Jesus in the temple (when he was 12 years old). After being missing for a few days, Mary & Joseph finally found Jesus in the temple. He said that they should not have been worrying as he was in his Father's house

Why not pray a decade at home? The children should be able to tell you a little about what they know.

Road of Hope

Once again we would like to show how we care for others less fortunate by supporting a charity around Christmas. This is the 6th year we will support the great work of **Road of Hope** who transport gifts and essentials to those who need it in places far from home. The traditional shoebox appeal will not take place. Instead, they charity are asking for donations. We will arrange for a collection box to be left in the foyer **w/b 19th October** and gifts can be dropped off into this.

Suggested gifts include:

All classes: SOCKS! For all ages from child to adult, male and female

Y1, 2 & 3: A small toy for ages 3-6 years

Y4 & 5: tennis ball or bouncy ball

Y6 & 7: Hand cream/sudocrem, Farm animals, Pretend jewellery sets

Although the collection will not begin for a few weeks, we thought it might be useful to know when out and about over the next few weekends. Fiona Kelly from Road of home is very grateful for any support we can give to the work of their charity.



Community & other notices



Sperrin Kidz are Zooming back!

'Sperrin Kidz Online'

Do you have a child in P4-P7 who loves to sing, make new friends and have fun?

'Sperrin Kidz' has been providing opportunities for children to do this and much more since 2015. This term, we will be forming a new online choir and we are looking for new members to join us in singing for fun while developing musical skills.

Your child will:

- Gain experience singing with others as part of an exciting virtual choir project
- Gain confidence in developing their singing and musicianship skills
- Socialise and make friends with children from different schools in a safe and secure online environment

We will be holding a free online taster session on Tuesday 6th October at 7.00 - 7.20pm.

Register your interest by emailing sperrinkidz@gmail.com

We care ~ We share ~ We learn

St. Mary's
Grammar School, Magherafelt.



Registration for GL Assessment Test

Closing Date Friday 16 October 2020

**Download from stmarysmagherafelt.com
or contact School on 028 79632320
for a Registration Pack**

Inspiring Excellence, Fulfilling Potential



Rainey Endowed School

Rainey Endowed School

Transfer Arrangements 2021

Entrance Assessments for entry to Year 8 in September 2021

Closing Date for Registration **16 October 2020 at 2.00 pm**

Pupils who wish to apply for a place in Rainey Endowed School for 2021 should register to take the Entrance Assessments which the school is using as part of its admissions criteria. Pupils should be registered to take these Entrance Assessments and parents have until **2.00 pm on Friday, 16 October 2020** to register their son/daughter.

Pupils who have registered to take the Entrance Assessments at Rainey Endowed School will be invited to a **Familiarisation Afternoon on Wednesday 2 December 2020** where they will meet staff and find out more about the arrangements for the **Entrance Assessments** which will take place in the Rainey Endowed School on **Saturday 30 January 2021**.

A Registration Pack containing all necessary information can be downloaded from the Rainey Endowed School website raineyendowed.com or collected from the school office.

RAINEY ENDOWED SCHOOL, MAGHERAFELT BT45 5DB
Telephone: (028) 7963 2478 Fax: (028) 7963 4545
Email: head@raineymagherafelt.ni.sch.uk
Website URL: <http://www.raineyendowed.com>
Principal: N McClements BSc (Hons), PGCE, PQH

We care ~ We share ~ We learn