

EDUCATION AUTHORITY – SOUTHERN REGION

Donaghey Primary School

28 Killygarvin Road

Donaghey

DUNGANNON

BT71 4DA

Tel: 028 8774 8267 Fax: 028 8774 6316

E-Mail: sharrison687@c2ken.net

Website: www.donagheyps.co.uk



Friday 5th January 2024

Dear Parent

Happy New Year to you and your family. Please find below information that should be useful to you regarding school life up to half term.

Open Day for new P1 pupils

If you currently have children attending the school and you have another child due to start P1 in September 2024, you are invited along with your child to drop into school on Monday 15th January 2024 between 9.30am and 10.30am. You will have the opportunity to view the P1 classroom and meet the teachers. We look forward to seeing you.

Although our official open day for prospective P1 pupils and their parents has passed, parents of new families to the school are more than welcome to contact me to arrange a viewing of the school. Please pass this on to any parent who may be interested. It is vital that we maximise our enrolment to help ensure that our finances remain stable.

Key dates for admissions:

Tuesday 09 January 2024 - 12 noon - EA Connect portal opens for online applications for Reception and Primary 1.

Friday 26 January 2024 - 12 noon - EA Connect portal closed for online applications for Reception and Primary 1.

Wednesday 31 January 2024 – 4pm - Deadline for submitting verification/supporting documents via EA Connect.
Final date for Late paper applications.

Thursday 25 April 2024 - Notification of outcome of application.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Please find below the booking link for P4-P7 after school football and multi-sports with Sportscity. Football will commence on Monday 15th January 2024 with Multi-Sports starting on Thursday 18th January 2024. Both clubs will run up to the Easter holidays. SportsCity would appreciate if the forms and payment could be completed before Monday 8th January 2024.

<https://eu.jotform.com/app/nexapro/sportscity>

Our games and activities timetable for P4-P7 pupils on Tuesday afternoons (1.45pm – 2.45pm) is currently being finalised. We will inform the pupils on Monday of the available clubs.

Online Payments

I hope that our online payments facility is continuing to make it a little easier for you to make payments. Regarding dinner money, can you please forward a handwritten note every Monday morning with details regarding which particular day(s) your child will be having a meal. This information helps the teacher quickly collate dinner numbers

Principal: Mr S Harrison, BSSc, PGCE, PQH (NI).

to be passed on to the kitchen. Mrs Watson (Secretary) will then check payments later in the week. Please only use the 'Late Payments' feature as a last resort. Dinner booking and the P1-P3 Club should be completed by Sunday Midnight for the upcoming week. Your co-operation is much appreciated.

Armagh Road Races

The Armagh Road Races (running) will take place on the evening of Thursday 8th February at the Mall in Armagh. This is a very exciting evening of races with international runners competing. The organising club will also be organising juvenile races for those born in 2017 and older. A full list of the juvenile races can be found at the following link - <https://www.armagh5k.com/event-info/race-details/>

If you would like your child entered, please email me by 9.00am on Tuesday 9th January. I will then enter the pupils together under the school's name. Parents will need to fully supervise their child on the evening.

Updated School Closure list

All remaining Staff Development Days have now been inserted. Remaining school closures for 2023/24:

- **Wednesday 14th February to Friday 16th February** - Half Term. *All children go home at 1.45pm on Tuesday 13th February*
- **Thursday 22nd February** – Staff Development Day 3
- **Monday 18th March 2024** - St. Patrick's Day Holiday
- **Thursday 28th March to Friday 5th April 2024** - Easter holidays. *All children go home at 11.30am on Wednesday 27th March 2024*
- **Monday 6th May 2024** - Bank Holiday
- **Monday 27th May 2024** - Bank Holiday
- **Tuesday 28th May 2024** – Staff Development Day 4
- **Wednesday 29th May 2024** – Staff Development Day 5

School will break up on Friday 28th June 2024 at 11.30am.

All dates are inclusive.

The school bus will run on early closure days.

The Education Authority have not yet released school closure dates for 2024/25. I will forward these to you as soon as the information is available.

The school's Communication Plan if the school has to be closed at short notice can be found on page 11 of the 'Parent Information Booklet 2023/24' (see app).

Strike Action – Thursday 18th January

You may be aware that multiple public sector unions are planning a day of strike action on Thursday 18th January. I am currently unaware at this stage how this will impact our school. I will advise in due course.

Other

- Swimming for P5/P6 commences on Monday 8th January.
- The balance for the P7 trip to Shannaghmore OEC should be paid by Monday 15th January via the app.
- Stars of the Month for January – Friday 26th January, 1.15pm. Parents and family members are welcome to attend. This day will also be a non-uniform day. Please forward £1.00 with all donations going to the DPA.
- P7 Residential to Shannaghmore OEC (Monday 29th January – Wednesday 31st January). The P6 pupils from the P6/P7 class will go to school as normal. P7 pupils not attending the residential will need to stay at home as there is insufficient cover in school. Those pupils will be marked present.
- Parent-Teacher meetings. The meetings will take place on Monday 5th, Tuesday 6th, Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th February. Children will go home at 1.00pm to facilitate the meetings. The bus will run at this time. More details to follow.

Many thanks for your support.

Yours sincerely

Mr S. Harrison
Principal