



## EDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

**Annual Outing** We have now paid the final payment for our Annual Outing to the Grand Opera House on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024. I am sure we will once again have an excellent time. **Please ensure all outstanding payments are sent in immediately.**

**School Tour Primary 6 and 7** Details of this year's trip to Lorne Estate are now with parents. All deposits should be with Mrs Logan by **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023** so that final numbers can be confirmed.

**Breakfast Club** This club is once again proving to be very popular. Could I remind all parents that **children should not come to the Club before 8.05 am and entrance must be no later than 8.25 am.** Children will then leave the club at 8.40 a.m. to line up. The cost is £2.00 daily and various healthy cereals and toast is on offer, together with breakfast juice or milk.

**P1** Primary 1 children will be staying until **1.55 pm each day from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October.**

**Dinner Money** Could I please remind all parents that **dinner money is paid on a Monday morning only.** The correct amount should be sent to the relevant class teacher. Dinners are £2.60 per day.

**Free School Meals** If you are entitled to free school meals please apply online asap at :  
<https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals>

**Labelling of Clothing** It has once again come to my attention that children do not have names on formal uniform and indeed PE uniform. It is very difficult for the school to trace lost property and prove ownership when labelling is not present. **Could I ask that all items of clothing worn to school be labelled clearly with the child's full name as other children can have the same initials. Also could you please check that all items belong to your child and if you find this is not the case please return them to Mrs Logan. Thank you.**

**Dogs in School** In line with the Education Authority Policy it is not permitted to have dogs in the school building or indeed in the Playground. The only exceptions are assistance dogs eg guide dogs or medical alert dogs.

**Nut Free School** Please remember that we are a nut free school. Other allergies in individual classes will have been communicated by class teachers to the relevant parents.

**Car Parking Safety/Leaving/Collecting of Children** Thank you to all for operating the one-way system for leaving and collecting children. I know this will greatly improve the safety of all pedestrians. Could I also point out that congestion would also be eased in the mornings if parents settled their children in the playground and then left. This would also develop your child's independence. **It is also noticeable that some parents are bringing children in through the school car-park gate, in the interests of safety this is not permitted.** I would also ask that **parents do not park and block the car-park entrance for staff. Please also remember that parents should wait at the top end of the playground to collect children in the afternoon.**

**P1 Intake – September 2024** During November we will be inviting those parents who have registered an interest in their child coming to Primary 1 in September 2024 to our "Open Week". If you have a child who will be starting Primary 1 next September, please give their name to Mrs Logan as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Appointments** I realise that hospital appointments are generally during the school day and are of a more urgent nature, however, unless it is an emergency, could appointments for Doctor's, Dentist's or Optician's please be made outside of school hours, or as near the end of the school day as is possible. Thank you for your support.

**Jewellery** The school operates a "No Jewellery Policy" with the exception of a watch. It is noticeable that some children are wearing earrings! This is a health and safety issue and a note from a parent indicating that they will take responsibility for the wearing of the earrings is not legally acceptable. **I would ask for your support in the removal of earrings/rings etc.**



**Parent/Teacher Interviews** The school will be closing at 1:00 pm on **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October** to accommodate parental interviews. The interviews will be held face to face, as we feel it is more beneficial for teachers to meet with parents and be able to show samples of the children's work. However, in exceptional circumstances a telephone call will be considered upon request. An invite will be sent to you shortly.

**Complaints Procedure** Whilst we as a School would seldom have complaints it is hoped that any problems can be solved by informal contact between parents and the School Principal. However, it is a requirement of the Department of Education that we inform you that where a parent feels that a matter should be progressed further, then the following people should be contacted in the order shown.

1. The Principal.
2. The Chairperson of the Board of Governors.
3. The Northern Ireland Public Services Ombudsman (NIPSO).

Should you wish to have a copy of our Parental Complaints Procedure please contact the school office.

**Safeguarding/Child Protection** Any parent wishing to receive a copy of the school's Safeguarding/Child Protection Policy please contact the school office. Just a reminder that our Designated Teacher for Child Protection is Mr Purdy and our new Deputy Designated Teacher is Mrs Donaldson. The Designated Governor who has responsibility for safeguarding is Mrs Gibson.

**PTA Events** Once again we are looking forward to working with our PTA Committee in the incoming year. The forthcoming events are listed below. The next PTA meeting will be on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 7.00pm. We would encourage parents to attend.

**Prize Donations** For fund raising events we look for various offers of prizes. If you know of anyone, or indeed any company, who would like to donate prizes or offer sponsorship of events during the year, please let me know. Thank you also to all of those parents who have donated unwanted new gifts for prizes during the year. Anyone who has gifts large or small which they feel would be suitable please leave these with Mrs Logan.

**Harvest** We are holding the Annual Harvest Assembly on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023**. This event is part of our normal assembly programme and is **for pupils only**. A separate note will follow as to our Harvest giving this year.

**Sponsored Bounce** We are holding our Sponsored Bounce on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023**. This is our annual fund-raising event and it gives us an opportunity to raise funds for the school. Bouncy Castles will be in place, and your child will have the opportunity to "bounce" with their class and be sponsored for the number of bounces achieved. We hope to make this as successful as previous years so we ask that you encourage pupils to collect sponsors from known friends or relations. **We do not have a licence to allow children to collect from door to door so we ask that you assist us in making sure this does not happen.** Sponsor forms will be issued in the next few weeks. Thank you for your anticipated support. Please note that only one child will be on a bouncy castle at any given time.

## **HOLIDAYS/DATES TO NOTE:**

### **OCTOBER/NOVEMBER**

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Harvest Assembly

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 26<sup>th</sup>, and Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October – School Closes at 1.00 pm to accommodate Parent/Teacher Interviews

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> PTA Pumpkin Competition (information to follow)

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> PTA School Disco (evening) – P1 – P3 – 6.00 – 7.00 pm and P4 – P7 – 7.15 – 8.15 pm

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> Sponsored Bounce – School will close at 1.00 pm for the Halloween holidays.

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November (inc) Halloween Holidays

### **DECEMBER**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> at 6.00 – 8.00 pm – School Fair with Santa's Grotto

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> – PTA Christmas Disco P1 – P3 – 6.00 – 7.00pm and P4 – P7 – 7.15 – 8.15pm

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 am – Primary 1 and 2 Christmas Performance

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> at 7.00 pm – Primary 3 and Primary 4 Christmas Performance

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> at 1.00 pm – Primary 5, 6 and 7 – Carol Service in St. Colman's Church

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> – Early closing of school at 2.00 pm

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December – School closes at 12.15 pm for Christmas Holidays

### **JANUARY**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> – School reopens

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> – Grand Opera House 12.15 pm start for those children going to Opera House.

/see over page



**Welcome to our new Primary 1 class!**





