

Welcome Back

I hope you all had a wonderful summer. The children have returned to school looking fantastic in their new uniforms and all ready for work. Can I remind you to please write your child's name on every part of their uniform including their coats in case they get lost.

Anniversary

This is a very exciting year for Holy Trinity Primary School as this is our 50th Anniversary. The school opened in 1966. We will be planning a series of celebratory events throughout the year and we hope that parents and pupils will join us in celebrating this special anniversary year.

Inspection

In April our school was inspected by the Department of Education. We were absolutely delighted to be awarded the highest overall effectiveness level, "The school has a high level of capacity for sustained improvement in the interest of all learners." We achieved "Very Good" in all areas inspected (achievements and standard, Provision for learning and Leadership and management) . The report highlighted the excellent quality of teaching and learning, the high standards attained, the excellent manners, behaviour and work ethic of the children, the collaborative, supportive, highly professional, talented staff, outstanding pastoral care, the effective management and the excellent relationships established with parents, community and other educational and vocational establishments. We are absolutely delighted with their findings as it reinforces what we already know that Holy Trinity is an excellent school.

School Dinners

If you think your child may be entitled to a free school meal please request a School Meals Form from the Office. Policy has now changed and many more people on a range of incomes and benefits are now entitled. Even if your child may not eat a dinner every day can I ask all parents if they think they may be entitled to please apply as the percentage of children on free school meals does have a huge impact on our budget allocation. We get additional money into our school budget the more children we have on free school meals so I would ask if in doubt please apply.

Menus will be distributed next week. Our dinners are excellent and both healthy and nourishing. The cost is £2.50 per day.

Medical Forms

Please complete the attached medical form and return it to the class teacher as soon as possible so that we can upgrade your child's details

Curriculum Meetings

Curriculum meetings will take place at the following times in the KS1 hall.

P3 and P6- Tuesday 13th September 9.15. This will be a Paired Reading Meeting and a Curriculum meeting

P4, P5 and P7- Tuesday 13th September- 2.00

P1 and P2- Wednesday 14th September 9.15

These meetings will give you the opportunity to meet your child's teacher and find out what they will be learning this year and your role in supporting them. We would ask parents to make every effort to attend. Meetings will last approximately 30-40 minutes.

Text Service

On occasion we will send texts containing important information. If you change your mobile number throughout the year please let the school office know so we can amend your child's record and therefore ensure texts reach you.

Telephone calls

In Holy Trinity there are telephones in a limited number of the classrooms. If you wish to speak to a teacher please ring before or after school as calls cannot be put through during the day. Also there are an increasing number of parents phoning daily to ask for messages to be passed on to their children. This is extremely disruptive for the teacher I would ask parents to please make arrangements with their children before they come to school as we cannot disrupt lessons and teachers cannot leave their classrooms to pass on messages to another teacher.

Closing of Gates

Our priority is always to ensure that the children in our care are safe. From Monday 12th September all gates in the school will close at 9.10 and the only entry will be through the main entrance. The back gate will be closed from 9.10 to 1.50 daily.

Parents' Courses

This term we have teamed up with Belfast Metropolitan College to offer the following courses:

- Essential Skills in Maths (beginning on Wednesday 21st September)
- Essential Skills in ICT (beginning on Friday 23rd September)

These courses last for approximately 10-12 weeks. If you wish to take part in either or both of these courses please phone the school and leave your details. These courses are also open to friends and family members.

Counselling Service

If your child is lacking in self-confidence, if they have experienced bereavement, family separation, if they have anger management difficulties or have difficulty making friends etc your child may benefit from speaking to the counsellor. If you would like your child to see the school counsellor please contact Mrs Boyd and she will arrange this for you.

Car Parking

As you are aware there can at times be a build-up of traffic at certain busy times. Over the last few years we have built extra car parking spaces reserved for parents. In the interests of safety to the children and the public parents are asked to use the two parent car parks and not to park in the staff car park, on the double yellow lines or block the turning circle.

There are several spaces for cars at the front of the Key Stage 1 yard. These are specifically for dropping off children and moving away. This is not a parking area.

Reminder of school Rules

1. School begins at 9.00 for all children. Please ensure your child is not late as it disrupts their routine and they miss out on valuable learning.
2. School will finish for all children in mainstream at 1.45 every Monday.
3. We would ask that children contribute to the school fund every Tuesday by contributing 50p per child and £1.00 per family.
4. We are a healthy school and crisps, fizzy drinks, chocolate and sweets are not permitted at break or lunchtime.
5. Dogs, even those on a leash, are not permitted in the school grounds at any time.
6. If your child is off school please send in a note explaining their absence on the day of their return.
7. We would ask parents to please make every effort to ensure that appointments are made outside of school hours. If you wish to get your child out of class early you must speak to Mrs Boyd or Mr White. **Please do not go directly to the classroom.**
8. If you have a problem please come and speak to the class teacher or Mrs Boyd. Please give us the opportunity to try to solve your problem. We would prefer you talk to us rather than use Facebook or Social Media sites.
9. If there is a problem at home which could affect your child in school please come and see Mrs Boyd or Mr White confidentially.
10. Counselling is available again this year. If you feel your child would benefit from counselling please see Mrs Boyd or Mr White.
11. Please note that this is a no smoking school both in the school building and in the school grounds.
12. Independence and Homework- Please support staff and ensure that your child completes their homework every night. If there is a problem with this please speak to the class teacher.
13. If you change your phone number please inform the school immediately to ensure we are able to contact you and you can receive texts.
14. Please check the school website regularly- all relevant information will be posted here.

