



January's Monthly Newsletter

Dear Parents,
 Happy New Year!

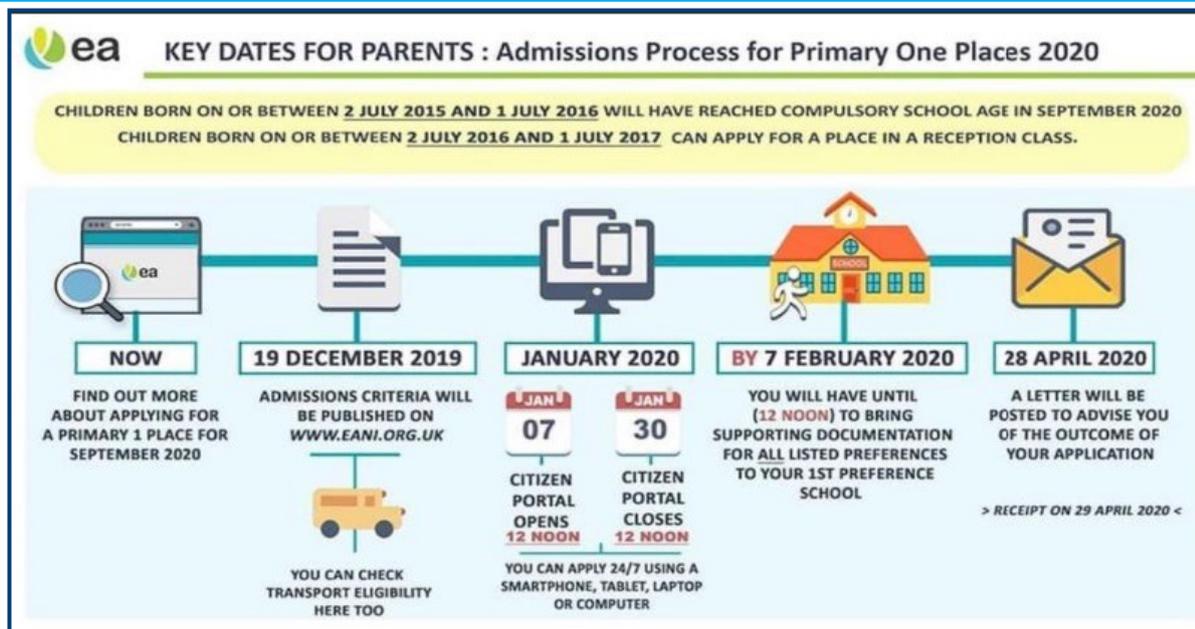
We trust you all enjoyed some family fun over the festive break and that the children are ready for the exciting learning opportunities the teachers have planned in this term's topic, 'Safe and Sound'. This term also includes the first sessions of our Shared Education partnership, 'Forest Friends' with Longstone Primary School and St Paul's, Ahoghill. Pupils in Primary 1-4 will form a choir that will enter into this year's Ballymena Festival, whilst Primary 5-7 pupils will be engaging in Forest School sessions together.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all again for your support in Term 1 and to celebrate the amazing work of our PTA to date. The Tractor Run was once again a huge success and it is because of the dedication of our PTA that we are able to provide the most up-to-date learning experiences and resources for all pupils. If you would like to find out more, please come along for a warm welcome at the first PTA meeting of the year on Monday 13th January @ 7.30pm.

Mrs McCaffery

Dates for January

| | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| Monday 6th | First Day of Term | Wednesday 15th | Board of Governors Meeting |
| Monday 6th | P5-7 Swimming starts again | Friday 17th | P7 In-O-V8 at Cullybackey College |
| Tuesday 7th | Primary Admissions Portal Open | Friday 17th | P1-4 Forest Friends Session 1@ St Paul's |
| Tuesday 7th | C.A.T.C.H begins for P3-P7 | Saturday 25th | AQE and GL Assessment Results |
| Wed 8th/ Thur 9th | Post Primary Open Nights | Thursday 30th | P6 Robotics Roadshow, Dunclug College |
| Monday 13th | PTA Meeting @ 7.30pm | Thursday 30th | P1 Applications Deadline (See Below) |



Parent Vision Workshop

Following the success and feedback from our first Parent Vision workshop, we are planning to hold our next one in early February, date to be confirmed. As this will be around the time of Autism NI's Superhero week and Internet Safety day, the workshop will focus on raising awareness of autism and online safety. If you would like to discover more about keeping your child safe online or develop a greater awareness of Autistic Spectrum Disorders, please do come along. A letter with reply slip will be issued shortly to ensure that there is sufficient interest in this workshop.

AQE/ GL Result Day

We would like to wish pupils who are getting their transfer test results at the end of the month, all the best. As you already know, all of our P7 pupils are stars.



ETI Inspection December 2019.

The inspection team visited the school briefly in December 2019 and a copy of their short report can be accessed at: www.etini.gov.uk

Shared Education

We currently have planned the first 3 sessions of our 'Forest Friends' project and are looking forward to the opportunity to develop new friendships and share new learning experiences. Pupils in Primary 1-4 will be bused to and from St Paul's Primary School, Ahoghill on all three dates below.

Friday 17th January (P1-4 only)
Friday 24th January (All Pupils)
Friday 7th February (All Pupils)

Drop off and Collection

Over recent weeks we have been trialling new safeguarding routines in the mornings.

Please note the carpark is now closed to all traffic between 8.45am and 9am and a member of staff will be present on the gate to supervise entry.

We would ask that parents / guardians:-

- continue to supervise younger pupils to the gate
- supervise their children crossing the road.
- to observe the no parking area at the front of the school. (Any cars parked on the zig zag lines block the view of adults who are supervising entry or exit.)
- are courteous to our neighbours and do not block or obscure the entry to their lane ways.

As pupil numbers continue to increase, we will continue to review these arrangements.



After School Club Survey

You will shortly receive a survey about After School Club Provision.

We welcome and thank you in advance for all your feedback. We will reflect upon the responses to develop and improve future Afterschool provision.



Lunches, Tickets, Trips and Refund Policy

In order to secure bookings we have to confirm places prior to attendance at any shows, concerts or on trips. This means that once confirmed and paid, bookings are non refundable. Unfortunately with the growing pressures on school budgets, a refund can only be given if we receive a discount or refund for your child's place.

However, we are able to cancel lunches and any monies paid can be transferred to cover lunches the following week.

Cold, Flu and Winter Bugs

This time of year always sees a significant increase in the numbers of children with coughs, colds and flu like symptoms. In order to protect other children from these winter viruses, we would ask you to keep your child at home if they are unwell. It would also be really helpful if each child could bring in a box of tissues for use in their classroom.

The Public Health Agency also recommend that any children suffering with vomiting or diarrhoea do not attend school for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness.



A Look Ahead

Dates for February

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Wednesday 5th | P7 Transfer Form Deadline |
| Friday 7th | Forest Friends Session 3 (all) |
| Monday 10th | Internet Safety Day |
| 17th –21st inclusive | SCHOOL CLOSED-Half term |

Remember for any updates on events throughout the month or to view event photos you should visit our school website, kirkinriolaps.co.uk