

# Jones Memorial P.S. Newsletter

## September & October 2022

### Welcome Back to School

A huge welcome back to everyone in our entire school community. I hope that you had the opportunity to enjoy your Summer break. It has been wonderful to welcome all of our children back to school. It has also been great to welcome a number of new JMPS pupils to our school. We are equally excited to welcome all of our new Reception and Primary 1 pupils to school.

The start of the school term is always an exciting one and, at times, it can also be a really busy time for school staff and families alike and you may start to get a lot of information from school in relation to the year ahead. Please take time to read any communication that comes from school - as always, if you have any questions / queries please do not hesitate to make contact with your child's class teacher.

Many thanks,

Mrs S Isherwood

Principal

### Bank Holiday

Due to the passing of the Queen last week, school will be closed on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> September for a Bank Holiday. School will be open as normal on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> September.

### REMINDERS

- Our daily snack service has resumed from Reception , P1-3 at a cost of 50p per day payable at £12 for the month of September and £12 for October. Daily Snack includes: A small piece of fruit and a bread based snack (eg, Pancake, Toast, Bagel etc) delivered to your child's class
- School doors open at 8:15am for Breakfast Club and will close at 9.20am sharp.
- Pick up for walking children is outside P5 beside the Polytunnel.
- ONLY SEN / EA taxis are allowed in staff carpark.
- School lunches available every day at £2.60, £13 per 5 day week.
- Healthy Breaks required with 50p for treat Friday
- Brass Tuition on a Monday
- Strings Tuition on a Tuesday
- PE kit only to be worn on the PE day for each class.

### After School Clubs

We are delighted to announce that we will be starting our range of after school clubs again this year. I am very grateful to all the teaching staff for giving their time to run these club. Further communication will come to parents / carers in the next few weeks.

## BREAKFAST CLUB

As a reminder, Breakfast Club is available from 8.15am – this is a help to parents/carers who need to leave children to school before 9am. Pupils MUST stay in the assembly hall with supervision.

## Need To Talk?

Mrs Sandra Isherwood Designated Teacher for Child Protection / Pastoral Care



If you feel that you need to talk to school about any pastoral care concerns in relation to your child  
OR you have concerns in relation to any Child Protection matter, please make contact with Mrs Sandra Isherwood by calling school on 028 66323420.

Mrs Bailie KS1



Mrs Graham KS2



are also members of the school's Safeguarding Team and can assist you at any time?

## MORNING ROUTINES

Last year, due to restrictions, we had in place staggered arrival times. This arrangement is now no longer necessary. We have instead introduced a soft opening approach – this is mainly to help reduce traffic congestion in the carpark and the narrow gate beside the bus lane. Children may arrive in to school between 8.45-9.10am, 8.15am for Breakfast Club. Punctuality is important to our class routines. However, if you are late to arrive to school i.e. after 9.20am, please bring your child to the school office where they can make their way to their classroom.

## HOME TIME ROUTINES

As per arrival times, we no longer have staggered home times. Instead classes go home at the following times: Rec & P1 can go home at 12.55pm if not staying for school dinner and at 1.15pm if not staying for Buttercup Club. We do, however, expect that drivers are responsible for their parking and the safety of others while in school premises when all pupils leave at 3:15pm.

## School Attendance HIGH IMPORTANCE

It is very important that our pupils attend school every day. Each day absent from school represents a day of lost learning. We understand that occasionally a child may be ill and not able to attend school – this should be rare.

Each month we closely monitor the attendance of all children. If attendance falls below 85% we will draw your attention to this matter. If your child is off school, please ring and leave a message to explain the absence and follow this up with a written explanation on the child's return to school.

## HOW TO RAISE A CONCERN...

At Jones Memorial Primary School, we value parents and carers as partners in the education of our pupils. The views of parents are significant and we encourage the positive contributions which parents and carers make to the life of our school.

We recognise that from time to time, a parent or carer may have a concern about some aspect of their child's life at school. By working in partnership with home, it is our aim that any concern is dealt with quickly and efficiently.

PLEASE FIND BELOW THE PROCEDURE WE HAVE IN PLACE.

It is important that we have a staged approach to raising and addressing concerns as this means issues will be heard by more than one person in a fair and unbiased way.

IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT ANY ASPECT OF CHILD PROTECTION OR SAFEGUARDING DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT EITHER: MRS ISHERWOOD (Designated Teacher for Child Protection) or MRS BAILIE OR MRS GRAHAM (Deputy Designated Teacher's for Child Protection).

## HOW DO I RAISE A CONCERN?

1. Make an appointment with the class teacher to discuss the matter. All parents/carers from home must make appointments to speak with the teacher. (Making an appointment will enable the teacher to give you the necessary time to listen attentively to your concern. Teachers are not able to ring parents during class time). MOST OFTEN CONCERNS ARE RESOLVED AT THIS STAGE.
2. If after speaking to the teacher the matter is not resolved the issue can be taken up with the Head of Key Stage (Mrs Bailie/Mrs Graham).
3. Following the second stage, you may make an appointment with the VP, Mrs Bailie.

4. If concerns still remain the issue can be referred to the Principal, Mrs Isherwood.

5. Ultimately, if the issue is still not resolved the parents/carers can write to the Chairperson of the of Board of Governors (Mrs A Beattie)- please refer to our Complaints Procedure.

**IT IS VERY RARE FOR CONCERNS NOT TO BE RESOLVED BEFORE STAGE 4.**

## ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

All parents whose children have a Medical or Dietary Care Plan last year, it is important that you, as parents, ensure we have the most up-to-date Care Plan. If the Care Plan has been reviewed by a medical practitioner, you must give us the most recent copy. If over the previous few months your child has received a Medical or Dietary Care Plan it is imperative, you inform us and give us a copy of the Care Plan.

Parents of new Reception or P1 pupils should also ensure we have received a copy of Care Plans if appropriate.

If a child has to take medication in school their parent or guardian **MUST** complete a school Administration of Medication Form OR A Request for a Pupil to Carry His/Her Medication.

Medication will **NOT** be administered unless the appropriate form is completed and received by school.

For safety reasons, children should **NOT** bring their own medication to school – this should be brought by an adult and left in the office. Please remember, if your child requires an inhaler (or any other type of medication) it is your responsibility to ensure there is an adequate supply in school and the medication is in date. Please remember, school staff can only administer medication in accordance to prescribed instructions or instructions from a GP or Care Plan.

## ALLERGIES & INTOLERANCES

Thank you to those parents who have already updated us about allergies or intolerances for their child. If your child has an allergy or intolerance we do not know about, please email school to let us know- further supporting documentation i.e. medical diagnosis will also be required. Similarly, if the allergy or intolerance is no longer a medical issue, please keep us informed.

## RECEPTION & PRIMARY 1 SETTLING IN ARRANGEMENTS

It is with lots of joy that we welcome all our new pupils to JMPS- we hope our youngest pupils have enjoyed their first few days of Primary School. Establishing good routines in school is so important to give everyone a sense of security and belonging – many thanks to our Reception & P1 parents for helping to make the start of the day and home times smooth and safe for everyone.

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS

Last year, some families were entitled to Free School Meals. As you know, parents/carers must apply for this provision annually. I wrote to all parents in June with information on how to apply along with sources of help from the EA if required. As FSM entitlement is reviewed annually, we are unable to provide a free meal from 1st September unless informed by the Education Authority that you are entitled to this provision (even if you were in receipt of school meals last year). Unless we have confirmation of FSM for 2022-23 academic year from EA there will be a charge for school meals.

## A DAILY DOSE OF AUTISM

THROUGHOUT THIS TERM WE HAVE ORGANISED A NUMBER OF 'GET TOGETHER' SESSIONS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS OF CHILDREN WITH AUTISM.

THIS WILL BE A VERY RELAXED OPPORTUNITY TO CHAT WITH OTHER PARENTS/ CARERS ABOUT NAVIGATING LIFE WITH AUTISM. AS WELL AS THIS WE HOPE TO HAVE A FEW GUEST SPEAKERS JOIN US TO GIVE SOME MORE INFORMATION AND SUPPORT.

MRS MITCHELL, OUR SCHOOLS ASD TEACHER WILL BE AT THESE SESSIONS AND YOU CAN MAKE CONTACT WITH HER PRIOR TO ATTENDING WITH ANY QUESTIONS. SMITCHELL913@C2KNI.NET.  
NO BOOKING IS REQUIRED AND EVERYONE IS WELCOME.



**OUR 'GET TOGETHER' SESSIONS WILL TAKE PLACE IN OUR SCHOOL ASSEMBLY HALL / ASD CLASSROOM ON THE DATES OUTLINED BELOW.**

**THURSDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 2022 10-11AM  
THURSDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2022 6.30 - 7.30PM  
THURSDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2022 10-11AM  
THURSDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2022 6.30-7.30PM**



We want all our children to wear the correct school uniform with **PRIDE**.

We **FULLY** understand that purchasing uniforms, especially at this time of year, can be financially difficult for some families. Please, please reach out to us at school if this is the case, and we will help any way that we can.

**JMPS**  
JONES MEMORIAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

**A UNIFORM REMINDER**

**Correct School Uniform Items**

**Main Uniform**

- Navy school jumper/cardigan with the school logo.
- White School Shirt (from any shop)
- School Tie (from the school office)
- Mid-grey trousers/pinafore/skirt (from any shop)
- Blue Checked Dress (Summer only)
- Plain black shoes - NO colours/stripes (from any shop)

**PE Uniform**

- Plain navy shorts (from any shop OR Plain Navy tracksuit bottoms/leggings)
- School jumper/cardigan from Main Uniform list
- Black plimssoles/trainers (from any shop)
- White T Shirt with School Logo (LE Graphics)
- Earrings should not be worn unless studs.
- A watch may be worn

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US IN THIS MATTER**

**OUR FOREST LEARNING ADVENTURE**

**Tuesday 13th September**

**Wear your PE Kit**  
**Bring wellies & a coat**

**JMPS**  
JONES MEMORIAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

**An adventure with a difference.**  
**Pupils with the roll of a dice, will make their own choices through the Forest, determining what they discover and learn...**

**Whole School Forest Day**

## Upcoming Events in School- Dates for your Diary

6 <sup>th</sup> September	Transfer Club Mrs Graham
9 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 5 starts swimming lessons
13 <sup>th</sup> September	Messy Play in the school assembly hall (Children age 0-4) Booking essential
13 <sup>th</sup> September	Friends of Jones Memorial Primary School meeting at 7pm in staffroom
15 <sup>th</sup> September	Jelly Tots in the school assembly hall (Children age 0-4)
15 <sup>th</sup> September	Mental Health and Well Being Programme Primary 7
20 <sup>th</sup> September	Primary 1 & 2 Reading Evening at <b>7PM</b>
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	AQE Registration CLOSES
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Tom Sweeney at the Ardhoven Theatre 10am
24 <sup>th</sup> September	GL Registration CLOSES
25 <sup>th</sup> September	Sustrans Assembly
26 <sup>th</sup> September	European Day of Languages Day - French food tasting event
29 <sup>th</sup> September	A Daily Dose of Autism (Read information in newsletter) 10-11am
26 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup> September	Bike to School Week (More information to follow)
30 <sup>th</sup> September	Grandparents Day 'Reception' (More information to follow)
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Primary 4 FLIVE to Holy Trinity P.S.
10 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Interviews (more information to follow)
22 <sup>nd</sup> October (Sat)	'The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark' outside trail in aid of NI Hospice
25 <sup>th</sup> October	Primary 6 Assembly
27 <sup>th</sup> October	A Daily Dose of Autism (Read information in newsletter) 6.30 – 7.30pm
27 <sup>th</sup> October	School Pumpkin Disco at 6.30pm, (more information to follow)
28 <sup>th</sup> October	Ditch the Dark Sustrans walk (more information to follow)
SCHOOL CLOSED	Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2022
SCHOOL REOPENS	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2022



- We are back for our first meeting of the year, on Tuesday 13th September at 7pm!
- We plan to discuss ideas for fundraising for our school.

**ALL NEW AND  
EXISTING  
PARENTS AND  
FRIENDS OF  
THE SCHOOL,  
ARE WELCOME  
TO ATTEND!**

