



## Gortin Primary School

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21 May 2018

Dear Parent

### **Sports Day**

Weather permitting our sports day will take place on **Friday 8 June @ 12.30 pm sharp**. Children may wear their PE kit to school with their sweatshirts if weather is suitable. Buses will be available at 3.05 pm for those who need it. All parents, family and friends are welcome to come along to cheer on the children and children may return home with parents when it is over. Please do not bring eats or drinks for your child as the children will be given their lunch just before this and a drink will be available for any child who needs it during the event. All children will be given crisps and a drink at the end courtesy of the PTA. Parents may bring their own refreshments if they wish. We will be using the all-weather pitch at the Owenkillew and children are asked to stay within its perimeters at all times unless they are being accompanied to the toilet. Please let us know if you are taking your child to the toilet so we can make sure they will not miss their race.

**Children should bring in PE kits every day this week as we will be practising as and when the weather is suitable.**

### **Fun Run 2018**

The PTA met last Tuesday to finalise the Fun Run for this year and are delighted to report that the final total raised is £2900 profit to our school. We will be informing parents how this will be spent but well done to our committee in particular but to all our parents. Indeed, our Board of Governors were so delighted with this result that they asked me to send a special and most sincere thank you to the committee for all their hard work in running such a big and successful event on their own and indeed to all our parents who came along and supported our Fun Run on Saturday 21 April and they were also delighted with the feedback on how smoothly it had all ran. A special word of thanks to Kerry Crawford who co-ordinated the event so efficiently. This will be a tremendous boost to much needed school funds and a great example of how good our school is at 'working together to achieve our best'.

### **PTA Second Hand School Uniform**

Please send in your freshly laundered outgrown second hand uniform to school at end of June. We recycle items for a small voluntary donation which will go towards PTA funds. All uniform welcome including P.E. Kits and school coats.

### **Home School Link**

Thank you to those parents who returned their questionnaires, it's still not too late to let us know your views. If you have not returned your reply, please forward it as parental feedback is so important to ensure we meet your needs. All of the replies were happy with the amount of detail included in the Home/School Link monthly notes with many positive comments on its usefulness and their desire for it to be continued. There was some mention of the usefulness of the curriculum workshops which we intend to run again in the autumn term. Please return the reply slip below to inform us of what you would like further information and support on in future curriculum workshops.

### **Blakiston-Houston Tennis Tournaments Y6/Y7 & Junior Tournament Y4/5**

Tennis finals will take place week over the next two weeks and will be played off in school for all our children to support. We wish all our competitors every success.

### **School Trips – Y3-Y5**

Y3-Y5 will be travelling this Thursday 24 May to Todds Leap along with St. Patricks and St Peters children as a celebration of their work together this year. This trip will be fully funded by Case Peace IV. The children will be participating in lots of fun outdoor activities. Therefore, children should wear comfortable navy tracksuit bottoms along with their red hoodies if they have them otherwise just the school sweatshirt. They should wear old trainers and bring their red school coat. They will need a packed lunch and snack and will leave at 9.15am and return at 3 pm for school buses.

Trips for Y1/2 & Y6/7 are being organised and you will be informed in due course.

### **Care in the Sun**

In anticipation of good weather in the weeks leading up to the end of term we will put our Care in the Sun policy on our website. Children are encouraged to wear collared t-shirts for PE and bring in sun hats. Children can avail of chilled water from our drinkers in school. We would ask parents to apply sun lotion if necessary before coming to school. Please note children should be able to apply any top up application necessary and children **CAN NOT** share lotions for health & safety reasons. Girls may wear their red checked summer dresses – boys may wear short trousers or in very hot weather they may come in their PE shorts and t shirts (fingers crossed). If your child is particularly susceptible to sun burn please let us know so we can encourage them to stay in the shade as much as possible.

### **Action Cancer - Health Promoting School Award**

Our School has been selected as a Gold Award Winner in the Action Cancer Health Action Awards 2018 and I quote, 'Gortin Primary School has shown an outstanding commitment to promoting healthy activities for pupils and impressed us with its determination to improve pupils lifestyles'.

As a school we have always placed great importance on health promotion which needs to be integrated into the curriculum and taught and we thank the children, parents and teachers for their continued commitment and support and are delighted that the school has been recognised for its provision of such important life enhancing skills for our children.

We have been invited to bring three pupils to Lagan Valley Island, Lisburn on Tuesday 5th June to attend a ceremony and receive the award. Furthermore we have been informed that as we are the highest scoring school in our Education Board and we will also receive a cheque for £200. Well done everyone another example of us all 'Working together to achieve our best'

### **Summer Care for our Plants/Baskets**

Please indicate on the slip in your child's bag if you would be prepared to help on a rota basis for watering our plants as they need to be watered over the summer holidays. We have 4 parents already but we would ideally like 7/8 parents. We intend that no one would be responsible for more than one week watering on alternate days of that week and a rota would be drawn up and a key would be passed round for the small gate. Please indicate any weeks that you would not be available. Watering to include polytunnel and all beds. Watering cans and hose available.

### **FREE Meals**

Parents already entitled to Free meals will have received their renewal in the post. Please make sure to fill out and return to EA promptly to ensure free meals in September.

### **Reminders**

- Monday 28 May ..... Bank Holiday
- Friday 8 June @ 12.30.....Sports Day
- Thursdays 7 & 14 June @ 2pm .....Induction/Delta Programme for Y1 2018
- Wednesday 20 June @ 9 45am.....Leavers Assembly
- Friday 29 June @12 noon .....School closes.....no dinners!

Yours sincerely

*Iris Wallace*  
**Principal**

**Watering of Plants/baskets/Polytunnel over Summer Holidays**

I am willing to help out with the watering of plants over the summer holidays.

Week/s I will not be available are as follows .....

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Signed .....Parent      PRINT.....

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**Autumn Term 2018 - Curriculum Workshops**

I would like to suggest that the following areas of the curriculum might be addressed in the curriculum workshops in the autumn term:

Y1/2 .....

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Y3/4 .....

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Y5-Y7 .....

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Signed .....      Print .....