



## Gortin Primary School

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Principal: Mrs J Wallace



25 February 2019

Dear Parent

### **CHANGE OF SDD CLOSURE**

Our SDD originally planned for Monday 29 April will now change to Friday 3 May. School is also closed on Thursday 2 May to facilitate upcoming Election.

### **World Book Day - Thursday 7 March**

This year our focus is going to be on Poetry as we are developing the love of poetry and nurturing the skills to write poetry in our school development plan over the next few years. Therefore, we have invited PHEME Glass a member of Omagh Open Door Poetry Society and writer of poetry book 'Seeds of Memory', to school to do some poetry reading and some workshops with our children. PHEME has also written a novel 'The Blossom or the Bole' set in the Sperrin Mountains during the War. The children are encouraged to bring their favourite poetry books with them to share with PHEME and each other.

The children will be given home a **Scholastic Book Club magazine** this week and orders for that should be back in school for Monday 4 March. Anyone ordering books from the Scholastic Book Club Magazine will receive £1 off 1 book or £2 off 2 books! All the children in Y5-Y7 have been set personal reading targets for the week ahead. Thank you to children and parents in anticipation of all the extra effort put in to help children to reach their reading target in World book week including the continued paired reading with Y3- Y5.

***The love of books and reading promotes life-long learning.***

### **Gortin Community 10k/5k Fun Run –Saturday 13 April 2019**

Our next meeting is tomorrow night Tuesday 26 February so many thanks to our Fun Run Committee who have already met and are busy organising the above event, we really will be needing as many helping hands as possible on the day. Please make note of the date and let Heather Campbell Kerry Crawford or myself know if you can help.

Posters and fliers with entry forms will be available soon so let us know if anyone can help distribute them. Children's Sponsorship forms and registration forms will be going out on Monday 11 March. **Children do not pay as they are collecting sponsorship but must fill out a registration form.** Please endeavour to collect as much as possible as our sponsorship is our main source of income. Single child families collecting £20+ or families with two or more children collecting £30+ will be put in a draw for a special prize.

Children should register early with their own specific registration form so we can allocate their numbers in school before the run. Parents will also be issued with a few official entry forms on 11 March to complete if they are walking/running that day and return with money to school.

**All children must be accompanied by an adult.**

Launch for the fun run will be Wednesday 13 March @ 9.30 am if any committee members are free to attend please do as the press will be in attendance. The representative from Aware NI are then going to talk to the children about the service they provide.

If anyone is attending any running events, please contact school and distribute leaflets for us to promote our event. **Also if anyone knows of anyone else who would be willing to sponsor the event in any way please contact school.**

### **Smarties Collection**

Smartie tubes have been given out and we would appreciate it if these were returned by end of March. It is a very important part of our fund raising so we would appreciate if everyone could return these as soon as possible. A special word of thanks to those who have already returned full tubes.

### **Snack/Milk Y1 – Y2**

Snack only for March/April £8.50

Snack & Milk for March/April is £10.20

### **Milk/Fruit Y3 – Y7**

Milk money for March/April is £6.80

Fruit money for March/April is £8.50

### **Reminder- all Snack/Milk/Fruit monies to be in by Monday 4 March**

### **Child Protection**

For the protection of all children in our school could we please ask that parents coming to school after the gates have been closed each morning or to pick up children for appointments please leave the gates closed and enter via the small side gate. Similarly, at home times could parents please leave the roundabout free for buses to continue around without obstruction, park in parking bays or on the left hand side of the grounds as they are exiting.

### **Meals**

Please note that all monies for meals (£2.60) should be paid up in full by the last Friday in the month as books have to be balanced by then! Please also only send in money on a Monday or 1<sup>st</sup> day of week after a holiday. Please fill in all information on front of envelope.

### **Home School Link**

Curriculum information for March/April will be sent home with your child next Thursday 7 March. Contact school if you do not receive this.

### **Best Kept School Award**

As we commence some much needed clearing up around the school this March in preparation for the above competition our Poly tunnel really needs a hosing down if anyone could offer help or if anyone has gardening skills that could help us with some planting and tending around the school. Please contact school if you have any ideas as there is a lot to be done and after previous years' successes we would like to continue the good work and most importantly keep our school well maintained and conducive to good learning.

- Y6 Parents Meeting for AQE .....Wednesday 6 March 3.10pm
- Non Smoking Day-activities in school .....Wednesday 13 March
- St Patrick's Day Holiday ..... Monday 18 March
- Easter Holidays .....Thursday 18 April -Friday 26 April inclusive
- Election, SDD & May Bank Holiday .....Thursday 2 May – Monday 6 May inclusive.

Yours sincerely

*Iris Wallace*  
Principal