



Gortin Primary School

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Principal: Mrs J Wallace

Website: gortinps.com



08.01.18

Dear Parent

I would like to take this opportunity to wish every family a happy and healthy new year 2018. I trust you have all had a relaxing break and would like to thank parents on behalf of all the staff for their most thoughtful and generous gifts and Christmas greetings sent which are much appreciated. This newsletter gives an outline of events for the forthcoming term.

This is our last paper newsletter for all those who are going to access our letter through the School website. Please let us know on the slip attached (if you have not already done so), if you are able to access it online. Permission slips will be sent out in your children's bags. A note will be made in your child's Message book (Y1/Y2) or Diary (Y3-Y7). Next letter is due out on 15/1/18 and fortnightly thereafter.

Snack/Fruit/Milk – January & February

Y1/Y2

£10.50 due for snack & milk.

£8.75 due for snack only.

Y3 – Y7

£8.75 due for fruit

Y3-Y7

£7.00 due for milk.

Please send all monies on Monday 15 January in yellow money pouch!

ALL monies can be collated together.

Musical Pathways Y1 – Y7

Musical Pathways second payment is now due. Please send in £5 per child on Monday 15 January.

Y3- Y5 PIN

Our PIN (Parents in Numeracy) 6 week Paired Maths Project for years Y3, 4 & 5 ended before Christmas. Only children who have completed this full 6-week programme and written up their booklets will be eligible for the appropriate certificate but we are allowing those who got a little behind to finish the programme over the next week.

Test Week

Class tests commence week beginning Monday 15 January. Parents who wish to have an update on progress at this stage of the year should sign and return the request slip attached to this letter and parents will be informed of interviews which will take place week beginning 12 February. All Y7 as usual will be allocated a progress and transfer meeting with myself and this will be sent out to you without a request.

Home/School Link

Curriculum information for Jan/Feb will be sent home with your child week beginning 15 January. Contact school if you do not receive this.

Healthy Lunch Boxes

Thank you for your continued support in implementing the Healthy Munch Box Challenge within the school. We are fully aware of the time and effort you put into packing a healthy lunch box and this is crucial for your child's continued good health and ability to concentrate in school. We have noticed a positive change in the content of lunch boxes and the children's attitude to healthy eating and would like this to continue. Please continue to give your child healthy options in their lunch. Please do not put any more than one small sweet treat in your child's lunch box.

Ulster Scots dance and Chanter Club

Dance club will recommence this Wednesday 10 January and the Chanter class will recommence on Thursday 11 January.

Clothes Collection

Please continue to support us with unwanted clothes especially if doing a New Year Clear out. December's collection raised £68.00 These may be put directly into our recycle bin at the entrance to school. This can make a significant contribution to our fundraising over the year.

UNICEF

Our annual UNICEF non-uniform day will be held on Friday 2 February when children may give a voluntary donation, minimum £1.00. This year's focus is on helping the children in Syria, keeping them warm & safe from harm.

Christmas Play

We had a wonderful turn out for our Christmas play 'Home for Christmas' – A total of £650.00 was raised and will help to pay for our Musical Pathways to learning programme in school with parents only asked for one more payment this year. The annual cost is £1230.00.

Mobile Numbers

Please keep us updated of any change to mobile numbers as we need this for our Teacher to Parent texts. In case of closures & text not received please contact the following parents as I will be keeping them informed of any closures due to adverse weather conditions: -

Mrs Heather Campbell – 81647095 / 07834641754

Mrs Kerry Crawford - 81662894 / 07759409814

Mr & Mrs Thomas Hempton - 02881647869 Nicola - 07824661790 Thomas – 07792016959

The Board of Governors have agreed and sanctioned an Exceptional Closure Action Plan Policy which is available on request.

Mid-Term Break

School will be closed on Thursday 15 – Tuesday 20 February inclusive. Tuesday being a SDD (Staff Development day).

Y7 Transfer Pupils Open Days

Drumragh Integrated College- Saturday 6 January 9.45 am – 1.30pm

Castleberg High School - Wednesday 17 January 7.15 pm

Omagh Academy Grammar - Thursday 18 January 7.00 pm

Omagh High School - Wednesday 24 January 7.00 pm

New Admissions for September 2018

The closing date for admission to primary school for children whose 4th birthday falls on or before 1 July 2018 is Wednesday 10 January 2018 at 12 noon. If you know of any child in the community who this applies to please let us know or ask their parents to contact myself for an application form and other information regarding admission.

PTA Fund Raising -Smartie Tubes

As part of the PTA fund raising efforts we will be issuing the children with a box of Smarties next Monday 15 January and we would appreciate it if the children could collect 20p coins to fill these and return to school by the beginning of March.

Peace IV Shared Education

Y3-Y5 are commencing a Shared Education Programme with St. Patricks and St. Peters schools which will be fully funded. Mrs Allen will be planning the programme along with the staff from the other two schools. They will all be going to the Technology Centres Computer Suite in Omagh this Thursday to participate in Coding using the Scratch programme and participating in Ice breaker activities in the Owenkillew Centre next Tuesday which will include Sport and Art activities. (Y5 will participate in school after last swimming lesson) **Please sign the permission slip to give permission for them to participate in this programme & bring a packed lunch.**

More information on this programme will be available closer to the time.

School Facebook

School items of interest & messages are posted on our school Facebook page. Please indicate on the reply slip if you have access to this page - Gortin Primary School.

Paired Reading Programme

This programme for Y3 – Y5 will commence on Monday 5 February for 6 weeks with the weeks over mid-term 12-23 February counting as one week and finishing on Friday 23 March. Details later!

Easy fundraising

Many thanks to those who are shopping online using the easyfundraising app. Keep up the good work we have raised £42.34 in total so far. If you have not signed up, please do so and encourage others as it will all help towards our fundraising efforts without any effort at all!

Bullying Handbook

The above book has been given out today to those parents who placed an order.

Forward Planning

- Thursday 1 March – World Book Day.
- Monday 19 March – St Patrick's Day Closure
- Thursday 29 March – Friday 6 April inclusive – Easter Holidays

Yours sincerely

Iris Wallace

Principal

Peace IV CASE Shared Education Programme Y3-Y5

I give permission for my child/children
to participate fully in this programme and understand I will be given advanced notice of the
planned activities.

Signed PRINT

Parent Interview Request

I wish to request a progress meeting for my child/children
Week beginning 12 February.

Preferred Day – Monday 12 Feb () Tuesday 13 Feb () please tick. Time will be after 3.15 pm

Signed..... PRINT

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Facebook

I am able to access Gortin Primary School Facebook page & receive updated items of interest relating to
school

Yes () No ()

Signed:Parent PRINT:.....PARENT

Fortnightly Letters

I will be able to access school website for newsletter information..... Yes () No () please tick

Signed:.....Parent PRINT:.....PARENT

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