



# Gortin Primary School

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Principal: *Mrs J Wallace*

## September 2024 Newsletter

Dear Parent

Please find events for the month of September at a glance

### **Monday 2 September First day of new School Year**

Classes commence for all year groups at 9.15am. Year 1 day will end at 12.15 until Friday 6 September. Please make sure all uniform is clearly named.

### **Thursday 5 September Swimming Y6/Y7**

Swimming will commence for Y6/Y7 for 8 weeks commencing Thursday 5 September. Children will wear PE kit to school and bring a snack. (See separate information for costing).

### **Friday 6 September Musical Pathways**

These structured series of weekly music lessons will commence by Mrs Helen Cassidy who will also work with our school choir and will take place on a Friday 1.15 – 2.15pm. Parents pay **£5 each term for 2 terms** per child and PTA fund the last term.

### **Monday 9 September Y1 Day**

Y1 children stay for lunch and should be picked up by their parents at 1.30pm this week

### **Tuesday 10 September PTA Meeting 7- 8.30pm**

A PTA meeting will be held at 7 pm in school. All parents are warmly invited, and we would ask everyone to become involved in our efforts to plan for fundraising this year as Education cuts continue to take effect.

### **Wednesday 11 September Ulster Scots dance Y1-Y7 / After school sports Y4-Y7**

Ruth Clarke will continue to take Ulster Scots dance on a Wednesday for 10 weeks from 11<sup>th</sup> September until Wednesday 20 November from 1.15 – 2.45pm for half hour sessions for Y1-Y7. This is fully funded by the Ulster Scots Foundation.

Afterschool Fundamental skills for Y4-Y7 will commence for 8 weeks each Wednesday afterschool 3.05-4. pm covering racquet sports, football and volleyball partially funded by OFDC. Please sign permission slips to participate.

### **Monday 16 September Y1 Day & Relax Kids**

Y1 will stay until 2.05 this week and this will be their finishing time for the rest of the year. Relax Kids will commence this week for 6 weeks until Halloween. Children should come to school in PE kits on a Monday from this date. These series of lessons combine mindful relaxation with physical activity to support emotional health and wellbeing.

### **Tuesday 17 September La Fayette Photography**

La Fayette will attend school to take school photographs. Group, individual and family photographs will be taken and proofs with instructions will be sent home. Parents will be offered a choice of options (little/older brothers and sisters welcome 9am) but there will be no obligation to buy.

### **Friday 20 September SEAG – (Schools Entrance Assessment Group)**

Y7 children wishing to sit the above tests in November 16<sup>th</sup> /23<sup>rd</sup> for entry into Grammar school need to have applied by Friday 20 September using the SEAG website. Additional Classes in school will continue 2-3pm on a Thursday afternoon commencing Thursday 5 September.

## **Tuesday 24 September Parent Meeting & Curriculum Workshops**

An annual meeting will commence for all parents at 7pm for a general school meeting. Workshops in classroom will commence 7.30-8 pm for parents only with children in Mrs Hawkes's room, 8-8.30pm for Mrs Allen's room and 8.30 - 9pm for Mr Barbour's room. This will be an opportunity (requested in the parents Questionnaire) for you to find out more about what your children will be learning this school year and how you can best support your children's learning. This workshop will only be held every other year.

## **PE days**

Children should wear PE kits on a Wednesday and Thursday starting 3rd September, then on a Monday from 16 September, with the return of Relax kids for 6 weeks until Halloween. This is funded by PTA at present so will be subject to their approval for 6-week sessions termly.

## **Thanks**

Many thanks to Kerry Crawford, Nicola Hempton, Rodney Lucas and Karley Wauchope who came in over the summer to water our plants in the poly tunnel.

## **Forward Planning**

- Harvest Service..... Friday 11 October @1.15pm
- Christmas Nativity/Carol Service..... Tuesday 17 December @ 6.30pm

Yours sincerely

*Iris Wallace*

**Principal**