

***Welcome to***



***Waringstown Primary School's***

***Primary One  
Induction Afternoon***

# Welcome

from

## Mr G G Kennedy

(Principal)

# Meet the staff

This is our chance to introduce some key staff. Firstly, Mrs J Usher (Head of the Foundation Stage) and Mrs C Munce, the Primary One teachers.



**Mrs J Usher**



**Mrs C Munce**

# Meet the Classroom Assistants

Mrs J Jenkinson and Mrs J Morrissey are the full time assistants in the Primary One classes.



**Mrs J Jenkinson**



**Mrs J Morrissey**

# Northern Ireland Curriculum

This afternoon we hope to give you a brief outline of the Curriculum's key features.

You can find out more by visiting the NI Curriculum website at:

**[www.nicurriculum.org.uk](http://www.nicurriculum.org.uk)**

Or the school website on:

**[www.waringstownps.co.uk](http://www.waringstownps.co.uk)**

**[www.waringstownps.co.uk](http://www.waringstownps.co.uk)**

The school website is an excellent source of information for you as parents of Primary One children.

The Calendar section helps to keep you up to date along with the monthly News sheet from Mr Kennedy which is emailed.

In times of extreme weather it also informs you as to whether the school is open.



**[www.waringstownps.co.uk](http://www.waringstownps.co.uk)**

We have an Internet pamphlet in the information pack today.

The school site has extra protection so that only registered users can access specific information.

# The Primary 'Stages'

Your child's time at Primary School is divided into three Key Stages:

Foundation Stage (FS)

Primary 1 – 2

Ages 4 – 6

Key Stage One (KSI)

Primary 3 – 4

Ages 6 – 8

Key Stage Two (KSII)

Primary 5, 6 & 7

Ages 8 - 11



# The Foundation Stage

Children will go into the Foundation Stage when they start Primary School in September. This stage covers their first two years. Your children will experience well-planned and challenging **play** that builds upon their interests and curiosity. Teachers will encourage them to explore their feelings and emotions and how to work with others. These are basic **skills** that your child will need throughout their life!

# Skills

The vital and life-long skills of:  
**Talking and Listening, Reading,  
Writing and Using Mathematics**  
are, as always at the heart of the Foundation  
Stage. Your child will be taught these skills every  
day in an active and enjoyable way.



**Cross-Curricular Skills** such as  
**Using ICT and Thinking Skills**  
and **Personal Capabilities**  
pervade all work.

# Subjects

There are many familiar faces to the Curriculum, and the children still learn the key subjects, such as Maths and Science!

Subjects are grouped together into **Areas of Learning**, which are:

Mathematics & Numeracy

Language & Literacy

The World Around Us

The Arts

Personal Development & Mutual Understanding

Physical Development / Education

# Reading

A lot of time will be spent at the beginning of the year **preparing** your children for Reading.

- Do not expect your child to bring home an individual reading book for the first term.
- Children will be taught reading strategies: modelled and shared reading activities during the school day.
- Initially when your child receives a book it will be wordless.
- Only high frequency words will be taught.
- Your child will be encouraged to use other reading strategies.
- When they begin to receive reading books they will be from a variety of genre and schemes.

# Writing

- Children will write at different stages. Not all children will come to school in September 'ready' to write.
- Children need to be ready to make shapes and draw simple pictures before they can write. All our activities with Lego, Playdough, threading beads, cutting etc will strengthen little fingers and help prepare for them for writing.
- The teacher will introduce letter formation which will be taught in school.

# The School Day

**Our school day is divided as follows:**

**8.45 am**

**The school gate is opened**

**9.00 am**

**Classroom lessons begin**

**10.40 - 10.55 am**

**Break time and supervised outdoor play**

**10.55 – 12.35 pm**

**Classroom lessons continue**

**12.35 – 1.00 pm**

**Packed Lunch (In the Classrooms)**

**1.00 – 1.30 pm**

**Supervised outdoor play**

**1.30 – 2.00 pm**

**Afternoon lessons continue**

**2.00 pm**

**Children are escorted down the path**



# Break at 10.30 am

- The mid morning **Break** is a very important time in your child's day as it allows time for them to 'refresh' themselves by eating and socialising in the classroom and playing outdoors with their peers. Children who choose to take **School Milk** will drink it at this time or alternatively use their desk top water bottle which goes home daily to be washed.
- This is a snack, provided by the school at a small cost consisting of fruit and yoghurt which will vary throughout the Term.

# Lunch at 12.35 pm

- The **Lunch break** will consist of a packed lunch provided by the parent / guardian
- The Lunch box should be clearly labelled
- School promotes a **Healthy Lunch**
- Children will play outdoors for 30 mins before their return to class at 1.30 pm
- Children will be escorted down the path at 2 pm sharp ... (Be aware that staff teach KSII in the afternoon).



# A normal school day

**Your child is at the centre of our day to day work!**

**Play-based Learning incorporating:  
Language & Literacy (Communication)**

**Self-registration**

**Drama**

**Art**

**PE**

**Story time**

**PDMU**

**Music**

**Interactive work**

**Visits**

**ICT work**

**Mathematics & Numeracy (Using Mathematics)**



# Homework

Homework will be very **practical** in nature and should always be **completed by the child**.

**eg Bring in 4 small items from home.**

Encourage your child to count out and find these items for themselves. Your child will have a **Home Learning folder** that will be used to hold their Homework activities.

**eg sounds, high-frequency words etc.**

# PE

**Physical Education takes place on Tuesday and Friday for Primary One children.**

Children will wear their school regulation tracksuits on these days. They will be asked to change into **plimsolls** themselves so it is VERY important that the shoes they have are named and have **VELCRO**

fastenings. Please purchase the small school boot bags available in September.



**Please ensure all items of clothing are labelled.**

# Uniform

Full school  
Uniform



PE  
Uniform



Summer  
alternative



# Reporting



**There will be two verbal consultations and one written:**

**First verbal usually around Halloween in Term One,**

**Second verbal towards the end of Term 2 and**

**A detailed, end of year report written in June.**



# Requests from teacher



## **DO:**

- Leave as quickly as possible even if your child seems 'upset' as very often the child soon settles,
- Talk about school in a positive way,
- Send your child dressed appropriately,
- Arrive punctually,
- Send all money into school for trips etc enclosed in the school envelope system,
- Contact the class teacher if you're concerned regarding your child's progress,
- Understand that your child may not talk about their school day and its routines in much detail.

# Enjoyment!

Your child will be given lots of first hand experiences in Primary One:

**Visits** to the Green grocer's, Butcher's, Post Office, Santa's Grotto, Library, Streamvale Farm etc.

Special visits are arranged from the Emergency Services.

**Cooking** and tasting sessions in the classroom.

All devised by professional teachers to enhance the quality of the LEARNING and add to the ENJOYMENT!

# In Conclusion

We firmly believe that your child will have many happy memories of their first day in school and many happy memories of their time in Waringstown Primary School.

