

Waringstown Primary School

March NEWS



Dear parent / s

Term two has seen the return of some more normal school routines with school life becoming increasingly busy. I wish to stress the importance of being ever vigilant with regard to whether your child should be in school. If in doubt of a child's health at all, please keep them off school as we seek to safeguard the whole school community.

We have been so fortunate to have remained open to all 15 classes as many of you will know of other schools which have had to revert to online learning.

We will soon re-commence Key Stage Assemblies in the main school assembly hall. These will commence after Easter.

The Foundation Stage are eating in the Dining Hall at present and followed by P5, P6 & P7 dining within this room as well. Each Year Group will be socially distanced from the others. Only those children choosing a cooked meal will eat within the hall. Only one Key Stage will be present within the room at one time. I will look to P3 & P4 joining this new routine after a period of time. Initially, I'd like to assess how we manage the above routines.

Mrs H Craig

Adieu

We wish Mrs H Craig a very long and happy retirement with her husband and family. Mrs Craig has served the school for 8 years as a valued member of Mr M^cKee's Cleaning Team.

We shall miss her very much from the school community.



We hope to present your gift to Mrs Craig towards the end of March. Should you wish to contribute to the retirement gift you may do so via the Eduspot App.

You may adjust the amount you wish to donate in Eduspot.

Ukrainian Appeal

All of us cannot help but be affected by the plight of the Ukrainian people at this time. We believe it is important to 'do our bit' and to this end we wish to offer you some practical ways to help.

Colin Tinsley, a local youth worker, who appeared on local television this month is currently working in the refugee camps in Poland where many Ukrainians have fled. If you wish to make a monetary donation you may do so via the following link:

<https://gofund.me/64575ef1>

[Helping Ukrainians taking refuge in Poland, organized by Colin Tinsley](#)

My name is Colin Tinsley, founder of Hope for Youth Ministries. Colin Tinsley needs your support for Helping Ukrainians taking refuge in Poland ... gofund.me



Also, we intend this year on Red Nose Day (Friday 18 March) to accept donations to help towards the Ukraine Aid Appeal. If you wish to donate you may send money in a sealed envelope into school or donate via the Eduspot facility. All proceeds will go directly to this local charity supporting the Ukrainian refugees. **Thank you!**

You may adjust the amount you wish to donate in Eduspot.



World Book Day (25th Anniversary Year)

This year we were delighted to be able to reinstate our World Book Day Celebrations within school. Children of all ages from Nursery right through to P7 enjoyed dressing in character. Even some 'big children' were unrecognisable on the day! Primary 7 celebrated with 'You are a Reader' workshops and fun activities and challenges which kept everyone busy and provided ample opportunity for children to talk about their favourite books, authors and perhaps introduce their peers to new and more challenging reading material.

Thank you for your support on the day!



Road Traffic and our Crossing Patrol

We are so fortunate to have Mr McKittrick manning our school crossing patrol on the Main Street in addition to the lights. We have been made aware of some children crossing independently at the Dewarts / NISA traffic island. This is not advisable as that area has vehicles approaching at speed. Some school children were involved in a very serious 'near miss' at this junction. We will be stressing the need for all children to cross at Mr McKittrick's patrol as we re-start small Key Stage Assemblies. Please support us by stressing this point with your children. Thank YOU!

Upcoming School Closures

May I remind you of the forthcoming long Bank Holiday weekends:

Monday 02 May	...	May Bank Holiday
Thursday 05 May	...	School closed for the Local Elections
Wednesday 01 - Friday 03 June	...	HM Queen's Platinum Jubilee

It is also worth noting the last day of the year is Wednesday 29 June.



Jubilee Celebrations

As we look forward to HM Queen's Jubilee celebrations we plan to host several events within school. We aim to plant part of our woodland / forest school area with crocuses. Each class will have a designated zone in which to plant royal coloured crocuses and there'll be a 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee' within that area too.

On our Jubilee Day we will also be hosting a whole school Street Party within the grounds and there'll be plenty of fun and games as we look to celebrate this momentous landmark for our Queen and nation.

Our Jubilee Celebration day is provisionally planned for Tues 31 May.

Sports Day

It is hoped that we will be able to host a Sports Day this year. The outdoor event would be held on the MUGA with each Year Group having a designated zone. The event is likely to be held in late May. Further details to follow!



Seesaw



Seesaw continues to be a valued tool during pupil absence. This will also continue to be used by the teacher as a forum for posting pupil work, reminders and pupil success. The two-way communication and comment facility has now been switched off as staff are working normal school hours. I seek now to ensure my staff's mental health and well-being is being protected too.

After School Activities for P5 - P7

My teaching staff plan to re-introduce after school activities after the Easter Holiday. Most of these activities will take place outside. There will be a block of weeks offered to children with the option of staying after school to take part in these activities and sports. Further details to follow via Eduspot. **Activities would run 3.00 – 3.50pm.**

Northern Ireland Forest Schools

The children in Primary 4 are already out and about enjoying Forest School activities within our extensive school grounds. This initiative builds into our Primary 4 curriculum. Keep an eye on the school website to see what the Primary 4 children are getting up to. Thank you to Mr Gault and Miss McAnearney for their continued work with this valued programme.



Draft Holiday List

The draft 2022 – 23 Holiday List is attached to this news article.



P7 Cycling Proficiency



The Primary 7 children will very soon commence their Cycling Proficiency Scheme work with Mrs Erskine and Mrs Humphreys. You will notice an increased number of bicycles in the grounds and bicycle sheds. These bicycles are parked at your own risk!

Children in P4 – 7 may choose to cycle or scoot to school from April onwards. It is important that cycle helmets are worn and that school bags etc can be worn safely on a child's back whilst they ride to and from school.

School Fund

School Fund (for Term Three) is payable through the Eduspot system. School Fund enables the school to function on a day to day basis and covers incidental expenses. We have used the fund to purchase large outdoor / festival sinks which have enabled effective handwashing after play etc. **School Fund remains a voluntary contribution.**

Swimming

Swimming commences in third term for pupils in Primary 7.
The programme will run in the new Craigavon Lakes complex.



OPUS Digital Photography

You have already received an information leaflet seeking consent for class photographs to be taken.

Opus Digital Photography (Roy Clements) is offering photographs to:

P1, P3, P5 & P7

The idea is to offer the individual and family photograph every other year. However, if your child is in P2, P4 or P6 you can still use the form (sent home last week) to opt for a photograph to be taken. We know some parents like the option of an annual photograph!



P7 have already been photographed in casual clothes. However, you may wish for them to be included in a family photo too or a more formal photograph taken in traditional full school uniform.

Photos of WPS siblings will be taken throughout the day. It is regrettable that we are still not in a position to invite in pre-school children for a family group photo. However, if you have a child in our school Nursery and wish them to be photographed with an 'in school' sibling, this will be possible.

Photographs will take place on:

Friday 18 March

Parking

The Windsor Hill Pedestrian Gate

The gate will open at 8.45am and NOT before.

Please note that the Windsor Hill development does not have a drop off facility. Neither does it have a car park where you may stop, park and accompany your child into school or the Nursery Unit.

The Windsor Hill access gate is a PEDESTRIAN GATE ONLY.



The following is a useful reminder of the school's responsibilities:

Neither the Education Authority nor Waringstown Primary School have any responsibility for traffic management beyond the school boundary and are therefore unable to take measures to control how members of the public park their vehicles on the public highway. Officials in the Department for Infrastructure or Transport NI may be able to advise you further.

Thank you!

Thank you once again for your continued support throughout what still are exceptional times.

Yours sincerely



C M°Cambley
(Principal)

Child Protection Team

WPS Nursery Unit	Foundation Stage (Primary 1 & 2)	Key Stage One (Primary 3 & 4)	Key Stage Two (Primary 5 - 7)	Principal
Mrs C Emerson (Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection)	Mrs J Brown (Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection)	Mr M Gault (Designated Teacher for Child Protection)	Mr C M°Cambley	Mr C M°Cambley (Member of the Child Protection Team)

Child Protection Governors

Mr T M°Kay	Mrs H Wan
------------	-----------

Asthma Register ... Child's name _____ Class teacher: _____
My child has been diagnosed as suffering from asthma. I would like to add their name to the School's Asthma Register.
I will provide a spare inhaler for the school asap.



February's Attendance ... 93.7 %

Waringstown Primary School

SCHOOL CLOSURE/HOLIDAYS 2022 / 2023



AUTUMN TERM COMMENCES	Thursday 25 August 2022 and Friday 26 August 2022 School finishes at 12:45pm on these two days Staggered departures from 12.30pm.
BANK HOLIDAY	Monday 29 August 2022
	School resumes on Tuesday 30 August 2022 at 9:00am (Packed lunches required Tues 30 Aug and Wed 31 Aug)
PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS	25, 26 and 27 October 2022 (School closes for all pupils at 12:45pm) Staggered departures from 12.30pm.
	Friday 28 October 2022 (School closes for all pupils at 12:45pm for the Half Term) Staggered departures from 12.30pm.
HALF TERM	31 October - 4 November 2022 Inclusive School reopens Monday 07 November 2022
CHRISTMAS	School closes 12 noon on 21 December 2022 for the Christmas Holidays as below. Staggered departures from 11.45am. Wednesday 22 December to 03 January 2023 Inc
SPRING TERM COMMENCES	Wednesday 04 January 2023
PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS	07, 08, and 09 February 2023 (Tuesday - Thursday) (School closes for all pupils at 12:45pm) Staggered departures from 12.30pm.
	Friday 10 February 2023 (School closes for all pupils at 12:45pm for the Mid Term) Staggered departures from 12.30pm.
HALF TERM	Week Commencing 13 February 2023 (School re-opens Monday 20 February 2023)
ST PATRICK'S DAY & STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY	Friday 17 March 2023 Monday 20 March 2023
EASTER	Friday 31 March - School closes 12 noon - Two weeks for the Easter Holidays Monday 03 April - Friday 14 April 2023 inc. Staggered departures from 11.45am.
SUMMER TERM COMMENCES	Monday 17 April 2023
MAY DAY & STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY	Monday 01 May 2023 Tuesday 02 May 2023
STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY & SPRING BANK HOLIDAY	Friday 26 May 2023 Monday 29 May 2023
SCHOOL TERM ENDS	School closes 12 noon on Thursday 29 June 2023 Staggered departures from 11.45am.

June Report Consent for Primary One

Child's name: _____ Current Class Teacher: _____

- ✓ I wish my child's report to be sent home **each year** in the sealed bag.
- ✓ I do not wish my child's report to be sent home each year and instead choose to **collect** my child's report from the School Office **annually**.

Parental signature: _____