



## October NEWS

Oct 2023

Dear Parents

Once again, we were simply delighted to welcome parents into school for a blend of face to face and telephone interviews. As usual attendance was extremely high. We greatly appreciate the home / school links. We enjoy and wish to see the triangulate of child, home and school flourish even further.



### Coffee Morning

It was simply wonderful to see parents, grandparents and supporters mingling together in the School Assembly Hall on Friday 13 October. A huge thank you to the entire staff team for donating money to stage the event and to ensure we had sufficient food for the occasion. A special word of thanks to Mrs N McCracken and Mrs A Parker (Classroom Assistants) and to Mrs J Morrow (Principal's Secretary) for all of their preparatory work in planning the event. Thank you to ALL of the staff team for so willingly supporting this event and ensuring we were able to host a fitting Coffee Morning for such worthy causes: The Macmillan Cancer Charity and The Friends of The Cancer Centre, Belfast.

Our school motto of **W**orking, **P**laying & **S**ucceeding **TOGETHER** was evident throughout the occasion.



Well done to the P7 pupils who were randomly selected to assist at the event on Friday. Many attendees at the event commented on how well the children represented the school. It must be said they also enjoyed a bun or two or three! Thank you children!

**The wonderful total of £1650 was raised.**

The money was divided equally between the charities and as the staff donated money or baked to enable the event to be staged each charity has received the magnificent amount of £825.

## Action Cancer Bus

On Friday 20 October the whole school 'Wore a Touch of Pink' to raise funds to secure a visit from the Action Cancer Bus in Term Two. This bus will offer a limited number of mammogram appointments once on site.

Donations on the non-uniform day was £450.

Thank you for your continued support!



## Christmas Performance dates (Advance notice)

This year we plan to stage a P1 – P4 Production of 'Wriggly Nativity.' This is part of our cycle of Christmas events and will entail each child in P1 – P4 being involved. No small undertaking as that will include approx 260 children.

You will receive a specific email via Eduspot informing you when your child's performances will be. The main dates are as follows:

Monday 11 December	7.00pm
Tuesday 12 December	10.00am & 7.00pm
Wednesday 13 December	10.00am

## Bag2School

Waringstown Primary School & Nursery Unit are running a clothing collection in conjunction with Bag2School. This is a good opportunity to sort through your cupboards and wardrobes and donate any unwanted textiles to school. These can include adult and children's clothes, shoes (tied together please), hats, belts, bags and teddies. Donations of mobile phones, tablets and digital cameras can also be handed in separately.

Please NO Duvets, pillows, curtains, bedding, towels or end-of-life clothing.

It is very important that the clothes be of good quality for re-use in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe. Please try to fill as many bags as possible. Don't forget to ask grandparents, friends and neighbours to have a sort out as well!

Items should be brought to school and placed in / alongside the bags set out in the School Central Mall from Monday 20 November to Monday 27 November.

(Any donations of electronics should be brought directly to the School Office).

Many thanks indeed for helping us with this unique fundraising opportunity as the school Eco Council gain a cash amount / kg of clothing. This money is then allocated to the Eco Councillors who spend the money on eco initiatives throughout the year.

## School Harvest & Food Bank



The school was delighted to celebrate the Harvest Season in traditional style as Mrs Peacocke's Primary 5 class led the assembly.

The Craigavon Area Food bank was thrilled to receive so many items which were collected from the school last week.

We trust MANY families will be helped as a direct result of your continued generosity to this initiative. Thank you for your continued support and well done P5 Mrs Peacocke.



## Credit Union (Lurgan)

The Credit Union Savings Scheme is up and running once again. I always encourage this scheme even if you already have a savings account for your child / ren as it is a wonderful means of saving specifically for the landmark P7 London Residential. By setting aside some Birthday and Christmas money over the 7 years of primary school it is amazing how the grand total for the trip can be accumulated. Many of this year's P7 parents commented that they had opened the account in P1 specifically for this reason and were simply delighted that they had done so. Everyone knows the financial pressure placed on households at the present time.



We welcomed representatives from the Credit Union who presented the school with a cheque to the value of £300. This is because our school was the top saver in the area. The school received 10% of the overall amount saved. This money is going towards reading resources for the new school library.

## Shoe box Appeal

The Samaritan Purse shoe box appeal letters have gone home and we would commend this charitable donation to you. We have already talked about the shoe box in Morning Assembly. Children may have suggestions for the items which they would wish to pack in their gift box.

**Shoe boxes should be brought to school during the week 13 – 20 November.**

## Extra-curricular

It has been wonderful to see the extra-curricular activities resume this year. These clubs are offered on a voluntary basis by each member of my staff and I thank them on your behalf. Clubs resume on Monday 06 November.

NB Should an extra-curricular club be cancelled due to poor weather, the decision to cancel will be emailed by 2.00pm. It is your responsibility to check your emails shortly after 2.00pm to ensure that children are collected promptly at 3.00pm.

## School Uniform

Please clearly label every item of clothing. Lost property is displayed at each Friday Assembly.

## School Fund

School Fund remains set at £25 / Term / family or £15 /Term / individual child. Thank you for your overwhelming support of the school in what remains challenging financial times! This is paid through Eduspot similar to Snack / Dinner money.

School Fund remains a voluntary contribution.

## Absence from School

Please be advised that school has returned to normal operations. In the case of an absence this means:

- ✓ you should contact the school after 3 days of absence.
- ✓ Thereafter, the school may send home some Core work ie Numeracy & Literacy.

Seesaw was incredibly useful during the Covid-19 Pandemic. However, staff are now teaching classes of 30 plus and carrying out all normal duties with supervision along with offering extra-curricular clubs.

Please note it is simply impossible to telephone requesting to speak with a teacher during the school day. When P1 – P3 classes go home at 1.50pm the staff teach senior classes as part of their afternoon timetabling commitment.

## Absence Notes

Absence notes are available, when required, from the Resources tab of the school website. Simply click Resources, Downloads and Forms to access the absence sheet / note.

## Coats



As winter approaches it is vital that in a well-ventilated classroom, children have layers of clothing ie under armour / vest, polo shirts, school sweat top and most importantly a coat for outdoor Break and Lunch play times. We will endeavour to be outdoors as much as possible; weather permitting.

## Easy Fundraising

Currently the school has 140 supporters and we've raised the wonderful total of £2,015.79. We would encourage you all to visit:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/waringstownprimaryschool/> and join for free!

There are no hidden catches!



## 1.50pm Home time



The 1.50pm home time is always a cause for concern.

It is most helpful if **your child knows where you will be** for collection time. Try and stand in the same place. It is very stressful for children and staff if you are collecting children from various points or gates. In order to help safeguard the children, three Classroom Assistants will be on duty in pink, fluorescent waistcoats. Mrs A Parker will, as usual, be on duty at the Windsor Hill pedestrian gate. Mrs S Davidson will patrol the zebra crossing and Mrs N Parks will be on duty at the main school home path again in pink, fluorescent waistcoats. Please note that in line with Education Authority guidelines staff may not step over our gate to 'manage' collections.

It is important that children return to these Classroom Assistants should they be unable to find you at home time. You will also be able to spot the assistants easily and find your child. These measures are in place to safeguard the children.

## Nursery / Windsor Hill / Windsor Lodge School Gate

This gate will open at 8.45am and NOT before.

Please be aware that the above is purely a **pedestrian** gate. For the health and safety of our children and all concerned we respectfully request that you do not 'drop off' or collect children via this gate if you are using your car.

## Dogs in the School Grounds

Please note that dogs, however small, should **not** be in the school grounds as some children are unsettled by their presence. A local school did have a **serious incident** involving a dog and a child last year and we do not wish this to occur in Waringstown Primary School. A number of parents have sought clarification on this point. Thank you for your co-operation. **This is a Health & Safety Notice on behalf of the school.** We would also ask that you DO NOT allow children to pet or stroke your dog!

## Happy Half-term Break

I take this opportunity to wish everyone a very happy half-term holiday. I trust that the children return refreshed and ready for the exciting build up to Christmas.

Finally, be assured that the staff and I greatly value your continued support in all school matters.



C M<sup>c</sup>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 McCambley	Mr C M <sup>c</sup> Cambley (Member of the Child Protection Team)

### Child Protection Governors

Mr T M <sup>c</sup> Kay	Mrs H Wan
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[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.

**September's Attendance 96.9%**





## Useful Diary Dates Oct – Dec 2023

**30 Oct – 3 Nov** (inclusive) – Half term holidays

**11 Nov** – SEAG Test 1

**13 Nov** – P6 Viking Trip – Navan Centre, Armagh

**14 Nov** – Credit Union Collection

**15 Nov** – P5/P6 Dairy Council (in school)

**17 Nov** – Children in Need

**20 Nov** – Banbridge Speech Festival

**23 Nov** – P5 Trip to Ulster Museum

**25 Nov** – SEAG Test 2

**20-28 Nov** – Bag2School Collection

**1 Dec** – Nursery trip to Armagh Planetarium

**4 Dec** – NI Fire & Rescue Service to P5

**5 Dec** – Credit Union Collection

**11-13 Dec** – Wiggly Performances

**20 Dec** – School Closes at 12noon



**Credit Union**



**BBC**  
**Children**  
**in Need**



**Northern Ireland**  
**Fire & Rescue Service**

