



## **Information Letter for Academic Year 2022/2023**

**\*25<sup>th</sup> August 2022\***

Dear parent(s)/carers,

I hope everyone has had a lovely Summer and that the boys and girls are excited to be returning to school next week.

Please take a few minutes to carefully read this letter which will help make the return of pupils at the start of the 2022/2023 academic year as smooth as possible.

### **1.Key Dates**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August** - Staff Training days

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August** – Nursery and Year 1 Familiarisation Sessions in school.

Nursery and Year 1 children come to school with an adult to complete a walk through of their first day of school.

Children should not wear school uniform on this day.

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> August**- School closed for Bank Holiday

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August** - **Breakfast Club available 8.00-9.00am**

### **Nursery:**

Nursery children should have all received their start date and times in their Induction Pack in June.

Day 1 - children come to Nursery for one hour with parent.

Day 2 - children come to Nursery for 1 1/2 hours without parent.

Day 3 - children come to Nursery for full session without parent.

(If you are unsure of your starting date please contact Mrs Patterson [hpatterson448@c2kni.net](mailto:hpatterson448@c2kni.net))

### **Year 1**

Year 1 children commence the school year in two intake groups.

Group 1 - Start on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August (individual start times were communicated to parents in June)

Group 2 - Start on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September (individual start times were communicated to parents in June)

All Year 1 children stay until 2pm from the day they commence. (Please ensure children have a packed lunch)

### **Year 2-Year 7**

Pupils start on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August in school 9.00am-12.30pm

Children should bring a packed lunch so that they can enjoy a “picnic” with their friends before going home.

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> August**- Same arrangements as Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August.

## Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September

Years 1-3 children in school 9.00-2.00pm

Years 4-7 children in school 9.00-3.00pm

**Little Acorns After-Schools Years 1-3 2.00pm – 3.00pm – book via school website**

<https://www.omaghcounty.org/login/>

**Homework Club 3.00pm – 5.30pm. book via school website**

<https://www.omaghcounty.org/login/>

**Year 3 children will attend school 9.00am-3.00pm from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September, except on Fridays when they go home at 2.00pm**

**\* School dinners available for all pupils from today (01/09/22) onwards (See Website for Menu)**

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## **2. Arriving to School**

**Breakfast Club available from Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August 8.00-9.00pm**

**School gates (Campsie Rd and Crevenagh Rd) open at 8.45am to allow for flexible drop off**, where children will be greeted by Ms Funston and Mrs Dempsey – children should not be dropped off or left unsupervised outside the school gates before this time.

Upon arrival, pupils should walk directly to their class lines, where their teachers/classroom assistants will be present to greet the pupils as they arrive.

To encourage independence in our pupils, we would ask parents to ‘drop off’ their children at the school gates, so the children can come into school themselves (except Nursery and Year 1 pupils).

Year 2 parents can take their child to their class line for the first few days.

This will help their independence and will allow them to settle more quickly.

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## **3. Car Parking**

**\*Please avoid parking in front of the school along the ‘zig zag’ lines and please remember the front carpark is strictly for staff vehicles only\***

**\* Please keep the bus bay free \***

When dropping off children at the back gate please encourage children to use the pavement when they are being dropped off and picked up.

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## **4. School Uniform**

PE kits should be worn on PE days and standard uniform the rest of the week. Class teachers will inform parents and their children of their PE days next week.

Pre-Loved Uniform Items are available from the school Swap Shop if anyone still requires some items of uniform.

**\*Please ensure all items of uniform are labelled with your child's name\***

Pupils should ensure that they have all the items they need on a daily basis in their school bag and lunch box etc.

Year 1 and Year 2 pupils should bring a pair of wellies and their puddle suits in a 'labelled' bag.

If anyone has uniform from last year they would wish to donate to the Swap Shop please send it into school to Miss Lockington.

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## **5. Break and Lunch Routines**

Children should bring healthy breaks to school – fruit, vegetables, cheese, crackers (No crisps or chocolate or nut containing products)

Children should bring a water bottle to school with them to keep them hydrated during the day. **Please note water bottles should contain only water.** Juice may be packed in lunchboxes and consumed with lunch.

It is essential that coats are brought to school by pupils every day. Pupils will be brought outside during break time, irrespective of the weather. (Except in extreme circumstances).

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## **6. School Dinners**

School Dinners are available from **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September.**

**Nursery Lunch Club will begin on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September for all full-age children. 11.30-12.30. Mrs Patterson will be sending home details with Nursery parents next week.**

A copy of the dinner menu is available on the school website in next few days. School dinners are available to all pupils.

[https://storage.googleapis.com/siteassetsswd/86/docletter/20220629121317\\_10\\_Omagh\\_County\\_Ps\\_Menu\\_September\\_2022.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/siteassetsswd/86/docletter/20220629121317_10_Omagh_County_Ps_Menu_September_2022.pdf)

Please send the 'correct' money in a labelled envelope. This can be brought daily or weekly.

**If you think you might be entitled to Free School Meals, you need to apply (Annually) via the EA website. We would encourage all those who are eligible to please apply for this as soon as possible, as it takes several weeks to process.** <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants/apply-for-free-school-meals-uniform-grants>

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## **7. Allergies**

There are a number of children in school with allergies, several of whom can have a severe reaction if they come into contact with certain foods. Even the smell of certain foods can trigger an allergic reaction.

As an 'Allergy Awareness School' we would ask that no products containing nuts should be sent into school. **One of the most common items that contains 'nuts' is a well-known chocolate spread!!.**

## **NO NUTS OR PRODUCTS CONTAINING NUTS SHOULD BE BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL.**

**Parents of children who use Epi-pens should ensure two labelled epi-pens are brought into school.**

All staff have completed Epi-pen training this week.

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### **8. Inhalers**

Parents of children requiring inhalers should ensure their child has a labelled inhaler in school at all times. These will be kept in a container by the class teacher.

All staff have completed Asthma training this week.

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### **9. End of School Day School finishing times will be as follows.**

**Nursery** children – 11.30am and 3.00pm

**Year 1 and 2** children will finish at 2.00pm

**Year 3** children will finish at 2.00pm until Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September

**Year 3** children will finish at 3.00pm from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September, except on Fridays when they will finish at 2.00pm

**Year 4-7** children will finish at 3.00pm

School policy continues to be that any pupil in Nursery – Year 3 must be collected by a named adult (or an older sibling in Year 5-7). If there are any changes to 'normal' collection procedures, please contact the school office. If your older child is walking home, please ensure that your child's class teacher is aware of this. (It is also a good idea to contact the school to ensure that staff know which day your child is walking home. If staff are in any doubt, then we will keep your child in school and contact you.)

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### **10. Wrap Around Care**

Breakfast Club resumes Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August 8.00-9.00am

Year 1-3 Little Acorns After-School resumes Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2.00-5.30pm

Year 4-7 Little Acorns Homework Club/After School resumes Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September 3.00-5.30pm

**Children must be booked into Wrap Around Care in advance for school to manage staff supervision ratios.**

Bookings can be made via the school website –The booking code for new users will be sent via email.

**Please ensure all outstanding invoices from last year are paid in before 5<sup>th</sup> September.**

**Invoices are emailed on a MONTHLY basis. These must be paid immediately (within 3 working days)- NO EXCEPTIONS. Invoices can be paid in cash or through our online banking system.**

Children may not attend Wrap Around Care until all invoices have been paid in full.

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### 11. Returning items

Could all pupils please check their school bags from last year and return any school reading books and resources when they return to school.

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### 12. Sun Protection

With an increased emphasis on outdoor learning and in the hope that the lovely sunshine continues could you please ensure that all children have sun cream applied before school and if necessary send in sun cream in their bag with a sun hat if appropriate.

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### 13. Covid/Cold/Flu and 'General Bugs' Prevention

It is essential that all children are reminded of the significance of personal hygiene as they return to school, particularly around the importance of regular handwashing. Children will be requested by staff to wash their hands regularly throughout the school day.



Hand sanitiser will also be readily available throughout the school and the children will be encouraged to make use of it. The children will be instructed to follow good respiratory hygiene, following the principle of 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' and will be discouraged from touching their eyes, face, nose and mouth.



All pupils should bring a box of tissues to school at the start of term and give it to their class teacher to facilitate good hygiene throughout the year.

Individual Hand Sanitiser and Tissues You know your child's skin best and with this in mind, if necessary please send a bottle of soap/hand sanitiser (Labelled with your child's name) which will remain in school to be used by your child under supervision by their teacher.

If your child has a confirmed case of Covid-19, they should stay at home and follow the latest Public Health advice.

(Symptoms include: raised temperature, persistent cough, loss of taste and loss of smell).

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All arrangements will be kept under review and any changes will be communicated to you as and when appropriate and/or necessary. If you have any other queries or questions relating to the reopening of school at the start of the 2022/2023 academic year that have not been answered through the information provided, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Looking forward to welcoming everyone back next week.

Yours sincerely,

Jill Funston