



The school website is available at www.omaghcounty.org **February 2023**

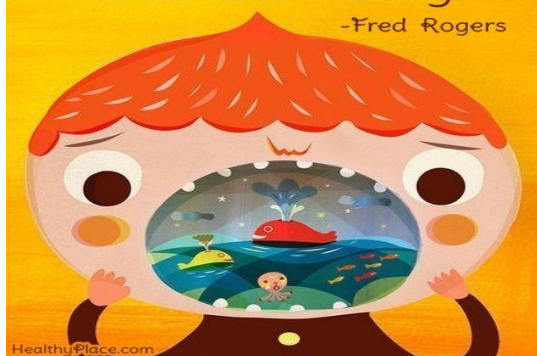
DIARY DATES

- 2 February-Yr 1 classes Shared Education Trip to Holy Family and Arvalee School
- 2 February-Ms Lockington's class on a Walking Tour of Omagh
- 3 February-School Council Meeting
- 3 February-NSPCC Number Day
- 3 February-Ms Bunce's Yr 1 class Shared Education Trip to Holy Family
- 4 February-Year 7 AQE results issued
- 6-10 February - Children's Mental Health Week and Autism NI Super Hero Week
- 6 February- Year 6 and 7—PSNI Workshop—Cyber Crime
- 7 February- Safer Internet Day
- 7 February- Ms Lockington's Class—Trip to Ulster American Folk Park
- 8&9 February- Holy Family Yr 1 visit OCPS as part of Shared Education
- 9 February- Rhyme Time 2.15pm
- 9 February- Girls and Boys Hockey Sixes
- 10 February- Year 1 Trip to Bob and Berts
- 10 February- Valentine's Fun Day
- 13-17 February- HALF TERM -School Closed**
- 21 February- Industrial Action School Closed 9.00am-12 noon**
- 21 February-Year 5 SU "Amazing Jesus" Programme
- 22 February-Year 4 Paired Reading Launch—7.00pm
- 28 February-Year 5 SU "Amazing Jesus" Programme

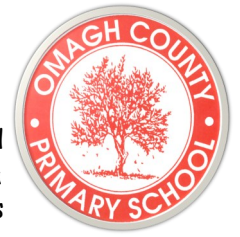
**P.A.T.H.S. THOUGHT
FOR FEBRUARY**



When we can talk
about our feelings,
they become
less overwhelming,
less upsetting,
and less scary.
-Fred Rogers



PATHS™ Believe in Children Bernadotti PATHS



YEAR 7 POST PRIMARY APPLICATIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

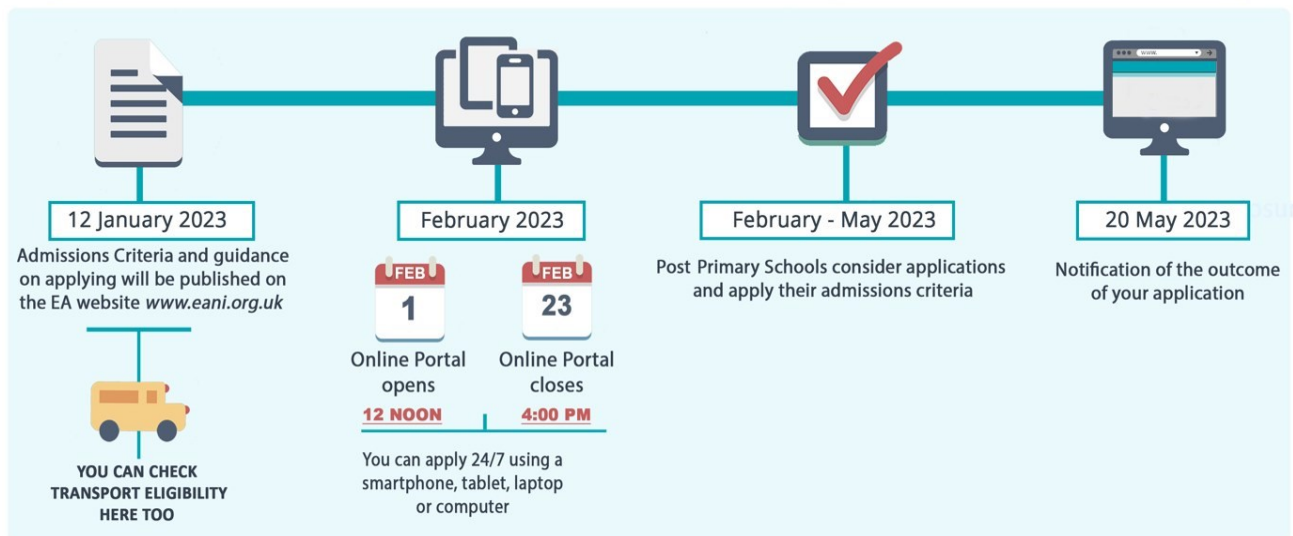
The results of the Common Entrance Assessment test for transferring pupils will be issued on **Saturday 4th February 2023**. Well done to all the boys and girls who sat the test. As a school we are proud of every one of you. Your dedication, determination and hard work was a credit to all of you and your families.

All parents have received an email outlining the application process. Online applications will open at 12 noon on 1 February and will close at 4.00pm on Thursday 23 February. If any family have any difficulties please contact the school.



KEY DATES FOR PARENTS : APPLYING FOR A POST PRIMARY SCHOOL PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

THE USUAL AGE GROUP OF PUPILS WHO TRANSFER TO POST PRIMARY SCHOOL WILL BE 11 YEARS OLD BY 1 JULY 2023
I.E. PUPILS WITH DATES OF BIRTH FROM 2 JULY 2011 TO 1 JULY 2012, INCLUSIVE.



YEAR 6 PARENTS—THE TRANSFER PROCESS

Over the last number of years the Department of Education has produced a document providing advice to parents of children in P6 on the post-primary transfer process. The purpose of this document is to ensure that parents receive timely information about the range of issues they need to take into account when making important decisions about the next stage in their child's education.

Previously, a hard copy would have been provided to parents in the January of their child's P6 year, however, this year the document will be available in electronic form only.

The document is available to download from the Department's website at the following link [The Transfer Process to Post Primary School - Advice for Parents of Children in Primary Six | Department of Education \(education-ni.gov.uk\)](https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/primary/primary-six/transfer-process-to-post-primary-school) **This information has been emailed to Yr 6 parents.**

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK.

Children's Mental Health Week takes place from 6-10 February. Next week each day will be dedicated to-



CONNECT
BE ACTIVE
TAKE NOTICE
KEEP LEARNING
GIVE



There will be **NO WRITTEN HOMEWORK** during this week, **but** we would like children to **limit all screen time and to replace the time with other activities**. Will we give it a go boys and girls?

FEBRUARY RHYME TIME

Omagh County Primary School

VALENTINE'S RHYME TIME

FREE class for babies and toddlers led by our Early Years team!

Thursday 9th February

2.15pm

Booking Essential

Email: bpollock293@c2kni.net

(Please include names of those attending)

Join us for our Valentine's Rhyme Time on Thursday 9th February. Book your place by emailing bpollock293@c2kni.net

KEEP FIT FOR ADULTS

Omagh County Primary School

KEEP FIT

With Aubrey Kerrigan For Adults

6 WEEK PROGRAMME

SUITABLE FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES

MONDAY 20TH FEBRUARY
6.30PM & 7.30PM
20TH & 27TH FEBRUARY
6TH, 13TH, 20TH & 27TH MARCH

Booking Essential

Aubrey: 07706977352

£20 for 6 weeks

Please specify preferred time slot when booking

After Half-Term, Keep Fit for Adults with Aubrey Kerrigan, resumes on a Monday night with a new block of classes. These classes are suitable for adults of all ages and abilities. Come along and bring a friend.

A tailored programme for children aged 18 months to 4 years

Fit For Fun

With Aubrey Kerrigan

£20 5 week programme commencing...

Tuesday 28th February

(9.30am - 10.30am) or (10.30am - 11.30am)

28th February
7th, 14th, 21st & 28th March

Adult participation required

- Opportunity to socialise
- Encourages body awareness and co-ordination
- Encourages turn-taking, sharing and co-operation
- Develops listening skills
- Aids language

Booking Essential

Email: bpollock293@c2kni.net

Please include child's name, age, contact number and preferred class

Discounted rate for siblings

A new 5 week programme of Fit for Fun is starting on Tuesday 28th February. A perfect opportunity for pre-Nursery children to develop their co-ordination, turn taking and co-operation skills. Also the perfect opportunity to meet up with other parents, grandparents etc

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

After-School Activities continue this term.

Monday-Rugby, Jumping Clay

Tuesday-Hockey

Wednesday -Football and Flute

Thursday-Core NI Craft and Movement

Ulster-Scots Drumming lessons will also continue on Tuesdays.

Number Day 2023

Omagh County are joining with many schools across the UK to raise money for the NSPCC on their Number Day on **Friday 3rd February.**

Along with challenges, practical maths, quizzes and games, children are invited to "Dress Up For Digits " Bring £1 and come to school wearing an item of clothing with a number on it. This could be your favourite sports top, a baseball cap or you might even want to get creative and design and make your very own unique outfit!



COST OF LIVING CRISIS

The cost of living is hitting all of society hard and as a school we are only too aware of the pressures this can put on everyone. As a school to support families we secured some funding from Kelloggs and FODC which we will use to -

- provide free breakfasts to any child who attends breakfast club during February.
- provide a healthy break one day a week during February.
- Select Kids will now also sell girls' red school shirts individually rather than in packs of two to reduce the cost of school uniforms.



SAFEGUARDING REMINDERS

In the interest of child protection and pupil health and safety, can we please remind parents and carers of the following-

- School doors automatically lock at 9.07am, children who are late for school can only gain access to school when admitted through the front door by a member of staff.
- Please ensure front and back pedestrian gates are closed at all times.
- Parents/carers should always enter the school via the front entrance and report to the school office.
- Parents should be accompanied by a member of staff if they are anywhere in school between 9.00am and 3.00pm.

We appreciate your understanding and thank you for your co-operation.

Our school is part of Operation Encompass which is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and police forces. If a child or young person has experienced domestic abuse this ensures the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day. A letter with more details will be emailed to all parents on Monday 6th February.

CONGRATULATIONS!!



Well done to all the Year 7 team, Leah Harkness, Payton Adams, Mark McCombe and George Dunn who took part in the Tyrone and Fermanagh Road Safety Quiz and came third place.

Also to all the Year 6 and 7 boys and girls who took part in the Credit Union Quiz, especially the Year 7 team, Jesse Brown, Maddy Stevenson, Ben Stewart and Angelina Ignatenkova who came first in the Credit Union Quiz.



INDUSTRIAL ACTION !!



You will be aware from the media of industrial action which has been announced by a number of Trade Unions. This will have an impact on schools in Northern Ireland on **Tuesday 21st February from 9.00am-12noon.**

It is the assumption that Omagh County PS and Nursery will be closed until noon on that day, as the vast majority of staff are members of the unions involved. **We would ask you to make arrangements for childcare for the morning of 21st February** and we will send further communication to you towards the end of next week to confirm that the industrial action is progressing.



ECO-CLUB NEWS

The Eco-Club are looking for some help to Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. They have three projects beginning this month.



Bottle Tops - wash and dry any plastic bottle tops and bring them into school to your class teacher. We will be swapping the tops for some outdoor benches, tables or seats for the playground and garden areas. This project is in conjunction with SchoolCycled.

Stamp Appeal - cut off any used stamps from envelopes and post them into the box outside the school office. The stamps will help raise money for the charity RNIB.



Big Battery Hunt - bring in any old, used batteries and give these to your class teacher. Thanks for all your help with these projects.



INTERNET SAFETY DAY

Want to talk about it?

Making space for conversations about life online



Safer Internet Day 2023 will take place on the 7th of February 2023, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Want to talk about it? Making

space for conversations about life online'.

In school we will be focusing on how children can safeguard themselves when online and how the internet can affect our health and well-being.

The internet plays a significant role in the lives of children and young people; becoming integral to their social development as they get older. Talking to young people about their life online and encouraging them to share their experiences with parents and carers, is a key part of helping to safeguard your family.

Whatever your level of knowledge or confidence, these five tips will help you start, manage and maintain an open conversation with your children about life online, and help you support them to use technology safely and positively.

FIVE TIPS FOR PARENTS ON HOW TO SAFEGUARD YOUR CHILDREN ONLINE

Be positive and open minded about the internet

It's important to recognise the exciting opportunities that going online can offer children and young people. Although your children may use the internet differently to you, their experiences are still significant.

If your child mentions something you haven't heard of, ask them to show you, or explain in more detail, or you may need to do your own research. Try to show that you are interested in all aspects of their online world.

Talk early and often

The most effective way to deal with any online issue is to **make conversations about the internet a part of your everyday routine.**

Talking openly about life online from an early age, can be a helpful bridge to sharing safety messages and addressing more difficult conversations at a later date; it also shows your child that you are someone who knows about the internet and can help them.

Create a safe space for conversations

Look for opportunities to talk together. Sometimes, talking face-to-face can feel difficult, so talking alongside each other when out for a walk, or travelling in the car for example, are options that might make it easier.

Remind them often that they can talk to you about anything, no matter how difficult, and that they will not be judged or blamed.

Your child might not be ready to talk about something straight away, so show them that you are there to listen whenever they are ready.

Keep it relevant

As they get older, your children will use technology differently from when they first went online. Their knowledge and understanding will grow too, as will the challenges they may face on the internet.

To get a sense of how much they know, ask open-ended questions to let your child lead the conversations you have.

Be proactive

Working together to create an agreement, outlining how the internet and technology will be used within the family, is a useful way to set clear expectations and boundaries for your children.

You might include time spent online; who your children can communicate with; appropriate apps and games; and why safety tools are helpful to block and report inappropriate content.



COCKTAILS, CANAPES AND CRAIC

The PTFA have organised a fantastic fun night for the friends and parents of Omagh County PS and Nursery. Their evening of Cocktails, Canapes and Craic promises to blow off the long month of January.

Get your tickets now and round up your friends for a night out. Tickets can be purchased from the school office or contact Mr Crozier or Miss Doherty.



Shine Hairdressing Omagh - Voucher

Bries Barista - Voucher

Copper Tap - Voucher

KT Aesthetics - Voucher

Kelly's Patch - Wine

Omagh High School - Tickets to Matilda

Pamper and Relax - 20% off Voucher

Blackfort Driving Range - Voucher

Vivo Derry Road - Voucher

The Sandwich Co. - Voucher

Ninth Avenue - Vouchers

OCPS Wrap Around Care - Voucher

Fit for Life 1 month gym and classes - voucher

Adrianna's Creations - Handmade dolls

Zara's Beauty Hut - Tropic Prize

Silverbirch Hotel - Afternoon tea for 2

Fire and Feed Pizza - £20 Voucher

Bejewelled at Soul, Strabane - Goodie Bag

Piece of Cake - Voucher

Polished Beauty - Voucher

THE 2023 MEGA RAFFLE

Raffle tickets for the biggest and best OCPS Raffle are on sale now. With over 60 amazing prizes to be won with values of £10-£300, don't miss out. Get your tickets now.

Tickets can be purchased at school. A list of prizes has been emailed to all families.

Tickets just £2 each or 3 for £5

OCPS PTFA FUNDRAISER RAFFLE PRIZE LIST 1

Lynne McCallum - Frock It - Voucher

Baked with Love by Vicky - Voucher

Lisdergan Butchers - Voucher

Eleven:11 - Voucher

Kerr Home Improvements - Hamper

Alchemist - Box of Suki tea

Terex - Merchandise

W/W Tyres - voucher

Danielle - LV Hair - Hair care pack

Heavenly Feet, body and mind with Jayne - voucher

**BUY YOUR
TICKETS**

W.C- 30.1.23
11.30am - Nursery foyer
2.00pm - School foyer
3.00pm - School foyer

Hannah McKeown Photography - £50 voucher

Pomegranate and Fig - Grazing board for 2

Meraki Beauty Beragh - Full Body Massage

Happy Dayz - 2 x £10 voucher

McBride Retail - £50 Voucher

Kennedy Bacon - Voucher

Streamvale Fun Farm - Family Pass

B's Bronze and Beauty salon - Tan set

Aladdins Kingdom - Voucher

Gobblefunk - Voucher

**PTFA
news**

POSITIVE AFFIRMATIONS FOR CHILDREN TO ENCOURAGE POSITIVE
MENTAL HEALTH

I AM BRAVE

I am important

I DESERVE HAPPINESS

Today is a fresh start

I forgive myself for my mistakes

I choose to think positive

IT'S OK TO MAKE MISTAKES

I am going to get through this

I am enough

I get better every single day

Today will be a good day

I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Being true to myself is what matters

It is OK not to know everything

I can be a leader

I can handle this