



*We care*

*We share*

*We learn*

**Week beginning Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2018**

Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parent &amp; Toddler Group– spread the word! 9.15-11am – everyone welcome!</li> <li>Swimming (Y6). £2 pw &amp; £1 (returnable) for lockers. Bring gear, goggles, bag.</li> <li>Y5 &amp; 7 PE (outside) in afternoon</li> <li>Y7 Literacy &amp; Numeracy Club 3-4pm</li> <li>Outdoor clean-up meeting &amp; walk around 6.30-7pm</li> <li>McNicholl School of Dancing, school hall 6pm</li> </ul> <p><b>AS:</b> Art &amp; Craft 3-4pm Miss Gribbin Y5 &amp; 6</p>
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School photographer. Babies/nursery children at home? family photos at 9.15am. All other family photos will be taken throughout the day.</li> </ul> <p><b>AS:</b> Junior Gymnastics 2-3pm Y2, Gymnastics 3-4pm Y3 (with Anna Devlin)</p>
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Violin lessons &amp; ear tests.</li> <li>Y1-2-3 PE with Eoin (Ulster GAA)</li> </ul> <p><b>AS:</b> Afterschools Club with CPS 3-4.30pm Mid Ulster / Speedwell Y5</p> <p><b>AS:</b> Lego Club 3-4pm Mrs Murphy Y4</p> <p><b>AS:</b> Cross County Running 3-4pm Mrs McElroy Y6 &amp; 7</p>
Thur 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y4 Fit for Life session 1. Bring PE uniform with track bottoms and a coat. £2.50 for bus</li> </ul> <p><b>AS:</b> Music (Tin Whistle) 3-4pm Miss McNicholl/Mrs Graffin Y4 &amp; 5</p> <p><b>AS:</b> ICT iPad club 3-4pm Mrs Scullion &amp; Miss Dillon Y6&amp;7</p>
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Staff Training – School closes at 1pm</li> <li>Flute/Clarinet lessons</li> </ul> <p><b>NO AS</b> Gaelic Football (starts next week)</p>
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Outdoor Clean Up 9-12.30pm</li> </ul>
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School closed: Staff development day</li> <li>NO Parent &amp; Toddler</li> </ul>
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y1 pupils attend all day (9am-2pm)</li> <li>Final day for Copper collection</li> </ul>

**Dates for your diary:**

W/B 8 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parent meetings – school closes at 1pm all week. A/schools 1-3pm £4, 1-4pm £5</li> </ul>
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Open Day/Community Event with mass at 10am, St Patrick's Church</li> </ul>
First Communion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sat 18<sup>th</sup> May 2018 at 11am, St. Patrick's Church Castledawson</li> </ul>

- **Parent Representative: Board of Governors.** See overleaf for an important update.
  - **Education city:** See overleaf for information. All Y2-7 classes will be assigned fortnightly homework.
  - **Afterschools activities** begin this week. **Music:** Children need to bring a tin whistle. **Gymnastics:** Children should bring shorts, tshirt and trainers in a labelled bag and will change before the activity. **Cross country & Gaelic Football:** Children should bring PE gear plus a half-zip and bottoms as the weather gets colder. They may also bring football boots when conditions are damp. Unlike PE sessions in school, children will not change at the end, ensuring they make the most of their afterschools time. It is therefore very important that they bring all items of uniform home and that they are labelled.
  - Thanks to Eamon Tennyson from the Water Service who visited Y4 & 6 last week for a very informative session all about water in the home and much more.
  - Clothes collection raised an amazing £328 which we will use to help with the annual cost of our website
- Many thanks for your support.

Every class will be assigned online homework by accessing Education City via the Puffin Academy App which should be downloaded.

Recent updates seem to cause problems for some of the activities that have a blue tablet icon beside them. If you are using one of these games you should login to Education City through Google/safari and you should be able to play them all.

Otherwise they can be played on PC or laptop.



If your child is unable to complete this at home, we hope by giving pupils 1-2 weeks to complete the tasks, it allows parents to make other arrangements. Speak directly to Mrs Graffin with any concerns or difficulties. Mrs Graffin will communicate directly with Education City about specific difficulties.

### **Parent Representative: Board of Governors**

Many thanks to everyone who showed an interest in standing for Parent Rep on our Board of Governors which is currently being reconstituted.

#### **The role of the Board of Governors**

The board of governors has an important strategic role to play in the management of the school. This is to help the school principal and staff provide the best possible education for all of the pupils.

Boards of Governors meet approximately once per term, although there may be a few other additional meetings as necessary throughout the year. However, the day-to-day running and related decisions are managed by the professional lead – i.e. the principal, assisted by the vice principal, senior school leaders and other staff.

#### **What does a parent representative do?**

Just as the teacher rep is expected to contribute to discussions and decisions at governor level considering things through the eyes and ears of a teacher, the parent rep is expected to contribute as any parent might.

The Board of Governors meetings are not somewhere that specific concerns of parents are discussed. If such concerns exist, they should be brought to the principal, as normal, using the recognised and appropriate channels of communication. It is very important for all parents to understand this role.

#### **Nominations for Parent Rep 2018-2022**

1. Mr John Doherty	2. Mr Kevin Fitzsimons	3. Mrs Ciara Shivers
--------------------	------------------------	----------------------

As there was more than one nomination, there will be a ballot on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> Sept. Parents can call any time from 8.45am until 4.30pm. Voting cards will be distributed by Mrs Graffin (clerk of elections) and a temporary voting booth in place in the side corridor outside the principal's office. Every parent is entitled to vote. Votes will be counted at 3pm Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Sept and parents are welcome to come along to this. The results of the ballot will be communicated at the earliest opportunity following the count.



### **New Row Big Outdoor Clean Up:**

#### **We need your help!**

**When? Sat 29<sup>th</sup> Sept from 9-12.30pm**

#### **What for?**

Painting, weeding, sweeping, washing equipment, planting and other odd jobs

#### **What is on our wish list?**

Paint (fence, metal, wood stain & blackboard) - Storage bunkers - Pots (non-breakable)  
Garden equipment suitable for children

Pallets, tyres, cable reels & logs. See Miss Gribbin for any more information

Planning meeting: **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> Sept at 6.30pm**

**How delighted the children will be to see the improvements when they return to school!**



#### *Celebrating the past – building the future*

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October. Mass at 10am followed by a reception and tour of the school.  
Please keep the day free and spread the word!

Many thanks to everyone who returned a slip with an idea for the name of our event or said they would join our choir. We hope to have 2 practices starting on Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Oct at 6.30pm.