



Weekly Update: Friday 4th September

Dear parent or carer

Once again this week we were reminded of the great home support we have in New Row. Parents and carers continue to help follow our new guidelines including at drop-offs and collections. We were also amazed at the generosity of families in sending in lots of extra school supplies. Thank you – that really helps.

Staff have been going above and beyond every day to make sure the school is extra safe and clean and that lessons are helping our learners get ‘back on track’. For this – and on behalf of you and your child - I am sincerely grateful.

Dates for your diary

Mon 7 th Sept	Y5 First Confession this week Canteen break & milk begin today						
Hometime	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7
	12.30pm	1.45pm	1.50pm	2.55pm* <i>Fri: 1.55pm</i>	2.55pm* <i>Fri: 1.55pm</i>	3pm* <i>Fri: 2pm</i>	3pm* <i>Fri: 2pm</i>
Thur 10 th Sept	Break: Treat Thursday! You can bring one small bar or pack of crisps as a treat						
Mon 14 th Sept	Breakfast Club returns! Opens 8.15am. Prebooking essential via ParentPay						
Sat 19 th Sept	First Communion for children of Y5. 11am in St Patrick’s Church.						

Breakfast Club is coming soon!

**Mon 14th September
8.15am**

**Must be pre-booked via Parentpay
£1 (includes cereal, toast and milk/juice)**

How can we make this work and still keep children in their bubbles?

- *This will operate differently than before.*
- *Children will not be able to move around the hall and will sit in their class bubble.*
- *They can read or draw.*
- *Some children may find this challenging but we know families are keen to have this facility to help with arrangements – and we want to help!*
- *Please consider these new restrictions – and discuss them with your child to ensure they also understand - when deciding whether to use this facility.*

Afterschool clubs will be reintroduced as soon as is practical.

Parental Consent Forms: Year 2-7

Are you a parent of a Year 2 – 7 child? Have you completed the Start of Year online consent form? You should have received a link by text. It is important to complete this before Mon 7th September. Y2 parents are in the lead at the minute for highest number of returns – well done!

Danger!

The chapel car park is very dangerous!

PLEASE DO NOT park along the foot path. If we are not careful an accident could happen. Parents should park on the right of the chapel gate to avoid the pedestrians crossing outside the chapel. Some children are cycling regularly to school – and this is a great active choice. Children must wear helmets and do not mount their bicycle until they are safely crossed at the end of the school lane.

Drop off, collection and Visitors

Thank you to all our parents/carers who have remembered that children are to be dropped off at entrances. Remember we are still the same warm and caring school - behind doors.

If parents have to visit for any reason, like all visitors we ask that you wear a face mask.

Year 1 children with siblings can now be dropped off in the morning at the same time as their family.

Home-School exchange of materials etc

Current guidelines expect that we find ways to REDUCE and LIMIT the exchange of materials between home and school. We know this exchange of materials can never be eliminated. Schools are doing their best to find different ways to reduce this. It only takes one pupil, parent, family member or carer to test positive to make us think about what is essential and help make sensible choices. We appreciate your understanding during current times. It is everyone's responsibility!

Homework: it's back!

Arrangements for W/b 7th Sept (4 week trial)

- All classes Y2-7 will receive spelling/phonics activities
- These should be completed over 4 nights (Mon – Thur).
- Children do not return these activities.
- Parents can review them – just like so many of you would have done regularly in the past.
- Class tests on Friday will review learning of spellings/sounds linked to the homework tasks.
- Additional numeracy activities will be introduced for Y6 & Y7 pupils
- Y1 will not receive homework yet
- School bags are still not in use.
- Book bags may be used for Y2 and Y3 and should be cleaned on arrival at home.
- Y4-7 can use a plastic folder for books etc
- Teachers will continue to use SEESAW to share school work (eg spelling lists). It is important to keep this form of communication active.

In 4 weeks' time we will review these arrangements, thinking about what can be returned from home and other homework activities (including numeracy and Education City).

Reintroducing Reading Material

We are working on 72 hour guidelines:
Reading materials will now be sent home. When returned, they will be quarantined for 72 hours before being used again.

How will this change things?

Y4-7

- Select book(s) on Monday for personal reading (AR books).
- Books returned on Thursday.
- Guided reading books will stay in school.
- There will be no reading homework on Thursday night, so read something from home or an online book.
- *Y4 are currently being introduced to Accelerated Reader – more info will follow*

Y2 & 3

- Guided reading books will travel between home and school in plastic pockets.
- Please wipe these (and the reading records) down every evening
- We will do the same in school.
- Access to online books will continue to be promoted as an alternative to 'real' books.

Children will be given a new book only when the return the one they have read.

Other arrangements

Lunch bags can be introduced from Monday 7th September. These must be completely wipe-able (not fabric) and easily cleaned each day at home. All uneaten food will be sent home so parents can monitor what their child is/isn't eating.

First Communion

We are very excited to be preparing in school for First Confession and Communion. Y5 will make their First Confession in school next week. Then, First Communion preparations will continue as we look forward to Saturday 19th September. More information was circulated to all parents via Seesaw.

COVID Reminders

Keep your child at home if they are unwell. Thank you for all parents who are already adhering to this.

Many thanks for your continued support and cooperation.



Mrs Deirdre Graffin

Principal

We care ~ We share ~ We learn