



STRAID PRIMARY SCHOOL



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7th September 2018

It's hard to believe the children have been back to school a week and the holidays have receded into the distant past.

The children have settled down into the routine of the school day and appear to be very happy. It is of course early days but the new staff members are settling in well.

Reminders: A Weekly News Sheet will be sent home on a regular basis each Friday. Please check your child's schoolbag for this note. The note will also be posted on the school website.

PEANUT ALLERGY

As we may have children with a peanut allergy I would ask that any food containing nuts is not brought into school.

We would politely ask parents **not to park on the far side of the road** from the school or in front of the school gate as this obscures the view for children crossing and constricts the flow of traffic on the road. The PSNI will be attending the school gate regularly to observe and ensure the environment is safe for the pupils. Children crossing the road will be crossed by a teacher on duty. They should not cross on their own. Parents must come to the school side of the road to pick their children up. Children will remain with their teacher until a parent or minder collects them. The ONLY exception to this is if a parent sends a note to say the child may go home alone.

If children are to be picked up by someone other than a parent, a note to this effect must be given to the class teacher. Children **MUST** be collected **PROMPTLY** as teachers have other classes to teach.

Children should not arrive in school before 8:40 as teachers are not available to supervise before this time and there would be Child Protection issues. The only exception to this is if a child is going to:

Breakfast Club. This runs from **8:00am until 8:45am and costs £2 per day**. The cost of Breakfast Club has not increased in 6 years and the increase reflects the increase in the overall running cost. Children are given cereal, toast and a drink. **Mrs McKinty will take this hour.**

After School's Club for P1 P2 P3 will run every day. It provides play - based activities and homework can be supervised during this time. The cost of After School Club has been reduced to **£2 per day**. Children will be given a drink and biscuit. This is supervised by Mrs Rainey.

Application Forms for FREE SCHOOL MEALS are available from the office Please apply for these if you feel that you are eligible.

School Meals The cost of a school dinner is **£2.60 per day or £13 per week**. It would greatly help if all tickets were purchased on a Monday morning as this would enable the secretary to deal with other things throughout the week. Only in an emergency may a ticket be purchased from the class teacher through the week.

NB.Vetting Forms and Car Insurance for Volunteers

We really need your help please!!

Throughout the year we need parents to assist with school outings, hockey and football matches. Parents need to complete a vetting form as early as possible in September. Forms can be obtained from the school office. If you are not vetted, we cannot call on your services when required and this may mean your child will miss out on some activities.

ANYONE WISHING TO HELP OUT WITH TRANSPORT ALSO NEEDS THE APPROPRIATE INSURANCE COVER ON THEIR POLICY - SO THIS NEEDS TO BE CHECKED.

A data sheet will be sent home today to collect essential information regarding pupils.

***Please ensure that we have up-to-date numbers.**

****Medicines**

Would parents please ensure that teachers are aware of any medication your child requires during school hours and that written permission is given to the teacher to administer these. Two members of staff are required to give and witness the administering of medicines. **NB Only essential medication will be administered.**

Use of photographs and data.

Please Note: Teachers use photographs of children on Facebook and The school's website – a form will be sent home for you to agree to your child's image being used or you have the option to say you do not want their image used.

Any data held by the school relating to yourself or your child will not be shared with another party without your permission.

Homework

Please ensure that your child has completed all written and learning homework for the next day. It is important that all homeworks are handed in on time so they need to be placed in the schoolbag the night before!!

P4 – P7 Recorder

Children need to have their own recorder for health and safety reasons. They must bring them to school at the appropriate times as music is an important part of the curriculum.

Football and Hockey

Pupils must wear gum shields and shin guards.

All pupils participating in these sports **should have their own gum shields** and shin guards.

*****A note to Past Pupils and parents of Past Pupils**

Could Past Pupils please check if they have any property belonging to the school (e.g. text books, library books, recorders et.)

***School Bus** I have had a meeting with the Transport Officer and expressed my annoyance that pupils last year, had to wait until 3:30pm some days for the bus to arrive. I have been assured that the bus will now be at the school before 3:10pm.

*To ensure the school run is efficient for everyone, parents should make sure they are there to pick their child up from the bus when it arrives at their drop off point.

Appeal for donations to help bring David Heron back from Switzerland for treatment. David is a past pupil of Straid Primary School and on 11th August he had a fall while in Switzerland and sustained major head and Brain injuries. He needs brought home as soon as possible as the language barrier is now impeding his progress.

The cost of an Air Ambulance is £24,000 and as he is a former pupil I am appealing to you to make a donation towards the cost.

If you feel you want to help, please place your contribution in an envelope, clearly marked, DAVID HERON and return it to the School office.

Thank you for reading this and I appreciate fully the demand and strains on you purses at this time but even a small amount will be appreciated.

“From little acorns mighty oak trees grow.”

F Mairs (Principal)