



St Patrick's RC Primary School, Dipton

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Headteacher: Mrs J Burgess

We follow in Christ's footsteps

Friday 1st July 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we approach the end of the academic year, school life gets busier! I advise you keep the diary of events close at hand as you do not want to miss out on any of the events taking place, such as class celebration assemblies, Leavers' Mass, transition events for pupils and 'Meet the New Teacher' sessions for parents/carers. I think it is a common misconception that things ease as we approach the summer holidays when actually it is the exact opposite!

That said, we are certainly not complaining. I think we all realise we are very fortunate, after the difficult period everyone has been through, to be able to enjoy these occasions together once more.

End of Year Pupil Reports 2022

This year, we are sending you a paper copy of your child's report on Monday 4th July. This will contain your child's attendance as well as a summary of learning on Monday 4th July. Year Six reports will follow as we need to wait for SATs results to be returned to school. Our provisional timescale for Year Six reports is Friday 8th July.

The report should give you all the information necessary to see how well your child has progressed. You will see areas of strength as well as any possible areas on which to concentrate in readiness for September. If there are aspects which require a bit of work, it would be great if you could spend a little time of the summer looking at these while still ensuring plenty time to rest and relax, of course. We all need that!

We would not normally offer face to face parent/teacher discussions as a matter of course, in the summer term, unless a parent had additional concerns. If, after reading the report, you would like to chat with your child's class teacher, you can contact school via our email: stpd@stpd.bwcet.com to arrange a mutually convenient time to discuss any specific issues. If you do require a follow-up call, we ask that you let us know by **Wednesday 6th July 4pm.**

Class organisation for the next academic year

As you know, next year, my role is changing as I become the executive head teacher here and at St. Joseph's, Stanley. To ensure business as usual and continued high expectations at St Patrick's, Mrs Gardner will move away from a full-time teaching commitment and she will become head of school in my absence. This will enable school to continue to run efficiently and effectively. We are very fortunate that Mrs Langley is able to replace her in Year Two as she knows the pupils very well. The plan for class organisation for September is as follows:

Member of staff	Year group
Mrs Bajrami	Reception
Mrs Evans	Year 1
Mrs Langley	Year 2
Mrs Bevan/Miss Clish	Year 3
Mrs Brotherston	Year 4
Mrs Oswald	Year 5
Miss Parry	Year 6

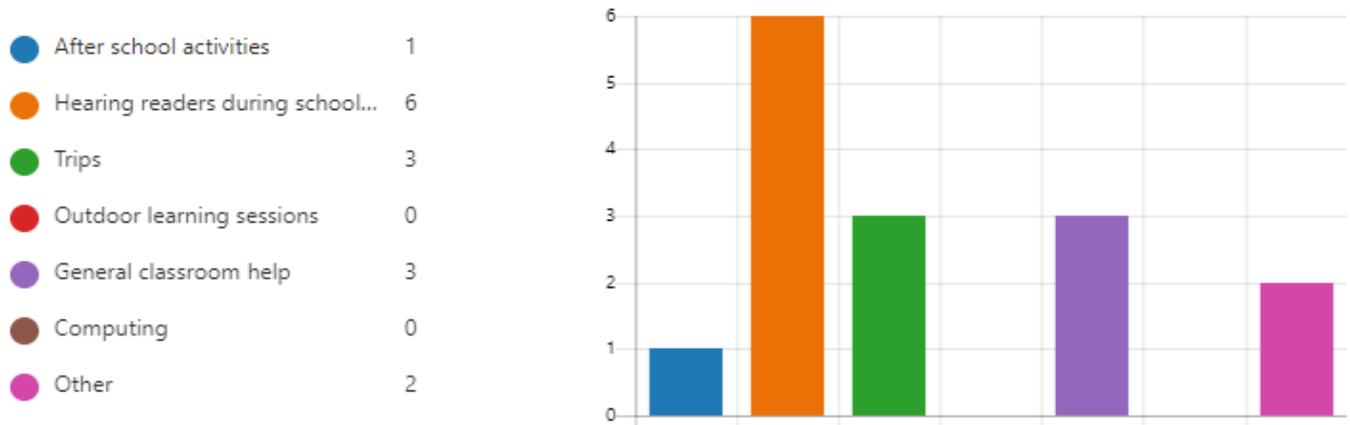
Our support staff, will be allocated according to pupil need across classes and we are looking at this in depth at the moment.

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Volunteers

We would love to put together a list of people who would be willing to help out in school. In our spring questionnaire, when asked if people were able to share their time in school we received the following responses.



If you expressed an interest, and you are still able, please contact the school office to let us know what activities interest you. As a volunteer we will need to conduct a range of safeguarding checks first which can take a little time. If we know you are keen, we can begin the process now in readiness for September. Any help at all would be very much appreciated.

School meals

Over the summer, our school meal provision will change as we move to catering provided by Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust. Our lovely kitchen staff, Mrs Miller and Miss Dwyer will remain in post. More information will be shared and added to our school website as it becomes available. Parents/Carers will be able to view the contents of each meal to see for themselves the quality on offer as well as check against any potential allergies. From September, pupils will no longer have to choose meals in advance. There will be arrangements in place to allow pupils to select on the day. There will be sufficient quantities to allow this to happen. School meal prices will rise to £2.40.

We strongly encourage every parent to opt for school meals, where possible, throughout school. This is especially the case for parents of Reception, Year One and Year Two pupils as meals are free as part of the government universal free school meals entitlement. In times of increased financial challenges, selecting a school meal is much kinder to your purse and your time (no preparation necessary). Moving forward, we are looking to move all our Reception, Year One and Year Two pupils to school lunch as we feel this would be the most beneficial option for pupils and families.

If you have any questions about school lunches, we are happy to talk these through. We are so confident of the quality of meals, we are happy to invite you to see for yourselves, if you are able to pop in and see us.

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Packed lunches

As mentioned in one of our newsletters this year, our pupil leadership team are working with classmates to look at the contents of packed lunch boxes. It is becoming very evident that there is an increase in snacks and foods which are high in refined sugars. If your child brings a packed lunch, we would expect that you refer to our current packed lunch policy (available on our school website) to make sure it contains healthy options. With a full afternoon of learning each day, our pupils require foods which will help sustain their energy and help them concentrate. I am well aware that children can use 'pester power' to great effect and it is difficult sometimes if your child tells you that another child may bring something which goes against our policy. We therefore ask for the support of every parent/carer so all children follow the same message. We will email the newest version of our packed lunch policy before the end of term.

School uniform

Please come and look at our uniform shop. We have a range of quality items, washed and waiting to be used – some are brand new. At the moment, we are putting a hold on any further contributions as we have quite a selection of stock already. Thank you to all who have already donated items.

I have also attached a uniform reminder list with this letter. I would like to draw your attention to our school bag policy which we introduced last year. The bags shown should be the only type used by pupils. We have extremely limited space and we want to help you make school purchases as reasonable as possible.

Summer term seems to be the season for a huge increase in lost property. I am sure you find the situation with lost jumpers, cardigans and shorts as frustrating as we do. A plea from us: please label all items of clothing. It saves a great deal of staff time and your irritation I am sure. If clothing is labelled it can be returned to its owner without any fuss. Please use permanent marker or ensure names are checked after every wash.

School governor role

We are looking for a foundation governor linked our parish or a neighbouring parish to support the strategic development of our school. I would be happy to meet with anyone who may be interested to hear more information about the role. Please contact the school office to make an appointment.

As ever, if you have any questions/concerns about any areas covered in this letter, or any other aspects of school life, please contact us via our school email or call the school office.

Thank you for your on-going support.

Kind regards

Mrs Burgess
Headteacher

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School uniform information

School uniform comprises:

School tie
White shirt (not polo shirt)
Grey/Black school trousers/skirt/pinafore
Bottle green V-neck pullover or cardigan
Plain white/grey socks - not trainer socks
Black shoes – not trainer style

If any pupil wishes to wear an optional 'summer uniform' (*beginning of summer term to end of first half of autumn term*) the following choices are available:

green gingham dress or grey shorts

If any pupil wishes to wear shorts as part of the 'summer uniform', it should be the grey shorts with the shirt and tie option (*pupils should not wear variations of gingham outfits ('jump suits'/gingham shorts with white polo shirt etc.)*)

P.E. uniform is compulsory

Games/P.E. Kit comprises:

Green shorts
Yellow t-shirt
Plain black tracksuit bottoms/jogging bottoms (jersey style fabric- no logos permitted)
Training shoes

Pupils are permitted to come to school dressed in P.E. uniform on class P.E. days. Please note for the actual P.E. lesson, pupils will be expected to wear shorts and t-shirt.

School jumpers, cardigans, book bags and P.E. tops bearing the school logo can be ordered online from My Clothing (see parents' section on the school website).

School ties can be purchased from school.

All items of clothing should be marked with the name of the pupil. Sew in/iron on labels are much more effective.

For pupils forgetting ties, a supply of spare ties is available for a one-day loan.

We expect that pupils bring the following recommended bags for easy storage and to stay in keeping with our school policy regarding uniform and equality.



Rec, Y1 and Y2 Bag



Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 Bag

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