



ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, CUSHENDALL
PARENT INFORMATION – JANUARY 2018

Open Enrolment 2018-2019: The closing date & time for Primary School & Nursery applications for September 2018 is tomorrow at 12 noon Wednesday 10th January. If you know anyone who has still to send in a form please tell them they can get an application form from the Primary School office.

Admission to Post Primary Education 2018-2019: All information regarding transferring to Post Primary Education in September 2018, including Open Night dates and times, is available online at www.eani.org.uk/admissions.

Pantomime Trip: Information letters and medication forms were sent home with every child yesterday in preparation for our trip to see 'Peter Pan' in the Opera House in Belfast this Thursday 11th January. It is very important that all forms are returned to school tomorrow, Wednesday 10th January, so that we can ensure the safety of everyone going on the trip.

'Walk To School' Days: The dates for this month are this Friday 12th & Friday 26th January and the usual arrangements apply. Well done and thank you to everyone who took part last term – we hope you will join in again and get the New Year off to a good start!

N.B. If the weather is very wet or if it is frosty/snowy & the pavements are slippery the walk will not take place.

School Uniform: Since last September 10 sweatshirts, a pair of boy's trousers and a black woollen hat have been left in our 'Lost Property Box'. If any of these belong to your child please collect them from the secretary's office this week. In order to help solve this problem, can everyone please make sure all uniform items are clearly marked with your child's name and class? Can we also remind everyone that the approved school uniform is:

Girl's Uniform

Maroon skirt/pinafore or
Checked school summer dress
White t-shirt
School sweatshirt

Plain white or maroon socks

Plain black or maroon tights

Plain black trousers (no leggings please)

N.B. - *Please do not buy grey skirts/pinafores or black socks for girls.*

Boy's Uniform

Plain dark grey/black trousers or

Dark grey/black school shorts (no sports shorts)

White t-shirt

School sweatshirt

Nail Varnish Children are not allowed to wear nail varnish in school.

Hair Styles Please remember "speed lines" or mohican cuts and dyed, tipped or excessively gelled hair should not be worn to school. This is common practice in very many schools and everyone is asked for their support in this matter.

Health & Safety: In the interests of everyone's safety can we please ask all adults and children to:-

- use the small gate when going to and from school and not to use the car park gate at any time;
- use the front door when going to and from school if there is snow or ice and not go across the main playground.

Parking At The School Gate: It is very important that everyone remembers not to park on the yellow lines outside the small gate at any time! The markings are there to help keep everyone safe and we really don't want anyone to have an accident.

Healthy Lunch Boxes: Just a little reminder that 'Healthy Lunch Box Day' is every Wednesday. It is great to see many children bringing fruit yoghurts, jelly, custard and fruit instead of chocolate snacks or crisps on Wednesdays. Can we ask everyone to please keep Wednesdays crisp and chocolate free and try to encourage your child to bring a piece of fruit or vegetable every Wednesday?

Water In School: All children are encouraged to drink water during the school day and drinking water is available in all classrooms. Many children already bring in their own bottle but there are a large number of children who do not. Please encourage your child to bring a water bottle to school every day. (P1&2 already have individual drinking cups in their classrooms so they do not need water bottles.)

Child Protection Policy: Should you wish to raise a concern about the welfare of any child at the school the procedures which should be followed are listed overleaf.

Closure Due To Bad Weather: Hopefully this will not happen but if it does everyone will be sent a text message from the school or information will be posted on the BBC NI News/School Closures website <http://www.bbc.co.uk/ninews>

Important Dates

Wednesday 9st May 2018

- Confirmation 4.00p.m. (P.7 pupils)

Saturday 12th May 2018 -

First Holy Communion 11.00a.m. (P4 pupils)

*Mrs Anne Smart
Principal*

HOW A PARENT CAN RAISE A CONCERN / MAKE A COMPLAINT

I have a concern about my / a child's safety

I can talk to the Class Teacher

**If I am still concerned, I can talk to the designated teacher for
Child Protection (Mrs C Magill)**

**If I am still concerned, I can talk to the Principal
(Mrs A Smart)**

**If I am still concerned, I can talk/write to the Chairman of the Board of
Governors**

At any time, I can talk to the

Social Services, Ballymoney:

Tel: 028 2766 1808

Ballymena Police Care Unit:

Tel: 101 (or in case of emergency 999)