



NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 2019

Dear Parents

NURSERY AND PRIMARY 1 ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

The digital admissions process for applications for places in Nursery and Primary 1 has now closed. Parents who have applied for places are reminded that ***birth certificates and **two proofs of address must be provided to the first preference school not later than 12.00noon on Friday 8 February 2019. In addition, parents who ticked the social disadvantage box for Nursery must download a ***benefit verification form, have it authorised and stamped by Social Security and provide it to school by 12.00noon on Friday 8 February.** Children will not be considered under this criterion unless a completed form has been received in school.

**birth certificates are not required for children who are currently in Nursery as we already hold a copy*

***proofs of address are required for children who do not have a sibling in either Dundela Infants' School (P1-3 classes) or Strandtown*

****if you are unable to download the benefit verification form please contact the school office and we will provide you with a form*

NUMERACY MORNING & CHARITY DONATION

Just prior to half term we will be holding a Numeracy morning on Friday 15 February. Children will be involved in fun numeracy activities during the morning. We are asking children to wear an item of clothing or an accessory with a number, shape or something else related to maths on it. In addition, we are asking for donations to Alder Hay Children's Hospital in Liverpool where one of our pupils had extensive surgery last year. The surgery was very successful and as a school we would like to show support for their ongoing work (suggested donation £1 minimum).

HALF TERM / SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAYS

School will finish on **Friday 15 February at 1.30pm**. School dinners and packed lunches will be taken prior to children finishing school. School will be closed on **Monday 18 & Tuesday 19 February** for Half Term. Please also remember that **Wednesday 20 February** is a School Development Day and children should not attend school.

INFORMATION EVENING FOR PARENTS

In conjunction with Belmont, Greenwood and Strandtown schools, parents from Dundela are invited to attend an evening in Belmont Primary School on Wednesday 27 February at 7.30pm to hear about how they can help build resilience in their children – Ready4Anything. Please see details on the attached letter. Places will be limited so if you are interested in attending please return the reply slip as soon as possible to the class teacher.

ABSENCE NOTES & PUNCTUALITY

Please remember that absence notes must be sent into school following any period of absence, even if you have telephoned to advise of the absence. The EWO will be visiting the school prior to half term to review attendance. I will be contacting parents of children for whom the level of absence is a cause for concern.

A number of children continue to arrive late for school. School starts at 8.55am and children arriving late are at a disadvantage as teaching has already started. This can be upsetting for the child and disruptive for the rest of the class.

PARENT INTERVIEWS

Parent Teacher Interviews will take place week commencing Monday 11 March 2019. Interview times will be sent out at the beginning of March. Parents of children who receive learning support will also be given the opportunity to meet with Miss McMaster to review progress.

School will finish at 1.00pm for all P1 – P3 children on Monday 11 – Friday 15 March. School dinners and packed lunches will be taken prior to the children leaving school.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT DAY

School will be closed on **Monday 18 March** for a School Development Day.

PTA NEWS

Please see all the details about PTA events on page 3 of this Newsletter.

PARKING

Parents and carers are reminded of the need to park carefully and respectfully in the mornings and afternoons around the school premises. There have been ongoing traffic difficulties at both the Dundela Avenue gate and the Wilgar Street gate due to parking on double yellow lines close to the gate. This makes it difficult for pedestrians accessing the footpath, especially those with prams.

Please remember cars are not to be brought into the school grounds for any reason. Parents are also reminded to keep children close to them when arriving at and leaving school to ensure their safety.

SENDING MONEY TO SCHOOL

As advised in previous newsletters, the administration for school dinners has been complicated by the fact that the Post Office no longer takes incomplete bags of coin. It would be appreciated if parents would try as much as possible to send notes and £1/50ps to reduce the amount of time being spent trying to swap out small change for the lodgements. It would also be appreciated if money was sent separately for school dinners, school fund, milk money and PTA events as sending it all in one sum is putting an additional burden on administration at a very busy time of year.

DONATIONS FROM LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS

Recently Dundela Football Club/H & W Welders made a presentation of £500 to the school which was a result of their recent fundraising. Cheques were presented to 7 organisations and schools in the local community. We are very grateful for their generosity and support for the school.

Yours faithfully

S H MACKEY
PRINCIPAL



DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 15 February

Numeracy Morning & Charity donations for Alder Hay Children's Hospital

Mon 18 – Wed 20 February

School Finishes 1.30pm (After dinners/ packed lunch)

Friday 8 March

Half Term Holiday & School Development Day

Mon 11 – Fri 15 March

PTA Quiz 8.00pm

Monday 18 March

Parent Interview Week - **School finishes 1.00pm**

School Development Day (School closed)

PTA NEWS

CAKE SALE

Please remember the Cake Sale on Friday 8 February from 1.30pm. Cake boxes have been sent home to those who returned a reply slip. Children may bring 20p to buy a treat for snack on Friday (top hat/crispie bun).

QUIZ NIGHT

The next event is a **PTA Quiz Night** on Friday 8 March at 8.00pm in H&W Staff Club in Dundela Avenue. Tickets will be available from Monday 11 February. Teams can be made up of up to 6 people. If you are able to make up a team with friends/relatives that will be great. If not, please still buy a ticket and come along as some teams will be made up on the evening. Please send the attached reply slip along with money to the class teachers. If anyone has suitable items or unwanted presents that could be used as ballot prizes on the evening please send them into school.

BELFAST CITY MARATHON – RELAY TEAM

Thank you to those who have volunteered to take part in a relay team at the Belfast City Marathon on Sunday 5 May 2019. We are hoping to be able to enter two teams but still need some more volunteers. Mrs Karalyn Browne is co-ordinating this event and any further volunteers are asked to send a note into the school office marked for her attention giving your contact details and these will be passed on to her.

SAVE THE DATE

Please remember our annual BBQ & Family Fun Night on Friday 7 June 2019.



DUNDELA INFANTS' SCHOOL

PTA QUIZ



Child's Name: Class:

I require tickets @ £5.00 each.

I enclose £

SIGNED: Parent/Guardian