

The Friday Note

22 June 2018



Non-Uniform Days

Please note that Thursday 28 June and Friday 29 June will be non-uniform days.

End of Term

Term will end on Friday 29 June at 12.00 noon. The Corby Drive gate will be open to ease traffic congestion.

Our new term will commence on Tuesday 28 August. Please note that on both that day and also on Wednesday 29 August all Primary 2 – Primary 7 children will go home at 12.00 noon. Our new Primary 1 pupils have been advised separately of their arrangements.

Farewell to Teaching Staff

This year we say “farewell” to Mr Gleave. He has given much to our school and we wish him well for the future.

We pass our congratulations and best wishes to Miss Elliott (P2) who moves to Ballinderry Primary School, and to Mrs Burns (P2) who will take up post in Moira Nursery School. We very much value their contribution to the life of our school.

After 27 years’ teaching in Pond Park Primary School, Mrs McDowell has chosen to retire. Her contribution to the life of Pond Park has been invaluable – as an outstanding teacher, hockey coach, mentor, and friend.

Staff Appointments

Following recent interviews Mrs Jones has been appointed to teach in Primary 2 for the academic year.

In the new term we will welcome Mrs Emily Coulter as Mrs Gibson’s job-share partner in Primary 2. Miss Kerri McDonald has also been appointed to teach in Primary 4. We look forward to having them join us in the new academic year.

Medication

Children who have emergency medication held in school will be given their box on the last day of term to take home for update and replenishment unless parents advise the class teacher in advance that they would prefer to receive the box in person at the end of school on that day.

Team Kits

We are aware that there are a number of children who still have school sports kits at home. Please check if there is one in your home and return it to school as soon as possible.

If your child is leaving Pond Park this year and has a school tracksuit for which you no longer have any use, we would very much appreciate it if you would consider donating it to school to be used by our sports’ teams.

Lost Property

There is a huge amount of unclaimed uniform currently in Lost Property. If you think that there may be items belonging to your child, please take the opportunity to come in to check in the area under the staircase at drop-off or collection times. At the end of term any unclaimed items will either be passed to PTA for their uniform sales or put into the Cash for Clobber bin.

In school we are encouraging the children to take greater care of their belongings and would be grateful if you would reinforce this message. Please remember to name all clothing.

Primary Seven

Primary 7 pupils will attend a Leavers' Assembly on the morning of Tuesday 26 June and will leave school at 12.00 noon on that day. A Farewell Evening has been arranged specifically for our Primary 7 pupils and their parents that evening, commencing at **6.30 pm**.

We will miss our Primary 7 pupils as they move on to their new schools. I would like to thank each one of the children for the contribution which they have made to our school throughout their time with us. We wish them well and trust that their lives have been enriched as a result of their years in Pond Park Primary School.

School Dinners

We will soon be distributing information regarding a new system for ordering school dinners in the new academic year. Please read the documentation carefully and further details will be forwarded towards the end of August.

PTA Friday Fun Day

I would like to thank everyone who helped in any way towards the success of our PTA Fun Day. The ballot and Fun Day were very successful and, together with refreshment sales on Sports' Days, a total of £1,226.53 was raised.

A special word of thanks must go to the many members of PTA who put a great deal of effort into securing prizes for the ballot and organising the various events.

I would like to thank our PTA Committee for their commitment and on-going dedication to very successful fund-raising.

and finally ...

As yet another academic year is almost complete I would like to thank you for your support and co-operation.

I am very grateful to all those who have assisted us in so many ways. The interest which you have shown towards school and your children's education has been invaluable.

I would also like to record my thanks to all of my staff for their dedication and support throughout the year. I feel privileged to lead such a committed team.

I hope that you will all have a safe and enjoyable summer.