

The Friday Note

21 June 2019



School Reports

Pupils will have received their end of year reports today.

Non-Uniform Days

Please note that Thursday 27 June and Friday 28 June will be non-uniform days.

After-School Clubs

After-School Clubs have now finished. Bible Club will run 24 – 27 June.

End of Term

Term will end on Friday 28 June at 12.00 noon. The Corby Drive gate will be open to ease traffic congestion and children should be collected from the playground.

Our new term will commence on Tuesday 27 August. **Please note that on both Tuesday 27 August and also on Wednesday 28 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.

Dinners: Thursday 29 August and Friday 30 August

As we have been advised that our canteen staff are not permitted by EA to provide meals before the beginning of September **PLEASE NOTE THAT IT WILL THEREFORE BE NECESSARY FOR ALL CHILDREN TO BRING A PACKED LUNCH TO SCHOOL ON THURSDAY 29 AUGUST AND FRIDAY 30 AUGUST.**

I am delighted to let you know that our Canteen has once again been awarded a 5 Star rating. Our congratulations to Mrs Crossthwaite and her team for the wonderful service which they provide.

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.

School PE Kit/Games Kit

P1/P2: Black gym shoes

P3: Black gym shoes, white T-shirt, black/navy shorts or tracksuit bottoms in winter

P4-P7: Trainers, white T-Shirt, black/navy shorts or tracksuit bottoms in winter

McCalls supply a school tracksuit and sky blue T-shirt. These items are excellent quality and look very smart ***but they are not essential PE kit.***

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.

School Uniform

If anyone has uniform which they would be happy to donate to the PTA for resale, please leave it beside the Book Table by Wednesday of next week. These items will then be on sale on Thursday and Friday next week beside the Book Table with an honesty box alongside. Please ensure that any items donated are in good condition and have been washed.

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 items.

Primary Seven

Primary 7 pupils will attend a Leavers' Assembly on the morning of Tuesday 25 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.

Dinner Payments

Text messages have been sent to parents who are in arrears with dinner money. As we are required to forward this money to the Education Authority please ensure that you arrange payment promptly. Those requiring dinners next week should pay in advance before 12.00 midnight on Sunday so that end of year figures can be finalised.

Sports' Days

Thank you for your support on our Sports' Days and your understanding given the weather conditions during that week. We are once again grateful for medals which were kindly provided and sponsored by Spar.

PTA

I would like to thank the many members of PTA who put a great deal of time and effort into organising the various events for the Fun Day, serving refreshments at Sports' Days and securing prizes for the ballot which will be drawn on Monday.

A special thank you to the members of our PTA Committee for their commitment and on-going dedication to very successful fund-raising.

Libraries NI 'Big Summer Read 2019'

The Education Authority supports Libraries NI 'Big Summer Read 2019' – a reading programme which takes place from 1 July until 31 August in all 96 libraries and 16 mobile libraries throughout Northern Ireland. This annual reading initiative is a free programme offering fun and interactive ways to keep children and teens reading during the summer holidays. It is a great way to address the 'Summer Slide', a decline in children's reading skills and comprehension that occurs if they are not engaged with reading or activities over the summer months. This year's theme is 'Slide into Summer Reading' and as well as encouraging children to read as many books as possible, there will be a programme of exciting events and free activities. If you would like more information about this initiative go to www.librariesni.org.uk.

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.