



January 2024

Tuesday 9th January	Pre-School/Nursery & Year 1 Application process commences through EA Website
Thursday 11th January	Service of Light Year 7 Confirmation Class 7pm
Tuesday 16th January	Drumragh College Open Evening 6pm
Wednesday 17th January	Winter In the Courtyard 1.30 – 2.30pm
Thursday 18th January	Industrial Action – School closed to pupils
Friday 26th January	Nursery/Pre-School & Year 1 Admissions close @ 12 NOON
Saturday 27th January	SEAG Assessment Results issued to Year 7 pupils

Welcome Back!

A warm welcome back to everyone for Term 2 of the 2023/24 academic year. We hope that you all enjoyed a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break.

Admissions – Nursery and Year 1 September 2024

If you have a child who is due to begin Nursery/Pre-School or Year 1 in September 2024, the online admissions portal opens on 9th January and will remain open until 26th January at 12 noon.

Applications can be made using the following link...

<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>

For guidance on how to complete an application, visit the EA website using the link below...

<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions/admissions-videos-and-guidance>

If you have any queries about the Admissions process, please contact the school office.

If you know of any prospective parents who may be considering our school for their child, please encourage them to get in touch via the school website, visit our Facebook page or by phoning the office. We will be delighted to answer any questions or arrange a visit to the school for the following events....

Winter in the Courtyard

Come and join us for a fun afternoon at our wonderful Stay and Play session.....

Wednesday 17th January 2024 from 1.30pm-2.30pm.

Parents and children welcome.

Booking is essential for this event via the school website or link below.

<https://forms.office.com/e/wkWH2rCPCS>

Discovery Tours @OIPS

Wednesday 17th January 2024 between 3-5pm.

Come and visit the school for a tour of our facilities and meet the staff.

Booking essential via calling the school office to arrange a time.

 02882 242008.

Parents' Council

The Parents' Council are always on the lookout for new members. If you would like to be involved in this vital element of our school community, why not come along to the next meeting? This will take place on Tuesday 23rd January @ 7pm in the Staff Room.

Parents' Council Christmas Draw

Thank you for the wonderful way in which you, our parents, supported the Christmas Draw. The draw took place in school on the last Friday of the term. In total the draw raised an amazing £1758!! These funds, as always, will be reinvested in the pupils in a variety of ways. Thank you so much to those who supported and of course to our Parents' Council for their continued support and hard work!

Breakfast Club

A reminder that Breakfast Club is available for pupils every morning from **8.00am until 8.30am**. Our staff are on hand to provide a wide selection of delicious and nutritious breakfast goodies at a very reasonable price of £1.20 per day, all served with a warm smile! Perfect for those children who are getting dropped off early and an ideal way to start the day at school.

Breakfast Club can also be booked using the school money app.

Dropping off at Breakfast Club? PLEASE PARK IN THE MAIN CAR PARK AND AVOID USING THE STAFF CAR PARK.

Sacramental Preparation

Several Year 4 and Year 7 pupils will receive a sacrament in the coming months. These pupils are working hard to prepare for their First Penance, First Holy Communion or Confirmation.



Dates are as follows...

Penance: tbc

First Holy Communion: Sunday 12th May 2024, 12.00pm, Christ the King Church.

Confirmation: Saturday 9th March 2024, 11am, Christ the King Church.

Well done to our Year 4 pupils (and their parents) who are involved in the Do This in Memory Programme as part of their sacramental preparations.

The next Mass is on Sunday 21st January @12.00 in Christ the King.

Service of Light – Confirmation – Thursday 11th January 2024

Pupils who are being confirmed this year must register with Cappagh Parish. This registration takes place at an Enrolment Evening on Thursday 11th January at 7pm in Christ the King Church, Strathroy. The Service of Light for those receiving the Sacrament will also be celebrated at this time.

All pupils being confirmed must attend this event along with parents and sponsor.

A letter and registration form were sent home on Friday. The form is **NOT** to be returned to the school. It should be brought to Christ the King Church on Thursday evening.



Disabled Parking

The parking spaces nearest the school building are designated as Disabled Parking. **We would kindly ask please that these are not used by anyone other than those who are entitled to use these spaces and that spaces are not blocked by parking in front of them.**

EMERGENCY CLOSURES

We are now entering that period in the year when snow can become a factor in school. Should any adverse weather (such as heavy snowfall) impact upon the school then a decision to open or close will be made by considering these factors...

Can pupils and staff access the school building safely?

Can pupils and staff be evacuated in an emergency?

In an emergency, could the Emergency Services access the school?

Is the area designated for disembarkation from transport safe for pupils?

Are there enough members of staff able to make it to work for a suitable pupil: teacher ratio?

Should a closure be necessary, parents will be informed via our school app and Facebook page.



Attendance & Punctuality

Parents – please remember that the single greatest barrier to learning for pupils is poor attendance.

Likewise, many of our pupils are arriving late for school. Getting to school on time is not the responsibility of our pupils – it is the responsibility of parents.

We recognise that children can be ill, and it is a balancing act between being well enough for school and remaining off.

As we enter a new year, we appeal once again to parents to ensure that pupils arrive at school on time and that pupils are present, **unless they are unwell.**



Contact Details

If you have recently moved house, or changed your mobile phone number, please let Mrs McElduff in the office know, so that details can be updated. This is particularly important in situations where we need to contact parents urgently.

Drumragh Integrated College

Our Year 7 pupils will enjoy a visit this week from Principal of Drumragh College, Mrs Kirk and Year 8 Head, Mrs Maxwell.



A reminder that.... Drumragh College host their Open Evening on Tuesday 16th January (Principal's Address @ 6.30pm).

Industrial Action – STRIKE – Thursday 18th January 2024

A reminder of the upcoming, proposed Strike Action which will result in school being closed to pupils for the day.

Further updates will be issued through our Parent App in due course.

After School Activities – Term 2

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
1.45-2.45pm (Year 1 and Year 2)	Core Kids Mon, 15 Jan '24 Mon, 22 Jan '24 Mon, 29 Jan '24 Mon, 5 Feb '24 Mon, 19 Feb	Pro-Football Tue, 16 Jan '24 Tue, 23 Jan '24 Tue, 30 Jan '24 Tue, 6 Feb '24	Hip-Hop January 17, 2024 January 24, 2024 January 31, 2024 February 7, 2024,	Gymnastics Thursday 18th January Thursday 25th January Thursday 1st February Thursday 8th February Thursday 22nd February Thursday 29th February Thursday 7th March Thursday 14th March Thursday 21st March Thursday 11th April
2.45-3.45pm (Year 3-Year 7)	Core Kids Mon, 15 Jan '24 Mon, 22 Jan '24 Mon, 29 Jan '24 Mon, 5 Feb '24 Mon, 19 Feb Gaelic Games Mon, 15 Jan '24 Mon, 22 Jan '24 Mon, 29 Jan '24 Mon, 5 Feb '24	Pro-Football Tue, 16 Jan '24 Tue, 23 Jan '24 Tue, 30 Jan '24 Tue, 6 Feb '24 Netball Tue, 16 Jan '24 Tue, 23 Jan '24 Tue, 30 Jan '24 Tue, 6 Feb '24 Chess Club Tue, 16 Jan '24 Tue, 23 Jan '24 Tue, 30 Jan '24 Tue, 6 Feb '24	Hip-Hop January 17, 2024 January 24, 2024 January 31, 2024 February 7, 2024 Art Club January 17, 2024 January 24, 2024 January 31, 2024 February 7, 2024 Athletics January 17, 2024 January 24, 2024 January 31, 2024 February 7, 2024	Gymnastics Thursday 18th January Thursday 25th January Thursday 1st February Thursday 8th February Thursday 22nd February Thursday 29th February Thursday 7th March Thursday 14th March Thursday 21st March Thursday 11th April Irish Dancing January 18, 2024 January 25, 2024 February 01, 2024 February 08, 2024

Activities commence on Monday 15th January 2024.

Activities can be booked through the following link:

<https://www.omaghintegratedps.com/pupil-area/after-schools/>

SAFER INTERNET DAY

As part of Safer Internet Day in February our Key Stage 2 pupils will take part in a workshop delivered by REIM on Tuesday 20th February.

The Fundamentals Workshop includes age-appropriate content covering the following topics:

- Recognising the positive and negative aspects of Internet Use
- Knowing what personal Information is and the importance of keeping this private
- Understanding the importance of password protection
- Recognising who is a trusted adult
- Understanding the dangers of chatting to strangers online

SAFER INTERNET FOR PARENTS

There will be an adult workshop (delivered by REIM) on **Tuesday 20th February** at 7pm which aims to educate parents in the practical skills needed to set up parental controls and protect children on-line while using PC/Laptop, Android, or 'I' device. Knowledge on how to keep children safe while using some of the frequently used social media sites and tips on dealing with cyberbullying will also be provided.

The programme will cover the following topics:

- Social Networking/ Online Gaming /Online Gambling /Inappropriate material
- Cyberbullying
- "Hot" Web Sites - current sites that may cause concern e.g., Omegle, Monkey
- Computer / Internet Parental Controls to include: Set up User Accounts (for individual children), Operating System Controls (age specific), Internet Browser Security, Safe Searching and Internet Filters



We would encourage attendance on this evening as in an ever-advancing technological world it is of great importance that we, as parents, educate ourselves in how to keep our children safe whilst online. PLEASE NOTE: Every parent who attends will receive a homework pass for their child/ren.