



Week beginning Monday 5th October 2020
Newsletter

www.stmaryspsportaferry.com

SCHOOL ABSENSE

Should your child be unable to attend school, for whatever reason, it is very important that you contact the school to notify us of the nature and reason for your child's absence. This can be done by phoning the school 028427 28278. If the phone is not answered, please leave a message. Alternatively you can email pgilchrist570@c2kni.net

NOTIFICATION OF COVID TEST RESULTS

If your child has been sent for a Covid test it is vital you notify the school of the result of that test once known, even if the test result is negative. If you, or a member of your family has symptoms and/or has been sent for a test, you must not consider sending your child to school until the outcome of that test is known. Please also notify the school of this scenario. Whatever the result it is vital you notify the school before your child can be considered for a return to school.

OUT OF HOUR SCHOOL CONTACT

A reminder that we have initiated a mobile phone contact number, which is available to you to contact a member of our school staff outside of school hours and during the weekend. **This phone number should only be used for emergency purposes if you need to alert the school of a potential case of Covid-19 for your child or family.** This number will not be attended to during the normal school office hours of 9.00am -3.00pm. If you ring this number there is no guarantee it will be answered. Therefore, we ask that you send a text message to this phone rather than ringing detailing your name and purpose of contact and a member of our schooling staff will get back in touch with you asap. The number is **07716639826**. This number is also added to a contact detail on the school web site.

FLU VACCINATION PROGRAMME

The school Nurse will be visiting the school on Thursday to administer the Flu vaccination to all eligible pupils. If you have not done so already, please ensure all consent forms are returned, otherwise your child will not receive the vaccination.

COMMUNICATION (UPDATE)

Further to our test message on the school app service, we now have over 90% of parents receiving our messages. This week I will be contacting those who have not yet responded, in writing, with further suggestions on how to access the app. All school messaging will be sent through this platform.

MICROSOFT TEAMS

Details of a proposed move for our schooling community to sign up to the communication app "Microsoft Teams" will issue on Monday to all families. It is anticipated that this platform will help facilitate online learning, especially if we are required to close any aspect of our school over the next few weeks or months. We all sincerely hope this will not be required but we want to ensure we can continue your child's learning if this is needed.



PARENT TEACHER CONTACT

Should you wish to speak with your child's teacher, for whatever reason, please ring the school office to arrange an agreeable time for this to happen over the phone. This also applies to any messages you may wish to pass on to the teacher. If you insist on a face-to-face meeting this will require at least 24 hours notice and all protocols for social distancing and the encouragement for wearing of face covering will be required.





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ACCELERATED READER

Our P5/6/7 pupils use the Accelerated Reader programme to test their knowledge and understanding of reading. In previous years this would all have been done in school. However, we have now enabled your child to take a test at home and teachers will be monitoring your child's progress with this. To access this you must follow the link

<https://ukhosted44.renlearn.co.uk/2235150/>



IXL

The school still has full access to IXL for P4/5/6/7 pupils. We encourage all to keep using this app. If your child is unsure of their password, please ask them to get this from their class teacher.



Are you entitled?

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If your child is entitled to a free school meal it is important that you apply for this - even if you are not intending to send your child to avail of a dinner in school. The school has been notified of successful applicants but we are aware there is a backlog in the processing of these claims. If you are awaiting confirmation, please check with the school office that your child is included in our records. If you believe you are eligible for Free

School Meal entitlement, please follow the link below to apply asap. This is vitally important as the school can avail of additional funding if we have all potential pupils enrolled in this.

<https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants/apply-for-free-school-meals-uniform-grants>

DINNERS

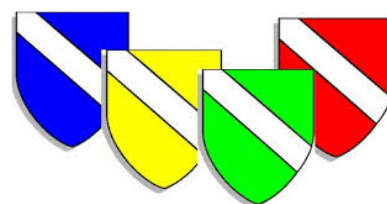
This incoming week all dinners will be served in the Dinner Hall

Monday	Ham/ Cheese Panini/Wedges/ Biscuit Ham/ Cheese/ Jam Sandwich / Biscuit/ Drink
Tuesday	Pasta Bolognese/ Arctic Roll Ham/ Cheese/ Jam Sandwich / Biscuit/ Drink
Wednesday	Roast Beef Dinner/ Sponge & Custard Ham/ Cheese/ Jam Sandwich / Biscuit/ Drink
Thursday	Chicken Curry & Rice/ Muffin Ham/ Cheese/ Jam Sandwich / Biscuit/ Drink
Friday	Chicken Goujon wrap/ Mousse Ham/ Cheese/ Jam Sandwich / Biscuit/ Drink

Dinners cost £2.60 per day and must be paid at the beginning of each week in a clearly marked envelope with your child's name, class, the amount included and the days on which they wish to have school dinners. Please try to include exact money as change will not be issued until later in the week.

HOUSE POINTS

	This Week's Total	Overall Total
Red	182	617
Green	181	613
Blue	185	611
Yellow	175	612



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & CARERS

Everyone has a role to play in keeping our schools safe and helping to stop the spread of COVID-19.

DON'T SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF THEY HAVE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS.

VISIT [NIDIRECT.GOV.UK/CORONAVIRUS](https://nidirect.gov.uk/coronavirus) TO BOOK A TEST ONLINE. CALL 119 IF YOU CANNOT BOOK A TEST ONLINE.

YOU SHOULD BOOK A COVID-19 TEST IF YOUR CHILD HAS:

A HIGH TEMPERATURE

This means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature).

OR

A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).

OR

A LOSS OR CHANGE TO THEIR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE

This means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

IF YOUR CHILD DOES NOT HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 BUT HAS OTHER COLD-LIKE SYMPTOMS, SUCH AS A RUNNY NOSE, THEY DO NOT NEED TO BE TESTED AND THEY OR MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD DO NOT NEED TO SELF-ISOLATE. YOUR CHILD CAN ATTEND SCHOOL IF FIT TO DO SO.

HERE'S WHAT TO DO IF:

YOUR CHILD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Book a COVID-19 test
- Household self-isolates
- Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school if the test is negative providing they are well enough, have not had a fever for 48 hours and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service.

YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Inform school immediately about test result
- Self-isolate for at least 10 days as advised by the PHA.

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school after 10 days even if they still have a cough / loss of smell or taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks.

SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- The household member should book a COVID-19 test
- Household self-isolates
- Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school if the symptomatic household member's test is negative and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service.

SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms*.

CONTACT TRACING HAS IDENTIFIED MY CHILD AS A CLOSE CONTACT

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Self-isolate for at least 14 days as advised by the PHA Contact Tracing Service

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms*.

YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A CLOSE CONTACT

WHAT TO DO?

- Attend school as normal
- If your child does not have any COVID-19 symptoms they should carry on with normal activities.

YOUR CHILD HAS TRAVELLED ABROAD AND HAS TO SELF-ISOLATE

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Self-isolate for 14 days in line with quarantine advice

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms*.

*If your child has been identified as a close contact of a case of COVID-19, or has returned from travel abroad and is self-isolating, they must self-isolate for 14 days regardless of a negative COVID-19 test result.

Further information, including Frequently Asked Questions for Parents and Carers, can be found on the Department of Education's website at www.education-ni.gov.uk

EDUCATION RESTART

WE ALL MUST DO IT TO GET THROUGH IT

