

October 2022 Newsletter



CHAPEL ROAD PS



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Principal: Mrs. Mary Bacheta

06/10/2022

Dear parents/guardians

I hope you are all well. We are looking forward to celebrating everything to do with Autumn and Halloween over the next few weeks. Please read and keep this letter for your reference. Also keep checking the website for updates and class news.

PARENT-TEACHER MEETINGS

Our parent-teacher meetings will take place on the following days:

Thursday 20th October 2022 from 2.10pm-5.50pm in the assembly hall.

Monday 24th October 2022 from 3.10pm-4.20pm in your child's classroom.

Please return the reply slip to the class teacher if you have not done so already.

The Butterflies Club will be available for the P1 & P2 children and the 325 club will operate as normal for children who attend this club.

To accommodate everyone, these meetings should take no more than 10 minutes. If you have a specific issue or concern that may take longer, please contact the teacher for an alternative appointment where you will have more time and not feel rushed. Some parents may have already met with the class teacher this term, so do not need to attend this meeting.

CONTACT DETAILS

Please ensure the office has at least 2 contact numbers. If your contacts details change at any point during the school year, you must let us know so that we are able to contact you, this is especially important in the event of an emergency.

SHARED EDUCATION

We have secured another year of PEACE IV funding and are continuing our close partnership with Oakgrove IPS, Culmore PS and Ashlea PS. The teaching staff from all four schools have been meeting to plan a programme of activities and events. This means that during the year our children will engage in a range of activities that involve shared learning and developing peace and reconciliation. The programme has been well received and has provided the schools with fantastic opportunities and experiences over the last four years. We hope that everyone continues to enjoy the opportunities this partnership brings. Our focus will be on Numeracy and Physical Education.

REMINDER SCHOOL CLOSURE

We finish at 12 noon on Friday 28th October 2022 for the Halloween holidays. (Wear fancy dress)
School is closed from Monday 31st October to Friday 4th November 2022.
Children return to school on Monday 7th November 2022.

PEACE PROMS 2023

I am delighted to tell you that we applied for our choir to participate in Peace Proms 2023 and have been successful. A special thank you to Mrs Kyle for the time and effort she put into the application process.

So what is Peace Proms?

Peace Proms is a musical programme tailor made to ensure it is fun and engaging for children. It fulfils important educational requirements. The end performance is an inspirational and thrilling experience for choirs, teachers, parents and audiences alike! Peace Proms engages children and young people in music and enriches their lives through exceptional musical experiences and performances. Peace Proms celebrates culture and diversity and promotes peace, unity and tolerance through music.

Peace Proms will give our choir the once in a lifetime opportunity to:

- ✓ Sing with a choir of up to 3,000 children.
- ✓ Perform with a full symphony youth orchestra.
- ✓ Work with one of the UK's leading professional conductors – Greg Beardsell
- ✓ Perform at top venues e.g. the RDS Dublin, SETU Sports Arena Waterford, the SSE Arena Belfast and UL Sports Arena Limerick.
- ✓ Develop vocal technique, presentation and performance.
- ✓ Experience a variety of musical styles and genres

Peace Proms Involves:

- 1) IN SCHOOL LEARNING:** The children will learn up to 8 songs or medleys in different genres.
- 2) REGIONAL WORKSHOPS:** We will attend ONE regional workshop which will take place on the 8th November 2022 during school hours and is given by renowned conductor Greg Beardsell.
- 3) PEACE PROMS CONCERT:** All schools perform with the Cross Border Orchestra of Ireland and a host of top soloists in ONE concert which will take place on Sunday 26th February 2023 at 1.00pm in the SSE Arena, Belfast.

PATHS at CRPS

We successfully introduced the PATHS Programme last year and are excited to continue to embed the strategies with the help of our PATHS coach Lindsay. PATHS is Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies and is a whole school approach. The PATHS Programme for Schools is a universal programme for 4–11-year-olds which empowers all children to develop the fundamental social and emotional learning skills. These skills will enable them to make positive choices throughout life. The PATHS Programme promotes positive mental health and emotional well-being in schools and is delivered through support from Barnardo's in primary schools across the UK.

As we develop our second year, the staff and children should be more able to use the language of PATHS to help regulate behaviour and bring about positive resolutions to any relationship and social issues that arise. You can ask your child/children to tell you all about it too.

You can find out more by visiting the website but here is a quick summary below.

<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/what-we-do/services/paths>

SCHOOL ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMME

In February 2017, I submitted a School Enhancement application to the Department of Education (DE).

An announcement was made on 8th May 2018 by DE's Permanent Secretary, Derek Baker, that our application was successful. The DE had approved the progress of our project through to the business case, design and planning stages. This project will help to improve and expand the existing facilities within our school. It will involve a complete refurbishment of the school and the building of a new reception and office block in front of the assembly hall. Chapel Road PS will resemble a new school by the time the work is completed. I am excited to be able to work with the designers and planners to realise my vision for our lovely school.

It has been four years in the planning and progress has been extremely slow, however, we have an approximate start date for the project to begin-April 2023. The completion of the works will be tailored around the workings of the school to ensure least possible disruption. It will be an exciting time for us as a school and I am very much looking forward to seeing the transformation. I will continue to update you as the year progresses and more plans are agreed.

FAMILIES FIRST NI AWARD



We have been nominated for a FAMILIES FIRST NI Award. I was delighted to be contacted by FF NI last term to congratulate us on our nomination. Thank you to the parent who nominated us and for the lovely message you wrote about our staff and school. The Award's Ceremony is in Belfast after Christmas so I will be in touch with more information closer to the time.

WORLD SMILE DAY- 7th October 2022

The children in CRPS make us smile every day but wouldn't it be nice to give out and receive some extra smiles on World Smile Day. Tomorrow is Friday so that's a good start. Think about all the ways you can make others smile tomorrow.

WEBSITE www.chapelroadps.co.uk

Our website app received 5225 views in September which is fantastic. Thank you for keeping in touch this way. You will be up to date with school news and events as well as enjoy the photographs of the children learning and playing.

Over the last few years we have continued to reduce our carbon footprint in school. Our school website has been one of the most successful strategies in helping us reduce waste. It has allowed us where possible, to communicate with our school community without the use of paper copies.

This does mean that we need you to have the Schools NI App downloaded or access to emails. The website has many useful functions and allows us to send public and private messages to you digitally. It is much more efficient and effective in terms of reaching everyone. Like other Apps, you do occasionally need to update notifications and open the app often so that you do not miss key messages from us.

If you are having any difficulties with access, you can contact us or indeed the Schools NI App has a function where you can contact the website provider who are always very helpful.

FRIDAY 28th OCT- HALLOWEEN FANCY DRESS

We are looking forward to our annual fancy dress parade and having some Halloween fun on the 28th of October. If your child wishes, he/she can come to school dressed in their Halloween costume. We understand that not all children enjoy this type of activity or a change to their routine so do not feel obliged to take part. School will finish at 12 noon. School dinners will be served earlier than usual.

MEDICAL REGISTER

If your child has a diagnosed medical condition, please let us know so he/she can be added to the medical register.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

It is never too late to apply. <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants>



FIRST CONFESSION-PRIMARY 4

Thursday 9th March 2023 at 1.30pm in St. Columb's Chapel.



FIRST COMMUNION-PRIMARY 4

Saturday 20th May 2023 at 11.30am in St. Columb's Chapel.

CONFIRMATION-PRIMARY 7

TO BE CONFIRMED

Our school holidays list can be viewed on our school website.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind Regards

Mrs. Bacheta and staff