



September 2020 Newsletter



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www.chapelroadps.co.uk

Principal: Mrs. Mary Bacheta

Dear Parent/Guardian

I am delighted to tell you that everyone has settled back into school and we are gradually moving forward every day. I want to extend a special welcome to our new children and their families. We hope you will be very happy at CRPS. We are so proud of our new P1 children who have started their primary school journey without any hesitation. We hope you will all enjoy the family atmosphere and a warm welcome from everyone in our school community.

We believe in maintaining close communication with parents/guardians and will try to ensure you are kept informed of all aspects of your child's education. We would encourage you to contact the school if you have any concerns or queries so that your questions can be answered quickly or where necessary an appointment can be arranged. As always it is important to talk to the class teacher in the first instance as issues are usually resolved much quicker this way.

As we get the school year off to a busy start it is important to share some important information relating to policies and procedures that are in place to ensure the safety and well-being of everyone. Please read this information carefully and keep for reference. Any additional information will follow where necessary.

None of us know what the year ahead has in store so we are planning for all scenarios. We must move at a pace where we are ready and able to act quickly should we need to. The most frequently asked question (FAQ) to date has been about if children can come to school if they are sick. Every September, young children will become unwell and feel sick. We expect this and trust your judgement. I would encourage you to check your child's temperature before sending to school if he/she is unwell.

The poster shared on the school website from the Chief Medical Officer is a very useful reference if your child becomes unwell. Click on link below for quick access.

https://storage.googleapis.com/siteassetsswd/247/docletter/20200913110525_74_Department_of_Education_Parent_Carer_Information_POSTER.PDF

REMINDER-SCHOOL CLOSED

School closed on Monday 28th, Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th September 2020.

OTHER TERM 1 SCHOOL CLOSURES

School will be closed on the following days:

- ✓ Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2020. Children return to school on Monday 2nd November 2020.
- ✓ Friday 27th November 2020
- ✓ Wednesday 23rd December 2020-Tuesday 5th January 2021. Children return to school on Wednesday 6th January 2021 for Term 2.



Click the link below for the annual school holidays located on our website.

https://storage.googleapis.com/siteassetsswd/247/docletter/20200915074426_60_School_Holiday_Calendar_2020_2021.pdf

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Our P5 children are very excited to be finally making their First Holy Communion on Monday the 28th September 2020 at 4.00pm. They have waited patiently for their special day and are busy preparing for this sacrament. The school is closed to all pupils on the 28th so this works out perfectly for the children and their families. Restrictions are still in place for numbers attending the chapel. Mrs McCann will forward these details once she had confirmed them with Father Canny.

MORNING ARRANGEMENTS

The morning drop-off is working really well and so far the traffic is free flowing. With a large number of children walking, it has made such a positive difference. There is now a traffic control lady helping children to cross the road safely at the busy junction on Fountain Hill. We understand that walking to school is weather dependant and appreciate that sometimes traffic will be busier than others.

SAFETY NOTICE

It is important that you do not pull into the DISABLED bay in front of the assembly hall gates. Reversing out of this area is extremely dangerous for children who are walking on the pavement.

END OF SCHOOL DAY ARRANGEMENTS

We are keeping the current arrangements in place until the end of September. We are monitoring this daily and will review them at the beginning of October.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

This is another FAQ. We are hopeful that these will be able to return at some point during this term, however, we cannot provide a precise date for this as yet.

HOMEWORK

During 'lockdown' we relied heavily on technology alongside our learning packs. We are continuing to make use of Office 365 to ensure we do not lose the gains we have made. The staff will reinforce this for the children at school and help them to become more confident. This will also help us, should we need to return to some form of remote learning in the future. For now, your child will receive a mixture of paper copies and digital. This will not involve printing out sheets at home as this is expensive and not sustainable. The children will either write their answers in their homework books or complete it online in Teams and submit to the teacher. Please do not worry if you are having problems with access to Teams. Let us know and we will see what we can do.

REMOTE LEARNING

Remote learning has now ceased and will only return if we have to ask a class bubble to self-isolate or if guidelines change and we are instructed to adopt this approach. The teacher is now planning for class teaching only. Similar to pre-lockdown, if your child off sick, we will not be providing class/homework in the

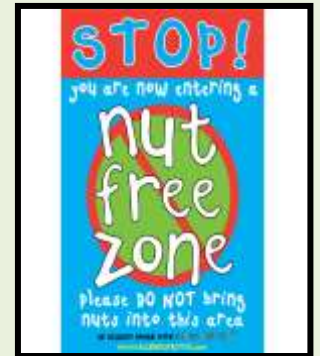
first instance, however, should this illness become COVID related or the length of absence becomes extended we will make arrangements to send learning home.

UNIFORM

We are very proud of our uniform which tells everyone that we belong to the fantastic Chapel Road School community. Please wear it with pride Remember, on PE days you must wear navy bottoms, a white t-shirt and school jumper. Wear school shoes to school and bring PE trainers in school bag to change into. Thank you in advance for your attention to the school uniform.

ALLERGIES

If your child has allergies or medical issues, please contact us as soon as possible. No medicines to be sent to school with pupils. Please contact the office.



A number of children in our school are allergic to nuts. Please check all lunch items to ensure they do not contain nuts or nut traces. No nuts or food/drinks containing nuts should be sent to school.

MEALS IN SCHOOL-WE ARE A HEALTHY EATING SCHOOL

Dinner Money is £2.60 per day/£13.00 per week. Please send this money in on a Monday in a sealed envelope with your child's name clearly marked.



P3-P7 Please bring a healthy morning break to school daily.

P1 & P2 Send in £2 weekly on a Monday to contribute to buffet break/fruit and milk.

The school dinner menu can be viewed on the school website.



https://storage.googleapis.com/siteassetsswd/247/docletter/20200916011108_4_7_Dinner_Menu_2020.pdf



MEDICINE POLICY



Our Medicine Policy reflects current legislation and ensures our procedures are in line with what is considered 'best practice' for staff and pupils.

The policy is lengthy and detailed and has important information for parents. It does involve filling out some paperwork so that our records are correct and up to date. This policy is available to view on our website.

<https://www.chapelroadps.co.uk/cmsfiles/items/downloads/ChapelRoadPSPolicyfortheAdministrationofMedicine2016.pdf>

You can also request a paper copy from the school office.

I would ask any parent who has a child with long term medical needs to contact the class teacher or myself so we can ensure arrangements are in place to meet your child's needs.

MISS SCHOOL MISS OUT-ATTENDANCE

Our Pupil Attendance Policy is guided by the Department of Education. Due to COVID-19, some adaptations are in place to ensure a safe return for everyone. We are aware that attendance may be flexible in some circumstances and for a range of reasons. We have been supplied with some additional attendance codes to cover COVID related absences. All absences must be accounted for so let us know if your child is sick or not attending school. Please keep in touch with us if there is a problem getting your child to come to school.

Mrs. Ashford in the office will assist you with any queries you may have.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Traffic

Please take the usual precautions regarding parking and reduce your speed. Keep your child/children close by at all times.

Shepherd's Glen Gate

The steps and the paths on the boundary between Shepherd's Glen and the school will be accessible to pupils from 8.30am and again at 2.00pm. The gate is usually closed shortly after 4.00pm every evening. Our caretaker (Paul) very kindly opens and closes this gate daily to allow quicker access to the school, however, the path and steps outside the school boundary are not school property and therefore anyone using this access is not covered by school insurance. The steps are quite

steep so make sure you are happy with your child/children using them. Remind your child often about taking care and being safe.

Would it possible for a parent or two to contact the council and request that the overgrown bushes are cut and the area outside the gates tended to? This would help us greatly. Thank you.

SCHOOL WEBSITE/FACEBOOK PAGE

Please download the website app onto your phone so that you receive texts from the school. The app is called **Schools NI**. Contact the office if you have any questions about this service. We also use Facebook and Twitter to share more general news.



The website is our main method of contacting parents. We are trying to move away from paper copies of letters/notes and become more ECO friendly.

www.chapelroadps.co.uk

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2020/21

Please access holidays for this school year via this link.

https://storage.googleapis.com/siteassetsswd/247/docletter/20200915074426_60_School_Holiday_Calendar_2020_2021.pdf

We are looking forward to a safe and happy school year. Thank you for your continued support in helping us to achieve this.

Kind Regards

Mrs. Bacheta and staff

SEE HOLIDAY CALENDAR ATTACHED

CHAPEL ROAD PS

Holiday Calendar - 2020-2021

	SCHOOL OPEN
	SCHOOL CLOSED

August 2020

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September 2020

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2020

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November 2020

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2020

Su	M	T	W	T	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			