



November 2020 Newsletter

Welcome back everyone! We trust you had a relaxing and enjoyable half-term break. It is great to see the children back in school this week and we look forward to another productive half-term.

It is strange to be writing to you in November and not mentioning dates for Carol Services, Nativities, Christmas Fairs etc. Obviously this term is going to be different from normal but rest assured that we will be doing all we can to make the next seven weeks as enjoyable and as festive as possible.

Pick Up Times and Traffic

We are facing a very challenging situation with traffic at Key Stage Two pick up. As you are no doubt aware, the car park at the park on Cootehall Road is closed and is likely to remain closed for some time. This further restricts the amount of parking available to us. To attempt to alleviate this problem, from **Monday 9th November, P6 and P7 pick up time will move to 3:00pm**. I would ask all parents to please;

- If you are in the first pick up time (P4/5), and have no older siblings to wait for, please leave the area as quickly as possible. Not only will this will free up space for the second pick-up time, it is also in line with recent comments from the Minister of Education regarding discouraging parents from congregating at school gates.
- If you are in the second pick up time, please do not arrive at the first pick up time. I know this is challenging as you may be worried about securing a parking space, but, if P4/5 are dismissed at 2:45pm and those parents leave the area promptly, there should be available spaces by 2:55pm.
- Please park with consideration for local residents and other drivers. Do not park on yellow lines, across driveways or in a way that prevents traffic flow.

I appreciate the difficulties for both parents and local residents and will be keeping this issue under review as we move through this term.

Social Distancing at Pick Up Time

Please ensure that you are adhering to social distancing measures at all times on school grounds. Any younger children should be kept at your side. Please enter the playground by the top gate and leave by the bottom gate.

PTA

I would like to formally thank our always fantastic PTA for their endeavours over the past few weeks. The existing PTA committee met before half-term and agreed the following;

- While the normal PTA events are unlikely to happen over the next few months, the PTA will try to replicate some elements online. For example, over Halloween we had a fantastic Halloween decorations event on the PTA Facebook page.
- Given the current financial / employment uncertainty that some in our community currently face, we will not be conducting fund raising activities this year.
- With existing funds, the PTA will be financing the purchase of the Athletics Programme which will be rolled out this term.

Thank you to all those involved in PTA. It is a vital aspect of school life and we are pleased to have found some way to maintain it through these strange times. For more information, please visit the Crawfordsburn Primary School PTA page on Facebook.

School Photographs

Unfortunately, school photographs had to be rescheduled due to school closing for an extra week at half term. They will now take place on 23rd November.

Parental Consultations

Phone calls will be taking place during this week after 2pm. The finish times for the week are below. Unfortunately, we are unable to dismiss siblings at the same time due to the class bubble system. Apologies for the inconvenience this causes.

- P1, P2, P3 – 1:30pm
- P4, P5 – 1:45pm
- P6, P7 – 2:00pm

Thank You

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support, encouragement and understanding.

Dr G Walker
Principal