



Principal's Newsletter

August 2025 – RETURN TO SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Back to School Message from the Principal – Mr Chris Fulton

Dear Parents, Carers, and Members of Our School Community,

I hope this message finds you well and that you and your families have enjoyed a restful and enjoyable summer break. As we prepare to welcome everyone back next week, I want to take a moment to share my excitement for the year ahead and outline some of our key priorities for the 2025/26 academic year.

As always, the new school year promises to be a busy and enriching one. Our commitment to providing a high-quality, inclusive education remains at the heart of everything we do, and we are continually striving to improve and innovate in ways that benefit all our learners.

This year, one of our central focuses will be the implementation of the Education Authority's Graduated Response training for staff. This important initiative will help us extend more tailored and effective support to children with additional needs, ensuring that every pupil has the opportunity to thrive in a nurturing and responsive environment.

In numeracy, we will be placing a strong emphasis on the development of data handling skills across all stages. This focus will help pupils build confidence in interpreting and using data meaningfully, a skill that is increasingly vital in today's world.

We are also continuing to build on our digital learning strategy. The rollout of our digital devices programme will progress further this year, supporting pupils in developing essential digital skills that enhance both their learning and future readiness.

Finally, we are excited to explore the use of AI in planning and enriching our "World Around Us" topics. By incorporating pupil interests and using AI tools to tailor content, we aim to make learning even more engaging, relevant, and inspiring.

This newsletter contains all the key information you need for returning to school next week, along with important dates for the weeks ahead. Please take a moment to read through it carefully so that you and your child feel confident and prepared for the start of term.

I look forward to working together with you all throughout the year to support our young people in achieving their full potential. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and partnership.

Warm regards,

Mr Chris Fulton

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BREAKFAST CLUB 2025 – 26

Our breakfast club will continue to run on a daily basis during the next academic year. Children from the morning nursery through to Primary 7 children can attend. Nursery children may only attend after the nursery settling in period has ended.

Booking will continue to take place via the school money app.

A reminder that Breakfast Club will start at 8:00am. We ask all children attending to be in breakfast club no later than 8:30am. Breakfast Club will continue to take place in the Kids' Cave mobile.

The cost of breakfast club will be £2.25 per session. (Cost increase)

At the beginning of a new school year parents / carers are required to complete a one off consent form allowing your child to attend breakfast club. Please complete this with the breakfast club staff on the first day your child attends next academic year.

School Dinners

Children are able to avail of school dinners on a daily basis. Our 5 star canteen provides delicious meals for all our children. The cost of school dinners is set by the Education Authority. At present they cost £2.60 per day.

Booking and payment for school dinners will continue to be taken via the school money app.

Equipment Required For September

All children will have received a list of equipment and resources they will need when they start back to school. This has been sent home in your child's Annual School Report. I would be very grateful if children could bring all their equipment with them on their first day back to school. **Please be advised that all parents will be required to purchase a school planner for their children in September. These will be priced at £5.00 per planner and will be sent home at the start of the new academic year. These can be paid for in September via the school money app.**



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Who To Contact In 2025/26

In the 2025/26 Academic Year, if you need to contact the school to discuss a query or a concern, please follow the flowchart below in order for your concerns to be addressed appropriately:

Step 1 – Child's Class Teacher



Step 2 – Head of Key Stage



Mrs Miskelly
Head of Foundation Stage
and Key Stage One (P1 – P4).
Tel: 02893351781
E-mail:
rmiskelly126@c2kni.net



Mrs Loughins
Head of Key Stage Two
(P5 – P7)
Tel: 02893351781
E-mail: jloughins515@c2kni.net



Step 3 – Vice Principal

Please call the school office to arrange an appointment.



Step 4 – Principal

Please call the school office to arrange an appointment.



If your query or concern is in relation to a serious pastoral issue or is a Child Protection Concern, please make contact with our Pastoral Lead and Designated Teacher for Child Protection, Mrs Jayne Orr.



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Important Information

Starting Back To School – August 2025

- Nursery and Primary 1 pupils have already had their starting information. This was given to all parents and carers in an induction pack earlier this term.
- School will start back, in a staggered way, from Wednesday 20th August for children in P2 – P7. Please see points below for your information:
 - ✓ **Tuesday 19th August** – From 1pm – 2:30pm – Parent Drop In session. If you feel you need to speak to the class teacher to update school on anything that has happened over the Summer Holidays in relation to your child, your child's class teacher will be available for a drop in.
 - ✓ **IMPORTANT CHANGE – MR LYTTLE'S PRIMARY 7 CLASS – DUE TO AN UNAVOIDABLE APPOINTMENT, MR LYTTLE'S CLASS WILL NOT START BACK TO SCHOOL UNTIL THURSDAY 21ST AUGUST. ALL CHILDREN IN THE CLASS SHOULD RETURN ON THURSDAY 21ST AUGUST**
 - ✓ **Wednesday 20th August** – Children with **surnames** beginning with letters A – J will come to school for half a day – leaving at 12noon. The rest of the children will not come to school.
 - ✓ **Thursday 21st August** – Children with **surnames** beginning with K – Z will come to school for half a day – leaving school at 12noon. The rest of the children will not come to school.

- ✓ **Friday 22nd August** – **ALL** children will come to school for half a day – leaving at 12noon.
- ✓ For any families with siblings with different surnames, you are welcome to pick which day you would like to send them to school (they can attend on the same day to make it easier to manage)
- ✓ As with last year, the ability of bringing in smaller groups of children for the first day allowed the class teacher the opportunity to get to know each child better.
- All children will then return to school, for full days, on Tuesday 26th August. School is closed on Monday 25th August for the Bank Holiday.
- **There will be no school dinners until Thursday 1st September**



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School Timings

Start Times

- Doors will open for P1 – P7 pupils at **8.50am** and will close at **9.00am**.
- Children will be marked as late after 9.00am.
- School will officially start at 9.00am. Please be advised that we do not offer outdoor supervision of pupils before 8.50am. **Therefore, parents / carers are requested not to send their children on to the school grounds before 8.50am.**
- Primary 1 will enter via the P1 entrance
- Primary 2 and Primary 3 will enter via the doors beside the bicycle and scooter storage stands.
- Primary 5 and Primary 7 will enter via the Main School entrance (Mrs Ritchie's office)
- Primary 4 and Primary 6 will enter via the back playground doors. Please enter the school grounds via Coronation Road.

Please see the below table for normal school finishing times for all year groups.

	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
<u>Primary 1</u>	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm
<u>Primary 2</u>	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm
<u>Primary 3</u>	2:50pm	2:50pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	1.50pm
<u>Primary 4</u>	2.50pm	2.50pm	2.50pm	2.50pm	1.50pm
<u>Primary 5</u>	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	2:00pm
<u>Primary 6</u>	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	2:00pm
<u>Primary 7</u>	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	2:00pm

Primary 2 children will get collected at the end of each day at the PRIMARY 1 entrance.

School Uniform

- In preparation for returning to school, please ensure that your child has the correct full school uniform.



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Term Dates	
August	Wed 20th – P2 – P7 return (half day and half classes - surnames A – J only) Thurs 21st – P2 – P7 return (half day and half classes – surnames K – Z only) Fri 22nd – P2 – P7 return (half day and full classes) Mon 25th – School Closed (Public Holiday) Tues 26th – P2 – P7 return to school full days.
September	Mon 1st – P1 and Nursery children begin school. Specific dates and times will be communicated to individual parents. Fri 26th – School Development Day (School Closed)
October	Mon 27 th - Fri 31 st – School Closed (Half Term)
December	Fri 19th – School closes from 11:50am - 12noon for all pupils. Mon 22nd – Wed 31st – School Closed (Christmas Holidays)
January	Thurs 1st – Fri 2nd – School Closed (Christmas Holidays) Mon 5th – P2 – P7 pupils return to school. OPEN DAY (Nursery and P1 pupils off today) Tues 6th – Nursery and P1 pupils return to school.
February	Mon 9 th – Fri 13 th – School Closed (Half Term)
March	Tues 17th – School closes from 11:50am-12noon for all pupils (No school canteen and transport) Fri 27th – School closes from 11:50am – 12noon for all pupils. Mon 30th – Tues 31st – School Closed (Easter Holidays)
April	Wed 1 st – Fri 10 th – School Closed (Easter Holidays)
May	Mon 4th – School Closed (Bank Holiday) Mon 25th – Fri 29th – School Closed (Half Term)
June	Fri 19th – P7 pupils finish at 12noon. Fri 26th – School closes for Summer Holidays



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Other Key Dates

Mon 1st September 9.00am – 9.45am

P6 and P7 Parent/Carer Coffee Morning in school canteen

Tues 2nd September 9.00am – 9.45am

P4 and P5 Parent/Carer Coffee morning in school canteen

Wed 3rd September 9.00am – 9.45am

P2 and P3 Parent/Carer Coffee Morning in school canteen

Thurs 4th September 9.00am – 9.45am

P1 Parent / Carer Coffee Morning in school canteen

W/B 22nd September

Extra Curricular Activities will start this week – more info to follow.

Fri 26th September

School Closed – Staff Training Day

W/B 29th September

Primary 7 parent interview week – more info to follow.

W/B 20th October

P1 – P6 parent interview week – more info to follow

Wed 22nd October

P1 and P2 Disco. Children can wear non-uniform. Cost: £1

Thurs 23rd October

P3, P4 and P5 Disco. Children can wear non-uniform. Cost: £1

Fri 24th October

P6 and P7 Disco. Children can wear non-uniform. Cost: £1

Tue 11th November 10.45am

Remembrance Day Assembly – more info to follow

Sat 15th November

SEAG Transfer Paper 1

Sat 22nd November

SEAG Transfer Paper 2

Thurs 27th November 6.30pm – 8.30pm

PTA Christmas Fair – more info to follow

Wed 3rd December 9.30am

Christmas Concert – more info to follow

W/B 8th December

Last week of Extra Curricular Activities for this term

Tue 9th December 9.30am

Primary 1 Christmas Show – more info to follow

Wed 10th December 10am and 1.30pm

Nursery Christmas Show

Thursday 11th December 9.30am

Primary 2 and 3 Christmas Show – for Primary 2 parents

Friday 12th December 9.30am

Primary 2 and 3 Christmas Show – for Primary 3 parents

Tue 16th December

P1, P2 and P3 Disco. Children can wear non-uniform. Cost: £1

Wed 17th December

P4 and P5 Disco. Children can wear non-uniform. Cost: £1

Thurs 18th December

P6 and P7 Disco. Children can wear non-uniform. Cost: £1

Friday 19th December

School closes half day for Christmas Holidays – more info to follow