



Principal's Newsletter

June 2025 – END OF TERM NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of another academic year, I want to take a moment to reflect on the many successes we've shared as a school community. It has been a year filled with growth, innovation, and joy, and I am incredibly proud of what our pupils, staff, and families have achieved together.

One of our most exciting milestones this year was the opening of our new specialist provision within the mainstream setting. This inclusive space has quickly become a vibrant part of our school, where children have truly flourished—developing confidence, building friendships, and achieving personal and academic success in a nurturing environment.

We also celebrated the transformation of our outdoor spaces. The redesign and construction of new play areas have created dynamic, engaging environments where children can explore, play, and learn. These spaces have already become a favourite part of the school day for many of our pupils.

In line with our commitment to sustainability and outdoor learning, we planted over 200 trees this year as the first step in our forest school journey. This initiative not only enhances our natural environment but also opens up exciting opportunities for hands-on, nature-based learning experiences that will benefit our children for years to come.

Another major highlight has been the successful rollout of our 1:1 digital devices programme. Many children now have access to their own device, equipping them with essential digital skills for the future while enriching their learning experiences today. The impact on engagement, creativity, and collaboration has been remarkable.

Alongside these major developments, we've continued to celebrate the everyday successes that make our school so special—whether it's the joy of a well-performed school play, the pride of a sports team victory, or the quiet determination of a child mastering a new skill. Our pupils have shown resilience, kindness, and a love of learning that inspires us all.

As we look ahead to a well-earned summer break, I want to thank you for your continued support, encouragement, and partnership. Together, we are building a school where every child can thrive.

Wishing you all a restful and joyful summer.

Warm regards,

Mr. C. Fulton
Principal



Principal's Newsletter

June 2025 – END OF TERM NEWSLETTER

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.**



Principal's Newsletter

June 2025 – END OF TERM NEWSLETTER

SUMMER SCHEME @ VPS

Thank you to parents / carers for signing your children up to attend Summer Scheme.

Please find outlined below a reminder of key dates, times and other information in relation to Summer Scheme.

WEEK 1

Monday 30th June – Friday 4th July

8am – 2pm (Chn to meet in the Kids' Cave mobile)

Breakfast will be provided and a small snack will be provided at break time.

Children need to bring a packed lunch.

Wear suitable clothes for both indoor and outdoor activities.

WEEK 2

Monday 11th August – Wednesday 13th August

8am – 2pm (Chn to meet in the Kids' Cave mobile)

Breakfast will be provided and a small snack will be provided at break time.

Children need to bring a packed lunch.

Wear suitable clothes for both indoor and outdoor activities.

PLEASE DROP OFF AND COLLECT FROM THE KIDS' CAVE MOBILE





Principal's Newsletter

June 2025– END OF TERM NEWSLETTER

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.



Principal's Newsletter

June 2025– END OF TERM NEWSLETTER



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.
 - ✓ **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**



Principal's Newsletter

June 2025 – END OF TERM NEWSLETTER

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 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.



Principal's Newsletter

June 2025 – END OF TERM NEWSLETTER

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