



Principal's Newsletter

August 2026 – Back to School Newsletter



Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

I hope that you and your family have enjoyed a wonderful summer break and have had the opportunity to relax, make special memories and spend time together.

As the summer holidays draw to a close, we are very much looking forward to welcoming our Primary 2 to Primary 7 children back to Victoria Primary School this coming Friday. We know that many pupils will be excited to return to see their friends, meet their new teachers and begin another year of learning, growth and achievement.

July and August have been filled with many memorable sporting and cultural events that have captured the attention of people around the world. From international sporting competitions and football action to music festivals, community celebrations and cultural events closer to home, there has certainly been plenty to enjoy and discuss. We look forward to hearing all about our pupils' summer adventures and experiences when they return to school.

Over the summer months, some exciting work has begun on our school site. Parents and carers will notice construction activity taking place on the school field. I would like to reassure everyone that this work will not impact the start of the new school year and that normal school routines will continue as planned. We are delighted to be embarking on this exciting development project and look forward to sharing further information with our school community as the work progresses and we unveil the exciting new developments that will benefit our pupils for many years to come.

This newsletter is packed with important back-to-school information and reminders to help ensure a smooth and successful start to the new academic year. Please take a few moments to read through the information carefully and keep it for future reference.

We are excited about the year ahead and look forward to working in partnership with you to ensure every child has a happy, successful and rewarding experience at Victoria Primary School, Nursery Unit and Specialist Provisions.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school.

Kind regards,

Mr C. Fulton
Principal



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BREAKFAST CLUB 2026 – 27

Our breakfast club will continue to run on a daily basis during the next academic year. Children from 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 and breakfast club will start this Friday, 21st August. Please book by 12 noon on Thursday, 20th August.

Only children booked in via the school app will be permitted to attend breakfast club.

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 £3.00 per session. (Cost increase)

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 £3.10 per day. **School dinners will not start until 1st September.**

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

Kids' Cave

Kids' Cave will continue to operate in the new academic year and will start on Monday 24th August.

Parents / Carers should continue to book Kids' Cave via the school money app. From the start of the new academic year **BOOKINGS WILL NOT BE TAKEN UNLESS VIA THE APP.**

The cost of Kids' Cave will be £7per hour. (Cost increase)

Please note, if any parent/carers has an outstanding bill on school money for Breakfast Club and/or Kids' Cave, then booking will not be available for the new academic year.



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Who To Contact In 2026/27

In the 2026/27 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



Miss Kelly
Head of Key Stage Two
(P5 – P7)
Tel: 02893351781
E-mail: tbc in September



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 2026

- Nursery and Primary 1 pupils have already had their starting information. This was given to all parents and carers in an induction pack during the Summer Term.
- Children in our specialist provision classes – Mrs Orr, Miss Steele, Miss Morrow and Miss Watson will be in direct contact with parents / carers to remind you about return to school dates and times.
- School will start back, for children in mainstream P2 – P7 on Friday 21st August 2026. Normal Friday finish times will apply.
- School is closed on Monday 31st August for the Bank Holiday.
- **There will be no school dinners until Tuesday 1st September**
- All children will have received a list of equipment and resources they will need when they start back to school. This was 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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School Timings

Start Times

- Doors will open for P1 – P7 pupils at **8.50am** and will close at **9.00am**. Learning activities start at 8:50am when children arrive into the classroom.
- Children will be marked as late after 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 will enter via the doors beside the bicycle and scooter storage stands.
- Mrs McFadden's class will enter directly into the mobile classroom beside the canteen.
- Mrs Miskelly's class 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.
- Children in specialist provisions will have contact from their child's teacher to discuss entrance and exit from school.

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>	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	2:00pm	1.55pm
<u>Primary 4</u>	2.50pm	2.50pm	2.50pm	2.50pm	1.55pm
<u>Primary 5</u>	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	2:05pm
<u>Primary 6</u>	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	2:05pm
<u>Primary 7</u>	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	3:00pm	2:05pm

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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<u>Term Dates</u>	
August	Friday 21st P2 – P7 return Wednesday 26th P1 children begin school. Specific dates and times will be communicated to individual parents. Mon 31st – School Closed (Public Holiday)
September	Tues 1st – Nursery children begin school. Specific dates and times will be communicated to individual parents. Thursday 24th and Friday 25th School Development Days (School Closed)
October	Mon 26 th - Fri 30 th – School Closed (Half Term)
December	Mon 21 st – Thurs 31 st – School Closed (Christmas Holidays)
January	Fri 1st – School Closed (Christmas Holidays) Mon 4th – P2 – P7 pupils return to school. OPEN DAY (Nursery and P1 pupils off today) Tues 5th – Nursery and P1 pupils return to school. Mon 25th – School Development Day (School Closed)
February	Mon 8 th – Fri 12 th – School Closed (Half Term)
March	Mon 22 nd – Wed 31 st – School Closed (Easter Holidays)
April	Thurs 1 st – Fri 2 nd – School Closed (Easter Holidays)
May	Mon 3rd – School Closed (Bank Holiday) Tues 4th – School Development Day (School Closed) Mon 24th – Fri 28th – School Closed (Half Term) Mon 31st School Closed (Bank Holiday)
June	Thurs 24th – P7 pupils finish at 12noon. Wed 30th – School closes for Summer Holidays

