



St. Anne's Primary School

Thursday
1st October 2020

- We have experienced a very difficult week in our school community and would like to thank parents for all their support and understanding during this challenging time. We ask parents to remain vigilant and book a test if anyone in your household displays any symptoms of COVID-19.
- **Online Safety**—It has come to our attention that a number of our P7 pupils are using WhatsApp to publish some very unkind and inappropriate material to their classmates. We ask parents to reinforce online safety messages with their children and to regularly monitor their online platforms to ensure they are not accessing or participating in anything unsuitable. Parents should delete any apps they deem improper. Please visit the NSPCC website which will signpost you to the best advice.
- **Reminder of school start and finish times:**
- P1, P2 and P7 enter the school grounds at 9.00am, through the main pedestrian gate.
- P3, P4, P5 & P6 enter the school grounds at 9.00am, through the lower pedestrian gate (P1-P2 playground).
- P1 children will go home at 2.00pm from 5th October.
- **St Anne's PTA "Split the Pot"** has it's next winner!! Micky McFadden won an amazing £135.50. Well done Micky! Thanks you to everyone for their fantastic support. The next draw will take place on Wednesday 7th October. We have sent home 2 envelopes to each family but feel free to return as many as you like. Envelopes will be quarantined until the draw takes place **Envelopes are also available to complete in all the usual outlets.**
- **St Anne's PTA** would like to thank parents and members of the wider community who voted for our school in two recent Facebook competitions. The school won a new bird house and bird feed from **Hillmount Garden Centre**. This will be a fantastic asset to the outdoor area where the children can enjoy both feeding and watching the birds. The school has also won support from **Dunelm, Ballymena** and we look forward to liaising with them.
- **School Dinner**—An online menu order for next week is available on the school website under Parents—Dinner Menu. After completion, please send the fee, if applicable, into school in an envelope with your child's name on by Monday morning at the latest. As the dinners are prepared in St Patrick's kitchen, the cooks need to know the numbers in advance.
- **Transfer Information**—The registration closing date for the AQE Transfer Test is **Friday 9th October at 4.00pm**. The closing date for the PPTC (formerly GL) Transfer Test is **Friday 16th October at 2.00pm**.



Remember:

- The Thursday Note and Dinner Menu are available on the school website: www.stannespscorkey.com
- Lots of other news and information is also available to view

School Dinners

- The price of a **school meal** is £2.60 per day or £13.00 per week. Dinners for the week (paid and free) should be ordered on a Monday morning by returning the correct money and slip attached.

Collection of Children

- Class Teachers should be informed of any changes to arrangements for collecting children.

Please turn over

- **School absences** must be reported in writing to your child's teacher as soon as possible, usually on your child's return to school. This ensures the correct absence code can be entered to the official attendance register. A pro-forma is available to print from the school website. Please ensure all details are included in any absence notes.

• EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Every single day a child is absent from school equates to a day of lost learning.

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence
90% Attendance	19 Days of Absence
85% Attendance	28 Days of Absence
80% Attendance	38 Days of Absence
75% Attendance	46 Days of Absence

90% may seem like an acceptable level of attendance, but the reality is that 90% attendance means that your child will miss half a school day each week or 19 days of school during the school year - that's nearly 4 school weeks!

- **Brain Gym for P7 pupils** will continue every **Thursday from 3.00 -4.00pm**. Parents will have to collect their children from school as there will be no school bus available at this time.
- **Free School Meals**—If you think that your child/children may be entitled to free school meals, application forms are available from the school office or the Education Authority Website: www.eani.org.uk. **These applications have to be renewed annually**, therefore we would encourage parents to submit their applications if they have not already done so. **Any applications or enquiries are completely confidential. We encourage all who are eligible to apply**, even if they do not intend to take a free meal, as our school funding can be supplemented by the Department of Education if we have a significant number of children entitled to free school meals.
- **Swimming** - There will be no swimming lessons until further notice
- **Violin Tuition**— Further information will follow after consultation with the EA Music Service.
- **Flu Vaccine Programme**—The school nurse will be in school on **Wednesday 21st October** to administer the vaccine to all pupils. Consent forms will follow in due course.
- The Sacrament of **Confirmation** for last year's leavers is on **Thursday 15th October at 6.30pm** in St Patrick's Church.
- **St Anne's Breakfast Club** is temporarily cancelled. Parents will be updated on when we can begin offering this service again.
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•Please remember that St Anne's Primary School is a **"NUT FREE ZONE"**

•When paying **dinner and milk money** cheques should be made payable to: **The Education Authority—NE Region**. Everything else (After Schools, Breakfast Club etc.) should be made payable to St Anne's PS

•**Healthy Breaks:** Please send only fruit or a plain biscuit to school as a break-time snack. Water or milk may be taken at break-time. One sweet or savoury treat is appropriate for lunchtime. No fizzy drinks should be brought to school at any time.

•**Allergy Aware School:** As we have a number of children with nut and egg allergies, please send no nuts (including products containing nuts) or eggs to school as lunch items.