

Annalong Primary Matters

September 2022

www.annalongps.com

Dear Parent/Guardian.

I am delighted as the new Principal of Annalong Primary School and Nursery Unit to welcome back all our pupils. I hope you had a great summer and enjoyed the fantastic weather. I would like to particularly welcome the Nursery pupils, P1 pupils and other new pupils who are starting our school for the first time. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of a few things that will help the continued smooth running of the school as well as inform you of forthcoming events.

P Chambers

Class Organisation

Primary 1 – Mrs Stevenson

Primary 2 – Mrs Black

Primary 3 – Mrs McKibbin

Primary 4 – Miss Edwards

Primary 4/5 – Mrs Beattie

Primary 6 – Mrs R Cunningham/Mr Chambers

Primary 7 – Mrs Freel/Mrs R Cunningham

Term Dates

Autumn Term begins – Tuesday 30th August

Half-Term – Monday 31st October-Friday 4th

November

Term Ends – Tuesday 21st December at 12 noon.

The full holiday list can be found on The Annalong PS App (Parent Area) and on the school website.

Change of Details/Circumstances

If your **contact details or other circumstances have changed** i.e. change of address, mobile number or child's medical details, then please contact the school using the communication slip within the App or by emailing:

pchambers413@c2kni.net

School Fund

Over the years we have asked parents for a voluntary contribution to school funds to assist with paying for essential resources. As you are aware with budgetary constraints this income is

very important to the school. We would ask for a contribution of £20 per family. This is a voluntary donation and can be paid via the random payment section in the school app.

The **Annalong Primary School App** continues to be a great success and is now used to book activities, pay for school meals, communicate with and notify us of absences. The App will be our main form of communication with parents. Download the App from the App Store and use access code 11111 to log on for the first time. If you continue to have difficulties, then please contact the school.

School Meals

School meals are available to all children.

The prices remain at £2.60 for Primary children and £2.50 for nursery children.

Please book using the above App for **both paid and free meals**. There is an option to specify either on the App.

If you believe that you are entitled to free school meals and/or help with school uniform, please contact the school. Eligible families and the school stand to benefit from each successful application. Thank you.

As there is a **transaction charge** each time you use the App to pay for meals or other activities, the cost to the school is reduced when you pay for that week's meals in one transaction.

Extended Schools

We are delighted to be approved once again for Extended Schools funding this will enable us to provide additional activities for our pupils throughout the year through Acti-Sport, Small Talk NI, 2-3 Club, Love for Life and more.

Small Talk NI sessions will begin with Nursery and P1 pupils on Monday 12th September and these classes will receive information about what these involve.

The **After School Programme** begins Monday 12th September for SOME classes.

Acti-Sport – Monday – 2pm-3pm for Primary 3 pupils.

Monday – 3pm-4pm for Primary 6 and 7

Both will cost £15 for a block of 10 sessions.

Please use the school app – random payment form. Places may be limited.

2-3 club will resume on Monday 19th September for P2 pupils from Monday-Thursday each week at a cost of £1.50 per day.

Parents will receive **class-specific letters** inviting their children to participate in the activities.

Other classes will get the opportunity to attend these clubs in the Spring and Summer Term.

Homework

Reading, spellings, tables/number facts will begin on 12th September for P4-7 pupils, and on Monday 26th September for P1-3 and written homework will also begin on Monday 26th September. Please speak to your child's teacher if you have any concerns about your child's homework.

School Uniform

Children are expected to wear their school uniform every day unless advised otherwise. Trainers are only allowed to be worn on a day when PE is timetabled. Please could you make sure uniform and in particular jumpers are named.

PE Days

P1 – Monday and Friday

P2 – Tuesday and Thursday

P 3– Tuesday and Thursday

P1-3 Pupils can wear trainers into school on their PE day.

P4 – Wednesday and Friday

P4/5 – Monday and Friday

P6 – Thursday and Friday

P7 – Tuesday and Friday

P4-7 pupils may wear their PE kit into school on their PE days.

Attendance

The class register is marked twice daily. A mark is given for AM attendance (morning) and for PM attendance (afternoon). If a child has a pre-arranged medical appointment, which lasts no

more than half a day, they will be given a present mark. Please can I remind you to ensure children are in school for 9am to ensure minimum disruption to classes. You must provide a reason why your child is off using the absence form on the school app in the Parent area.

New guidance states that pupils should be off school for a minimum of 3 days after a positive Covid-19 test or symptoms but please ensure they are well enough to return to school. If pupils suffer from diarrhoea or vomiting they should remain at home for 48 hours after their last bout of sickness.

Social Media

The school will soon be launching a **Facebook page** to further help communication with parents and the local community. This will prove to be extremely useful. Please look out for the social media policy which we will ask you to sign up to before we launch the page.

Queries/Concerns

Just to remind you that most day to day queries/concerns can be answered by the class teachers. If you need to see a teacher about a more serious issue, please make an appointment to see the teacher or Mr Chambers at an appropriate time.

Mr Chambers will be available after school Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and during school on Monday - Wednesday.

School Contact Details

Email: pchambers413@c2kni.net

Phone – **02843768336** or use the **Communication form on the School App.**

Please remember that we are a nut free school. Products containing nuts or traces of nuts must not be brought to school.