Principal: Mr G.C. McCluskey B.Ed (Hons), M.Ed, PQH (NI)

Telephone : Nursery Unit - 02893369812 Primary School - 02893351352



OAKFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY UNIT

www.oakfieldprimaryschool.com

Thursday 15 October 2020

Education Minister's Announcement

Education Minister, Peter Weir, has announced that schools will close for 2 full weeks from 19 – 30 October 2020 to act as a circuit breaker against the further spread of COVID-19.

- Oakfield teachers will send learning tasks/activities home today for next week.
 (Please do not use contingency folders sent home in September these 2 week packs will only be used if we are placed in a further lockdown situation or a specific class has to self-isolate from a positive COVID-19 case.)
- Following DE instruction, Oakfield staff will not be engaging in online work via Seesaw.
- Teachers at Oakfield PS and NU will go ahead with parent/teacher interviews next week as planned.
- Direct payments will be made to parents of children in receipt of free school meals.

• School will reopen on Monday 2 November 2020, but this is being kept under review by NI Executive. May we take this opportunity to encourage you and your families to stay safe and take no unnecessary risks during this time. Our hope is to return to as normal a school day and year as we can. We would ask that you play your part in mitigating the spread of this virus by following the guidelines given. Thank you all for your cooperation and support during this difficult time.

Changes to arrangements from Monday 2 November 2020

From Monday 2 November 2020, we are making some changes to our provision which we hope will benefit parents further with their child/ren's school life at Oakfield PS & NU.

| Classes | P1 | P2 & P3 | P4 | P5 & P6 | P7 |
|----------------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| Starting time | 9.00am | 9.05am | 9.00am | 8.55am | 9.00am |
| Finishing time | 1.55pm | 2.00pm | 2.50pm | 2.55pm | 3.00pm |

These starting and finishing times will be reviewed again in light of advice from DE, EA and the PHA for the second term commencing Monday 4 January 2021. *Please ensure that adults from different households are maintaining social distancing at all times.* As previously arranged, all siblings in one family may arrive together at school from the starting time of the earliest child.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club continues to be available for all primary pupils. Miss Davis runs our breakfast club alongside catering staff. Children attending breakfast club will be allocated a table associated with their class only. Attendance at breakfast club must be booked in advance with Mrs Craig on 02893351352 or mcraig913@c2kni.net and will run from **8am – 9am** at a cost of **£3** per day.

Reminder – only children attending Breakfast Club should be on school premises before 8.55am.

Nursery Unit News

The first 'Getting Read to Learn' session will be uploaded to YouTube on Friday, 16 October 2020. There will be a short information session for parents on the importance of language development and reading books together. Then a 'Book Look' activity will follow for parents and children. Stay safe, stay home and play!

'Engage programme'

We are delighted to have secured additional funding from DE to take part in the new 'Engage' programme. The main aim of the programme is to tackle any long-term impact of the Covid-19 lockdown. This programme will sit alongside and complement the valuable work done by our Special Educational Needs Support teacher, Mrs Simpson. We are employing an additional teacher to support classes in Literacy, Numeracy and mental health & well-being. We look forward to sharing more details with you in future weeks.

G. McCluskey

School Information for Parents : Oakfield Designated Teachers for Child ProtectionPrimary School - Miss L. GilmourNursery Unit - Mrs K. Wylie