

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

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OAKFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL
& NURSERY UNIT
www.oakfieldprimaryschool.com

Monday 20 September 2021

Welcome back to everyone

It has been truly wonderful to welcome everyone back to Oakfield PS & NU. The children are all very happy to be back and mixing with their friends and learning together in their 'consistent groups' (bubbles). Our P1 pupils have made an excellent start and our Nursery boys and girls are growing in confidence daily. Thank-you to staff and parents alike for working closely together to make our start to the new school year so successful during what continues to be challenging times.

Updated guidance on Covid measures in school

At Oakfield PS & NU, we have reviewed the updated guidance provided by the Department of Education. There are a number of pertinent changes from previous guidance regarding procedures should a child or adult display Covid symptoms in school. Symptoms as listed by the Public Health Agency (PHA).

- A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
 - A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
 - A loss of or change in sense of smell or taste
1. If anyone becomes unwell with Covid symptoms in school, they must be isolated and sent home immediately. The child/adult will go for a PCR test ASAP. Tests can be booked at : <http://covid-19.hscni.net/testing/>
 2. The school will inform parents if a member of the class has tested positive in their child's class.
 3. The children in that group will continue to attend school in their 'consistent grouping'.
 4. Where the individual tests negative, they can return to their class and end their self-isolation 48 hours after their symptoms have gone.
 5. Where the individual tests positive, the Public Health Agency now take the lead in identifying close contacts. So, if your child is identified as a close contact, you will be contacted by PHA directly.
 6. As agreed by NI Executive on 9 September 2021, parents will inform the school of test results. Mr McCluskey is the data controller for Oakfield PS & NU and will adhere to all GDPR protocols.
 7. All test results should be emailed to Mr McCluskey on gmcccluskey739@c2kni.net and copied to Mrs Craig on mcraig913@c2kni.net

General procedures being implemented to keep everyone safe

8. Pupils will continue to be taught in 'consistent groupings' (bubbles by another name).
9. Any pupil who exhibits symptoms associated with COVID-19 should not attend school.
10. If any child is absent from school for any reason, the school will need to be informed of the reason for their absence before they can be readmitted to school. *Ideally this should be on the morning of the first day of absence.*
11. No parents/guardians will be permitted inside our school building at this time.
12. Parents/Guardians should wear face coverings while on our school premises.
13. Parents/guardians leaving off and collecting children should remain socially distanced.
14. A drop-off container will again be placed outside our main entrance, for exchange of any necessary documentation, but we hope that most information will be exchanged electronically.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

We hope to conduct parent/teacher interviews on the afternoons of **Monday 18 – Friday 22 October 2021** prior to our Halloween break. We are looking at providing telephone interviews to update you on your child's progress to date. Interview times will be agreed via Seesaw. Finishing times during interview week will be slightly earlier as listed below.

P1 – 1.50pm P2 – 1.55pm P3 & P4 – 1.50pm P5 – 1.55pm P6 & P7 – 1.50pm

Welcoming Lori Erwin to the staff

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Lori Erwin to our staff. Lori works for Barnardos and will take on the role as counsellor in school one day per week. She will be working with individual pupils and also rolling out the wonderful 'bounce' resilience programme to our P4-7 classes.

Our new Sensory room - 'The happy hub'

We are delighted to announce that our new sensory room 'the happy hub' is up and running at Oakfield PS. This well-equipped resource can be accessed by all our classes and allows any child to calm and focus themselves so they can be better prepared for learning and interacting with others. See some photos below.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Term 1 2021-2022

<u>Day</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Year Group/s</u>	<u>Teacher(s) involved</u>
Monday	Sports & Craft	P4G	Miss Gilmour & Mrs Keaveney
Monday	Sports & Craft	P4B	Mrs Barrow & Mrs Wylie
Wednesday	Woodland Adventures	P6L	Miss Logan & Mrs Kirkpatrick
Wednesday	Creative Fun	P6/7McM	Mrs McMaster & Mrs Graham
Thursday	Hockey & ICT	P5M/T	Mrs Moore/Mrs Thompson & Miss Bill
Thursday	'Dramartic' Fun	P7McA	Mrs McAllister & Miss McIlwaine

- We plan to restart our after school clubs this term. We will keep all these clubs in class groupings.
- Each class will be divided in half and your child will be invited to attend their club for 3 weeks only - either for weeks 1-3 (GROUP 1) or weeks 4-6 (GROUP 2).
- All clubs will run from 3.00pm - 3.45pm. We plan to use our outdoor areas for clubs as much as possible.
 - You will receive more information about your child's after school club very shortly.

GROUP 1	
Week 1	Week commencing Monday 27 th September 2021
Week 2	Week commencing Monday 4 th October 2021
Week 3	Week commencing Monday 11 th October 2021
GROUP 2	
Week 4	Week commencing Monday 1 st November 2021
Week 5	Week commencing Monday 8 th November 2021
Week 6	Week commencing Monday 15 th November 2021

Oakfield PS & NU Data Capture Sheet

At the start of each year we update our Data Capture Form for everyone in school. This is to make sure that we have the correct information and details recorded and to give you the opportunity to update any changes that have occurred. Thank you to everyone who has already returned these. For any outstanding forms, please complete and return to Mrs Craig via email mcraig913@c2kni.net as soon as possible.

Holiday List 2021/2022

The holiday list for this academic year is listed below and also has been added to our school website. The following are the school closure dates for the 2021/2022 school year. Please note all dates are inclusive.

Autumn Half Term Break 2021 (Total 5 school days)

Monday 25 – Friday 29 October 2021

Christmas Holidays 2021 (Total 9 school days)

Thursday 23 December 2021 – Tuesday 4 January 2022

Spring Half Term Break 2022 (Total 5 school days)

Monday 14 – Friday 18 February 2022

St Patrick's Day 2022 (Total 1 school day)

Thursday 17 March 2022

Easter 2022 (Total 8 school days)

Wednesday 13 – Friday 22 April 2022

May Day Holiday 2022 (Total 2 school day)

Monday 2 - Tuesday 3 May 2022

Exceptional Closure (Total 2 school days)

Tuesday 31 May - Wednesday 1 June 2022

Bank Holiday 2022 (Total 2 school day)

Thursday 2 – Friday 3 June 2022

School Year Ends – Thursday 30 June 2022

AQE 2021/2022

The Board of the Association for Quality Education (AQE) has announced that the AQE assessments will take place on:

Saturday 20 November 2021

Saturday 27 November 2021

Saturday 4 December 2021

The closing date for P7 applications to enter the AQE is **Friday 24 September 2021 @ 5pm.** www.aqe.org.uk

Flu vaccination information

P1 – P7 children will have received information from the Northern Health and Social Care Trust about the upcoming flu vaccinations. Further general advice from NHSCT has been placed on the news section of our school website. Our school nurses are hoping to complete the P1-P7 flu vaccinations on the morning of **Friday 22 October 2021.**

G. McCluskey

School Information for Parents : Oakfield Designated Teacher for Child Protection
Primary School - Miss L. Gilmour Nursery Unit - Mrs K. Wylie

