

Garvagh Primary School

March 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the end of Term 2 approaches I am delighted to report that Garvagh Primary School is continuing to go forward in strength. We have enjoyed many great opportunities together in our school family and are looking ahead excitedly to our summer term.

World Book Day

We enjoyed a special celebration for World Book Day. Thank you to everyone who took the time to dress up for the event. You all looked fantastic!



Partnering with St Patrick's and St Joseph's Primary School

We have been delighted to work together with the Principal, staff and pupils from our neighbouring school. I am pleased to report that all children are very much enjoying getting to know each other and studying about the life and work of Harry Ferguson.



Bus Travel to School

We have been advised that there will be some disruption to the EA yellow bus routes which transport children to and from school. A small number of families concerned have been contacted. This situation though short term is not ideal and whilst we thank everyone for their co-operation, should this cause you particular difficulty, I would encourage you to contact the Transport Department at Co Hall, Ballymena.



Health and Safety

Parking

We have previously been advised by EA that due to the limited parking and turning space within the school grounds drop off and parking on site should be restricted to school buses and staff. Therefore, I would respectfully remind all parents that, with the exception of disabled facilities, drop off and parking should happen outside the school gates. Thank you for respecting this.



Allergies

Please be advised that as children using our school site have been diagnosed with the potential for severe allergic reactions the following safeguards are currently in place; there is a **total ban on peanuts in their whole state and all foods which contain peanuts throughout the building** and a **strict no food policy** in the middle wing of our school currently between the hours of 9am and 12.30pm. Thank you for respecting this.



Head lice

Having checked with School Nursing I am re-advised that it is the parents' responsibility to regularly check their child's hair and to take appropriate action as necessary. In the interest of all children and staff I would appreciate if all parents could keep this matter under review. Treatments are available free under the Minor Ailments Scheme at the local pharmacy. Please avail of these if there is a need.

Extended provision

Munch Bunch Breakfast Club runs each morning serving a selection of cereal, breads and juice at a cost of £1.50 per session from 8am until 8.30am when morning supervision begins. The Club continues to prove very popular with children and parents alike. We are glad that this service is proving helpful to so many local families. Thank you to everyone who is supporting us. We would really appreciate those who know in advance which days they wish to use this facility completing the slip below. At this stage we can still accommodate additional children coming along without prior booking.



Ducklings

Our Ducklings Club is also thriving. So much so that we have had to recruit a parent volunteer to support us on particularly busy days! Again we are delighted to report that our youngest children are loving this play based club. Conversation from parents confirms this! Thank you to everyone who is supporting us. We would really appreciate those who know in advance which days they wish to use this facility completing the slip below. At this stage we can still accommodate additional children coming along without prior booking.



After Schools Clubs

We will be starting a new set of clubs in the week beginning Monday 9th April. Clubs will run continuously for period of 10 weeks as set out below finishing on Thursday 14th June. We are confident that there will be something new and exciting to have a go at!

I am particularly keen to draw your attention to our new Little Acorns Forest School which will be offered to our P1&2 children each Wednesday from 2.15-3.15pm. We thank Mrs Rule for agreeing to lead this club as part of her accreditation for the Forest Leader Level 3 training programme with NIFSA.

Similarly, I would like to also point out we are embarking on a new sewing circle class. We are very thankful to Mrs Farlow for taking the lead in teaching this new skill to our children.

Day	Club	Classes	Leader	Cost
Monday	Sewing circle	P4-7	Mrs P Farlow and Mrs Wilson	£1
Tuesday	Multi sports	P3-7	Miss Barr	Free
	Ducklings	P1&2	Mrs J Irwin	£1.50
Wednesday	STEM club	P3-7	Mrs K Bredin	Free
	Forest School* In our own school grounds (6 weeks up until 16 th May)	P1&2	Mrs K Rule and Mrs J Irwin	£1
Thursday	AQE Club	P6	Mrs E Speers and Mrs J Boyd	Free
	Scottish Dance	P3-7	Ms Clare Evans	£1
	Ducklings	P1&2	Mrs J Irwin	£1.50

Please complete the permission slip and return to school to book your place at any clubs which interest your children).

Speech and Drama Club

Please note there will be no Speech and Drama club on Monday 12th March as Mrs Crowe is attending the Festival. We would encourage all children to spend 10-15 minutes rehearsing their poem(s) before public performance.



Forest School

P5 will be engaging in the Forest School from 10.30-12 noon on Thursday 8th, 15th and 22nd.

Dates for your diary

Please take note of the following dates;

March

- Wednesday 7th – School Football matches in Garvagh PS
- Monday 12th – No Speech and Drama club
- Monday 19th – PTA 7pm
- Tuesday 20th – Easter Open Assembly (all parent and friends welcome)
- Wednesday 21st - P5-7 History talk with Mr Mc Meekin
Stay and Play Reception event at 11.30am
- Thursday 22nd - Easter Lunch
- Friday 23rd - Brunch

Community news

PTA

We express our thanks to the PTA for hosting our recent Quiz evening. All those who attended commented on how they thoroughly enjoyed the quiz, the company and the craic! It was great for us all to spend time together having fun! A fantastic total of £432.62 was raised.

Saint Patrick

A Cross Community Celebration of St Patrick will be held on Friday 16th March at 7.30pm at St Paul's Parish. We thank Canon Whittaker for his kindness in sharing the donations received on the evening between St Patrick's and St Joseph's Primary School and Garvagh Primary School.



Easter Competitions

We are running a little competition in school to guess the number of chocolate eggs in a jar. There is already lots of careful estimating going on! So if you haven't yet had a go call in with Mrs Catherwood and try your luck. Three guesses for £1. It would make a lovely Easter treat! All proceeds will be used directly by the school to continue to provide essential items and experiences for our children.



The School Council have also organised a competition and all children are invited to decorate a hard-boiled egg for Easter. There will be a prize donated by the PTA for the best decorated egg in each year group. Decorated eggs should be brought into school on Wednesday 21st March for display and will be judged on Thursday 22nd. The School Council would appreciate a £1 donation entry fee.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Connor & Tyler who have recently joined our Eco Champions Team. Our Eco Champions Team have been busy over the past few weeks planting flowers and maintaining our bird feeders.



Easter Lunch and Brunch Menu

The canteen staff have kindly organised an Easter Lunch which will be held on Thursday 22nd March and a special brunch menu for the last day of term on Friday 23rd March.

Both these menus are attached and should be returned before Friday 16th March.

Reception children are invited to attend both the Easter Lunch and the End of Term Brunch – On Thursday collection time will be 1.15pm and Friday will be normal time of 12.00pm

Milk

Milk for the new term will recommence on Monday 9th April and again payment will be on a termly basis. The cost for the next term is £11.97. If you wish to order milk for the next term please complete the attached slip and return to your child's teacher on or before Friday 16th March. We would greatly appreciate the correct change please.

Easter Holidays

School will close at 12 noon on Friday 23rd March and will re-open on Monday 9th April.

We wish all our families a restful and relaxing holiday.

Miss Neely BA(Hons) MSc PQH(NI)



GARVAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

MUNCH BUNCH BREAKFAST CLUB BOOKING FORM

Name(s) of pupil(s): _____

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
		MARCH		
12 th	13 th	14 th	15 th	16 th
19 th	20 th	21 st	22 nd	23 rd
		APRIL		
9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th
16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th
23 rd	24 th	25 th	26 th	27 th
30 th				

DUCKLINGS AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Name(s) of pupil(s): _____

	Tuesday		Thursday	
MARCH	13 th		15 th	
	20 th		22 nd	
APRIL	10 th		12 th	
	17 th		19 th	
	24 th		26 th	



AFTER SCHOOL BOOKING FORM

My child(ren) from P..... wish(es) to attend the following after school clubs

Day & Time	Club	Name of child(ren)
Monday 3.15 - 4.15pm	Sewing circle (P4-P7)	
Tuesday 3.15 - 4.15pm	Multi Sports (P3-P7)	
Wednesday 3.15 – 4.15pm	STEM club (P3-P7)	
Wednesday 2.15 – 3.15 pm	Forest School* P1-P2 In our own school grounds (6 weeks up until 16 th May)	
Thursday 3.15 – 4.15pm	AQE Club P6	
Thursday 3.15 – 4.15pm	Scottish Dance P3-P7	

I understand that a small charge may be levied on some clubs to assist with resources and staffing while other clubs operate free of charge.

SignedParent/Carer

MILK ORDER

I wish my child(ren) _____ from P _____ to order Schools Milk for the term (09/04/2018 – 29/06/2018) I enclose payment of **£11.97** per child.



_____ Parent/Carer

Kindly return this slip to your child's teacher on or before Friday 16th March. Thank you.
