



"Learning for Tomorrow"

Ballymoney Model Controlled Integrated Primary School

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Welcome back



We hope all the children have had a good holiday and are ready to return for a great school year. We especially welcome new pupils, both into Year 1 and throughout the school, hoping they settle quickly into our happy and supportive environment.

To continue to enhance our teaching and learning environment the Year 1 classrooms were painted over the summer.

In our gardening area all the fruit and vegetables have flourished over the summer. We are always looking for gardening volunteers so if you have a talent in this area and could give us a little of your time every so often please let us know.

We continue to have very positive pupil numbers within the school and this year we are starting the school year with four hundred and four pupils on the school register which is very encouraging for the Board of Governors and staff of the school.

School opens at 8.45am and to ensure good supervision Y1–2 pupils will come to their classroom in the morning where they can get settled and organised for the day ahead. Y3-7 pupils will come into school and then go out to the back playground.

Last year the *Friends of the Model* under Andrea Caldwell (Chairperson), Billy Clarke (Vice-Chairperson) and Joan Peden (Treasurer) had another successful year raising over £3000 to purchase additional resources for the school. We very much appreciate the time, effort and commitment from all those involved within the *Friends of the Model* in working together to raise funds to enhance the children's enjoyment and learning within our school. Please if you are not already involved consider joining *Friends of the Model*.

Looking forward to another great year.

Mrs Jamison



Home Times

Year 1 will finish at the following times:-

- 30th August – 13th September – 12 noon
- 16th September – 27th September – 1.15pm
- 30th September onwards – 1.55pm

Year 2 will finish at 2.00pm each day (1.55pm for the first four weeks).

Year 3 will finish at 2.55pm on a Monday and Tuesday and 2.00pm on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

Year 4 – 7 will finish at 3.00pm each day.

Important Documents

A number of important documents will soon be distributed:-

- Parents' Pastoral Care Guide 2019/20
(Please ensure that your family reply sheet is returned to your eldest child's class teacher.)
- Data Collection Letters to those parents that were unable to attend the parent information sessions
- Using ICT Safe Internet Agreement



★ **Data Capture**

★ At the beginning of a new school year we always review our data capture information. Have you moved house? Have your emergency contacts changed? Please let the school office know. We are sure you can appreciate that when an emergency arises, we must be in a position to respond to the needs of individual children.

★ Due to current Human Rights Data Protection legislation and the Children (NI) Order 1995 and child protection requirements, it is essential that the school keeps up to date information on file. It is your obligation to provide us with whatever information is necessary to meet these expectations. We would therefore ask that you advise us if there are any current court orders or parental responsibility issues relating to your child – e.g. Parental Responsibility Order, Residence Order, Non-Molestation Order, etc. We must emphasise that it is essential that you make us aware if any changes in contact telephone numbers, circumstances, parental access or court orders as they occur during the school year. All such information will be treated with the utmost confidence and will only be disclosed to those staff who need to know to ensure your child's safety and well-being at all times. As the Non-Molestation Order gives legal directions regarding exclusion of a certain individual, it is useful for the school to have a copy of this order to keep on the child's file. This enables us to act quickly should such a situation arise.

★ **Medical Issues**

★ Legally, schools are not compelled to administer medication to children unless absolutely necessary, i.e., chronic conditions - diabetes, epilepsy and anaphylaxis. Ideally the administration of other medication to children should be given by parents and if your child requires regular short-term medication we believe that the child would convalesce better at home. Should your child require antibiotics during school hours you are required to complete the necessary paperwork with Mrs Carson, Year 1 teacher, between 8.45am - 9.00am. Antibiotics should be clearly marked with the name of the child, the dosage and time that the medication needs to be administered. Parents should hand the medication directly to Mrs Carson and complete a consent form. If the consent form is not completed by a parent, we cannot administer medication. At the end of the school day the medicine will be left at the school office for parents to collect.

★ Please remember to update the school during the course of the year of any changes in your child's medical history. It is very important that we are made aware of all conditions and allergies of the pupils in our care. Mrs Boreland, Year 3 teacher, is responsible for Pupils' Medical Needs within school. If you would like to speak to her at any time, please phone the school office to make an appointment at a suitable time. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

★ **School Uniform**

★ During September children can have the option of wearing either our summer or winter uniform. Please ensure that all uniform and particularly sweatshirts and plimsolls/trainers are clearly labelled.

★ **Milk Money**

★ Milk Money for the first term is £14.07 (Monday 9th September – Thursday 19th December less School Development Days). If you wish to order milk for your child please pay online using Agora. The parents of new pupils will be emailed with an Agora password on Monday.

★ **Healthy Breaks**

★ Following the guidance from the Department of Education we encourage children to have a healthy break. We have fresh, filtered water available for children to drink throughout the day. Pupils have a fifteen minute break mid-morning and the children are encouraged during this period to eat only fruit, yogurt, vegetable or bread based products and drink only milk and water. Year 3 -7 pupils can purchase fruit at a cost of 20p.

★ **School Dinners**

★ School dinners are currently £2.60 per day. The menu for the term when prepared by the School Kitchen will be added to the school website and app for your information.

★ Year 1–3 children – Parents are asked to inform the class teacher which days their child will be ordering a school dinner. Parents pay for school dinners using the online Agora system.

★ Year 4–7 children – Parents pay using the online Agora system.

★ The parents of new pupils will be issued with an Agora password. Any problems please speak to Mrs Arlow in the school office.



