



Parent Information Sheet
Friday 10th January 2020

Points for READY TO LEARN, RESPECTFUL AND SAFE for this week are...

Eagles - 478 points Hawks - 450 points Owls - 418 points **Falcons - 480 points**

**Additional points for no reminders, warnings or loss of dojos for a month (December) or two months!
(November & December)**

Eagles - 2600 points Hawks - 2150points Owls - 2100 points Falcons - 2050points

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

We hope you all had a great Christmas break and enjoyed time spent with family and friends over the festive period. It really did feel like a good break and it was much needed at the end of term one which is always the longest! However, all good things must come to an end and it is always good to get back to a set routine. It may take everyone's body clock a couple of weeks to fully adjust but I know for sure that I will sleep well this weekend.

Assembly

"For assembly yesterday we were talking about Christmas and New Year resolutions. Miss Finlay had a present and she got us to guess what was inside. Three people went up and were able to pull something out of the box. They were pieces of paper with New Year resolutions on them. The resolutions belonged to Mrs Finlay. They were all about being kind, respectful and safe, which are like our school rules. We also talked about who could help us keep our resolutions. We talked about how our family, teachers and friends could help us. We sang 'You've Got A Friend In Me.' The assembly was really fun and interesting and taught us a lot." By Delphine Lynas

Morning Routine

At the start of a new term it is a good time to remind everyone of the importance of our morning routine. P1, P2 & P3 children should be dropped off in the driveway anytime from 8.45am. The children know their line up spots well. The lines will move in pretty much straight away with the staff doing shuttle runs so that any children arriving after the lines have moved off will be accompanied in by a member of staff.. The rear of the school is off limits for all other adults. The P4s line up at the front door and the P6, P7 & P5s line up at the front classroom doors. The only class entering through the front door is the P4 class. Once the P4s are taken in by the teacher or the classroom assistant the front doors will be closed to keep everyone safe and so being on time is really important. Should it be raining **heavily** of a morning then the side gate will remain shut and the children in P1 to P3 will line up in the hall rather than the drive and we will open the doors slightly earlier. If the side gate to the drive is open it means that we are still entering by the rear of the school as normal despite a bit of drizzle.. We have really appreciated your support in making sure that your children arrive in good time in the mornings. It makes such a difference to the start of the day in the classroom with lessons starting more or less straight away at 8.55am. Any children arriving after 8.55am needs to be signed in late.

Traffic Management

I would also like to remind everyone again that to keep the children in our school safe, we all need to drive with additional care around the Seahill area and, in particular, the school vicinity. I would like to take this opportunity to remind drivers NOT to use the zig-zag lines as a drop off zone or complete U-turns outside school in the face of traffic coming both ways and on occasions reversing dangerously close to children on the footpath and to refrain from parking against the flow of traffic therefore having to pull out into oncoming traffic. The zig-zag lines indicate a NO PARKING zone and should be left clear for children and adults to cross the road safely. Drivers can avoid U-turns outside school by either taking just a few moments more to drive round Craigdarragh with the flow of traffic or park further away from school on the same side of the road and walk that little bit further avoiding the congestion altogether and benefitting from the exercise in the process.

Smart Panels - Thank you PTA!!

On the last day of term we had three new interactive panels installed in P5, P6 & P7. What a lovely Christmas present for our children thanks to the fundraising of the PTA! These panels are like giant tablets on the wall. The clarity of the work on the screen is amazing, the ability to access various learning tools is similar to that of an ipad and the functions available to develop teaching approaches is really exciting. We have also invested in a portable stand for a fourth Panel so that this can be used by the other members of staff who haven't got their own boards yet and also used for our classes in the ICT where demonstrating teaching is so important.



"This week we have been experiencing the different functions of our new smart panel. It is a lot easier to use and we have been using it to give our feedback about group work with all the groups using the panel at once. In maths we are learning about angles and lines. The panel helped us because we had a huge interactive protractor and could use it to measure and compare angles. It's really cool because we now airplay 4 iPads on screen at once in group activities. There is a 3D interactive globe app that we have looked at too. A huge thankyou to the PTA for making this happen."
Anton and Felix P7

PTA Shopping Trip to Kildare

The PTA annual Kildare shopping trip has been confirmed for **Saturday 29th February**. More details will follow but if you like a day out with a bit of shopping thrown in as well as VIP treatment from the team at the Kildare Shopping Village then why not pop the date in your diary and gather up a group of like minded friends.

Nearly New Uniform Shop

Mrs White will have the Nearly New rails out again next Friday 17th and Monday 23rd January. The rails will be set up in the hall at drop off and pick up times and the usual; Honesty Box system will be in operation.

P1 Admissions - IMPORTANT!!!

If you are a parent of a child due to start Nursery or P1 in September 2020 then it is important that you know that the application process is now OPEN. The online application process opened on **Tuesday 7th January and will close at 12 noon on 30th January**. There will be a further week (up to the 7th February) for any additional verification documents to be presented to your first preference school.

We will be holding two **Open Mornings this Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th January at 11.00am**. There is also be an Admissions HUB on the Education Authority website that I would highly recommend you visit.

(www.eani.org.uk)

School Photographs – THURSDAY 23RD JANUARY

Opus Photography will be in school on Thursday 23rd January to take individual or family pupil photographs. Opus offer a flexible package with a small proof going home and selection of prints being ordered and paid for online. Photos can even be cropped to suit your personal taste.

It would be very helpful if parents were able to pass on their thoughts on the quality of the photos and service this year – positive as well as negative. A permission form for the school photographs to be taken will be going home on Monday. **If you would like your child's school photograph taken, the form must be returned. The photographer will not take a photograph unless parental permission is given via the flier that went home.** The slip must be returned by Friday Monday 20th January. If, when the proof arrives, you are not happy with the photograph, there is no obligation to purchase simply return the proof.

Sacrament Dates

Just to give you advance notice this year's Confirmation Service at St. Colmcille's will be Tuesday 28th April at 4.00pm and First Communion will be on 30th May at 10.00am.

Dates to put in your diary...

Thursday 23rd January

Tues 28th & Wed 29th Jan.

Mon 17th – Fri 21st Feb

Week Beg, 2nd March

Tues 10th & Wed 11th Mar

Tuesday 17th March

Wed. 18th - Fri 20th March

Week Beg. 30th March

Friday 3rd April

OPUS School Photographs

P7 Transfer Interviews

Half Term Holiday

Integrated Education Week

KS1 Production of Animal Rumble Grumble

St. Patrick's Day (SCHOOL CLOSED)

P6 Trip to Ganaway

Parent Teacher Interviews

SCHOOL FINISHES AT NOON FOR THE EASTER HOLIDAYS