



Ampertaine Primary School

Wednesday 10th February 2021
Latest Information



Dear Parents,

Thank you for all of your emails and comments this week. Your support to us has been greatly welcomed and appreciated. It is at times like these when the true strength of our school community comes to the front and shines. Thank you all from all of the staff in school and working remotely.

Children's Mental Health Week Success

- Since our Mental Health Week we have received lots of emails and photos showcasing exactly what you had been up to and how much you all enjoyed the event. Looking through the photos has been lovely for us all to see each other again and discover some of the hidden talents amongst our always impressive Ampertaine pupils.
- ALL photos sent in are on our school website as slide shows. We would encourage you all to take a moment and watch them. Wisdom Wednesday always makes us hungry after watching it!

Remember to click on 'Learning' tab on the website

- PLEASE make use of the links and shortcuts to apps which can be found on our website. You simply have to click on the 'Learning' tab and this will bring you to the page. The information found here ranges in appropriateness for the pupils. We would ask parents to explore for themselves first. The links range in subjects and offer an alternative avenue to gain more activities for those at home. Some of the links require a sign up process to access the free material.
We hope you find the links helpful and beneficial.

Remote Learning Survey

- As we approach half-term we are reviewing our remote learning provision. We hope that we can be back to face to face teaching as soon as possible. Clearly face to face teaching is the best way for children to learn. However, as always we hope for the best and plan for the worst.
- Please take a few minutes to complete this simple questionnaire on the basis of your experience during the current period of remote learning. If you have more than one child at the school, please choose one of them and answer in respect of that individual child. Please select the most appropriate box for each statement.
- https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf1rzELxciUDD9DyzwVw9N1JII1e4QL3257trn4uEOraJwupQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0&usp=mail_form_link

P6 Transfer Preparation

- Our present situation has hindered our usual approach to this procedure and as a result the time frame and provision will be different from previous years.
- To register your interest for your child to take part in this year's extra work please email mdillon539@c2ken.net.
- Our wish is to begin work shortly after the half term holidays. A Time frame and guide will be sent to those who express an interest.

Seesaw and Google Classroom

- Materials will be available from **9pm the evening before, read over all the instructions given by the teachers. These are very detailed with specific guidance for your children.**
- The Department of Education's guidance to all schools for this lockdown has changed. Each teacher must continue to record daily attendance. **Children who are not active in remote learning will be recorded as absent.**
- Each child should leave a message and upload work every day, where possible. **Uploaded work will demonstrate participation and the school can record that accordingly in our system for attendance.**
- If your child misses an activity or is unable to upload work on the day it was set that is okay! We understand! Remember your teachers are available online every day during normal teaching hours.
- If you are unable to do the work for any reason please contact the school through our info account and **we can grant an attendance mark.**

Half term holiday plans

- As you are aware this year our half term is from Wednesday 17th – Friday 19th February. Due to the success of our Wellbeing week we have been able to witness the positive effect on our school community and the much needed time for families to relax and reflect with each other.
- With this in mind the Monday (15th) and the Tuesday (16th) of that week will be slightly different compared to our normal roll out of activities.
- Monday 15th February each room will be invited to take part in the Kids Recycling Competition being run by the Mid Ulster Council. Please see the last page of our Newsletter for more information. Further details will be uploaded to the remote learning platforms.
- Tuesday 16th February each class will be asked to take part in our Pancake Day whole school activity. Like previous years in Ampertaine Pancake Tuesday is a BIG deal! Making pancakes is the perfect opportunity to hon those baking skills but also incorporate Numeracy and Literacy in a fun and very interactive way. Further information will be uploaded to our remote learning platforms.
- Similar to Mental Wellbeing Week we would ask for all pictures from the two days to be sent to info@ampertaineps.maghera.ni.sch.uk

Collection of School Resources due to lockdown extension

- Materials will be available for parents to collect from school on Monday 22nd February. The materials are pupil specific and will range in provision according to their class and educational level.
- We will be operating a "Drive through" style collection again. We ask you to follow the current drop off/collection system as indicated in our car park.
- Similar to our current system in the interest safety would we ask for everyone to stay in their vehicles. Staff will be passing resources through your car window.

- Time table for collection

Time
11am – 11:15am
11:15am – 11:45am
11:45 – 12:30pm

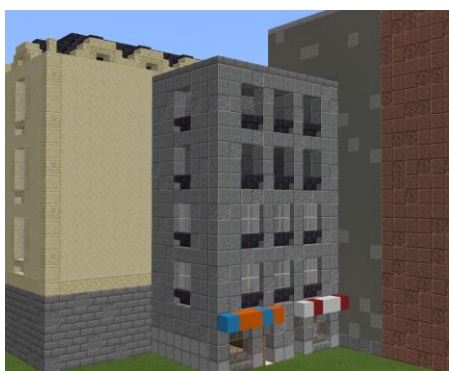
Number of children per family at school
3 or more
2 pupils
1 pupil



Ampertaine Stars



Victoria tried the outdoor gym at Portglenone Marina today and it then snowed! This is a fantastic picture and it is excellent to see people getting out and about in their local area. Super stuff Victoria!



Daniel has been very busy constructing his now quite frankly metropolis. Some of the more eagle eyed of you might have notice a plaque at the bottom of the tree. The plaque is for the Mayor- Mayor Nillager (Villager but with an N) 😊. Fantastic effort and work Daniel we can't wait to get a guided tour around it.



The picture above does not do this build justice. Matthew has made a roller coaster in his town. He even has a mountain with a tunnel in it (as featured in the picture). Room 4 have been lucky to actually see what it would be like to travel on the roller coaster. Super work Matthew!

It has been brilliant to see all the different things you have all been up to. If you would like to send a picture to share with our school community email info@ampertaineps.maghera.ni.sch.uk and include a little sentence or two about the photo.

Parentline NI

- Parentline NI Are running more sessions on “Surviving Separation,” due to the demand. Their helpline flyer is also on their FB page @parentlineni
- This is another area where Parents and Families across NI are finding themselves in. Parentline NI are always here to help and we would encourage you all to read the information and use this service if you feel it would be helpful or beneficial in anyway.
- For more information or to book a place call free 0808 8020 400



Surviving Separation

Parentline NI is running FREE and confidential one to one sessions with Parent Support Officer Kathy

- Support for any parent before, during or after separation.
- Support to recognise your existing strengths and develop new coping strategies.
- Support to find additional information and resources.
- Support to manage practical and communication difficulties.
- Support to help you provide ongoing emotional stability and best outcomes for your children.

When: Every Thursday in February and March

For more information or to book a place call free 0808 8020 400

 facebook.com/parentlineni  @ChildreninNI



Provision for children of Key Workers

- While it is crucial that key workers are able to attend work, if there is a parent / guardian / elder sibling at home or other provision available to key workers, then you must use that provision. This is essential to avoid schools becoming overwhelmed and having to close completely on safety grounds. THE SAFEST PLACE FOR CHILDREN IS IN THEIR OWN HOME.
- In order to avoid mass lock-downs we ask anyone sending their children to school to be particularly vigilant. If a child shows any symptoms he / she should remain at home.
- Children will have their temperatures taken on arrival and will not be allowed entry should they be presenting with a high temperature.
- **Children should bring a packed lunch.**
- **Children should attend wearing their school uniform.**
- **If learning activities are paper based, these should be printed and brought to school.**

Anyone who feels they may be entitled to apply for key worker provision needs to email Mr Dillon on mdillon539@c2ken.net no later than 2p.m on Friday. Please provide the following details:

- parents names;
- a contact telephone number and email address;
- children’s names, classes and teachers;
- parents’ occupation that entitles you to key-worker provision; and
- which days you need your child to attend.

Finally.....

On Tuesday 9th February our whole school took part in Safer Internet Day. Using the Internet safely and positively is a key message that we wish to promote in school.

This was a great opportunity to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year.

We hope this encouraged conversations at home and helped us all to gain a better understanding of how the internet is constantly evolving. It is incredibly important for us all to try and keep up with these changes as screen time seems to be ever increasing.

Our two days of whole school activities will hopefully help with the screen time fatigue and be a helpful introduction to the week just before our half term break.

Keep persevering, Keep safe and keep trying your best.

From all at Ampertaine

Monday 15th February each room will be invited to take part in the Kids Recycling Competition being run by the Mid Ulster Council

The Challenge:

Primary school children in the district are invited to take part in the competition by creating a sculpture out of the everyday recyclable items found in their blue bin. It can be a fairy, a robot, a rocket, a car or even a scary dinosaur. There are so many marvellous things waiting to be discovered!

The challenge aims to make children more aware of the items in their blue bin, and enhance their understanding of the importance of recycling and re-using our waste.

The Rules:

competition is only open to children who live or attend school in Mid Ulster.

Only 1 entry per child.

Sculptures must be made from at least 2 recycled materials found in your blue bin.

Sculptures must be 3D.

All materials used in the creation of your sculpture apart from paint, tape, glue or fasteners used to hold it together must be recycled from your blue bin.

Entries must include the child's, name, age, school and contact details and a paragraph explaining what your sculpture is and listing the main materials used.

It must also include a minimum of 2 photos but no more than 4 of your sculpture.

Sculptures must be photographed and entries must be submitted electronically to torecycling@midulstercouncil.org by Wednesday 10th March 2021.

All sculptures should be age appropriate. Parents can help but it should be the child's work.

The prizes:

10 lucky winners will receive a brand new Fire 7 tablet and the most creative entries will be profiled on the Council's social media channels.

Closing Date:

The competition closes on Wednesday 10th March 2021.

For more information on the competition visit www.midulstercouncil.org/binsmart or contact John Murtagh

at Mid Ulster District Council on:

Tel: 03000 132 132 ext. 23402

E: john.murtagh@midulstercouncil.org

