



Friday 28<sup>th</sup> September

### Action MS Assembly

Thanks to Noreen from Action MS who came into school yesterday to talk to all the children about the work of this charity. As a school we will be supporting Action MS through a whole school sponsored walk on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October at Castlewellan Forest Park. Letters giving details about the walk will be handed out at the beginning of next week.

### Linguistics Phonics Workshop and Parent Governor Elections

Hopefully everyone should have received notification about these two events happening on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October (for times see below). Please do come along and find out about all the ways you can support your child(ren) with developing good phonics skills. This event is for all parents as we use this method of teaching phonics throughout the whole school. Following the phonics workshop we will be running our elections for new Parent Governors. Please don't hesitate to ask if you would like further information on either of these.

### Parent Leaflet on Assessment at All Children's

During last year's parent audit a number of parents asked if we could produce a leaflet explaining how we assess at school. We have recently finished a new leaflet for parents explaining this and a copy of the leaflet will be sent home with each child today.

### Pupil Council

Our Pupil Council is one of the most important ways in which we try to encourage our pupils to have a say in helping us further improve our school. The Council is made up of children from P4 to P7 and on Thursday last Mr Houlahan took the weekly assembly explaining to everyone how the Council is formed, what it does and how it works. Congratulations to Niamh & Bridie from P4, Kitty & Louis from P5, Odhran & Joshua from P6 and Yaseen, Conor & Megan from P7 who were all voted onto the Council. Their first meeting will be next week and I will give some feedback on the main issues

discussed in the next Friday Note. We will also soon be voting for our Eco-Council who will also have a busy year with a range of new environmental projects planned.



### Parking

Thanks very much to everyone who has continued to not park in the turning circle or along the road outside the school. A small group of parents are occasionally still parking in the turning circle and it would be appreciated if this stopped immediately as it causes considerable frustration to parents trying to drop their children off, particularly in the morning. ***Please never leave your car in the turning circle to either walk your child(ren) to the playground or collect your child (ren) at hometime unless you are in one of the following groups:***

- ***our local childcare providers;***
- ***those with mobility issues who need to collect close to the school***

Shimna College have very generously allowed all our parents to park in their car-park and walk across to collect children. **Your co-operation with this important issue would be very much appreciated.**



### **M and M Production of Peter Pan**

On the 18<sup>th</sup> October all the children are going to be entertained with a production of Peter Pan by the theatre company M and M. We are asking that everyone brings in £1 to cover the cost of the production. Thanks.

### **Parent Helpers for School Trips**

Each year we try to encourage any parents, who might be able to spare the time, to help with supervision on occasional school trips. If you think you might be interested please contact the office who will pass the necessary Access NI (safeguarding) forms (as volunteers there is no charge) for you to complete.

### **Parents Council Committee**

Our Parents Council met for the first time several weeks ago and are already beginning to plan out events for this year. Congratulations to Mrs Keown, who is the Chair for this year and to Mrs Matthews who will be Secretary. They are keen to hear from anyone with experience of running children's discos or anyone who could help with printing for information leaflets/flyers etc as well as anyone who can give a few hours to help with PCC events. Last year our PCC raised over £5000 providing much needed funding for a range of school projects. If you are able to help please let the office know and we will put you in contact with the Council.

### **Top Tips for Parents**

We are also sending home today a leaflet from the Family Policy Unit which gives a great set of tips on positive parenting.

### **Road Safety Assemblies**

Thanks to the PSNI who came into school last Tuesday and ran three assemblies explaining to the children a wide range of important road safety messages.

### **Black School Shoes**

Finally, can I ask that children come to school wearing black school shoes (and not coloured trainers) as this is part of our agreed school uniform.

### **Up and Coming Events**

Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October	P4 Shared Education Workshop with CRIS (Community Relations in Schools)
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	'Uberheroes' (good mental health) workshop for P7s Whole School Safeguarding Assembly Linguistic Phonics Workshop for Parents (6-00pm) Parent Governor elections (7-30pm)
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Beginning of Year Mass (10-00am) First School Council meeting of 2018-2019
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Action MS Walk (details to follow)
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	P4 Shared Education Field Trip (Murlough Beach)
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	M and M productions 'Peter Pan' (12-45pm) First P7 Tollymore workshop
Week 22 <sup>nd</sup> - 26 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Teacher Interviews
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October	School finishes for Halloween Break
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	School re-opens