



01/09/23

Menu Week 4
from Monday

CIPS Weekly Bulletin

Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to all our pupils and families! For some of you, this is your first year at our school and we want you to feel welcome and informed about our school so we have put an A-Z Guide at the end of this bulletin. However, this guide is also useful for all our returning families, so I would urge everyone to read it.



I would also like to extend a warm welcome to new staff who have joined us this year. Joining the teaching staff, we welcome Miss O'Rawe (P1) and Miss Todd (P2). We would also like to welcome non-teaching staff who will be supporting the teachers – Miss Cochrane, Miss Spence, Miss Houston and Miss Kashyap.

New Routines



The children have been settling into their new routines since Tuesday and should now know the door that they enter in the morning. From next week, with the exception of Primary One children, all other children should be entering the main playground gate on their own. Staff will be on hand to supervise and assist all children arriving into their classrooms safely. This is not only good child protection practice, it also helps children become more independent and self-sufficient. We ask all parents to adhere to this and thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Remember, gates will not open before 8.55am.

School Bus

As you are aware, Cliftonville Integrated operates a school bus. The bus is a safe and cost-effective way to get your child(ren) home from school. A note of the current route is attached at the end of this bulletin.



Please look at these and email into the school if you would use the bus if an additional stop was added. The cost of this bus has increased to £1.10, paid directly to the bus driver by your child.

Parking on and around Cliftonville Road



Parents are reminded that Easton Avenue is a private road and only residents' vehicles are permitted to enter this street. Therefore, parents should park safely on Cliftonville Road and other side streets, ensuring that they are not blocking streets, parking on chevrons or blocking visibility for those crossing the road.

We know that parking outside the school is problematic and sympathise with all parents but unless we all work together on this, a child could get hurt or worse. **Use the traffic lights and respect the markings!**

Respectful Behaviour

Please be respectful in how you interact with other parents when leaving their children at school. You are surrounded by children who should only witness respectful behaviour. The school reserves the right to exclude a person from school property if their behaviour is disrespectful of others.

Punctuality



All of us can and will be late on the odd occasion and if this is the case, please send your child into the office lobby if the gate to the playground is closed. However, whilst we recognise that we can all be late on a rare occasion, we also know that there are families that are persistently late. I would ask that if you believe that you are one of these families, that you make the necessary adjustments to your routines to ensure that you leave ample time to arrive and pick up punctually. As stated in the A to Z Guide to the Year Ahead, we will be looking at ways to improve punctuality and ask that parents work constructively with the school on this.

Attendance

It is essential that our pupils attend school regularly and maintain a pattern of good attendance throughout their school career. Excellent attendance at school is important to allow a child or young person to fulfil their potential. Please take time to read the Attendance Matters guide, included with this bulletin, to find out how you may support your child meeting their potential.

If your child is absent, for any reason, from school then please complete an absence slip or send in a note to explain their absence. A set of absence slips will be sent home with each child next week. As stated in the A to Z Guide to the Year Ahead, we will be looking at ways to improve attendance and ask that parents work constructively with the school on this.



Homework Packs

Funding has been secured to provide Homework Packs for pupils in Primary 1-Primary 4 to assist pupils with the completion of home learning. We would recommend that you purchase colouring pencils to supplement this pack. We hope that the younger pupils will find these packs helpful.

Contact Information Reminder

You were provided with a Data Capture form on Wednesday 30th August. Please ensure that you complete and return this form on or before Monday 4th September. This information will ensure that your child's details are kept up to date on our computerised system. We will not be held responsible if you do not receive text messages as a result of not providing us with updated mobile phone numbers.



After-School Clubs

You will have already received information about Breakfast Club and will receive additional information about 2-3 Clubs and other clubs in the next few weeks. Watch out for up-coming details! Please ensure that you read this information carefully and only sign up for clubs that you are going to use as attendance is a mandatory requirement of keeping a place at any club.



Parent Info Sessions

As you will know, we always run parent information sessions during the month of September but will confirm dates with you in the next bulletin. These sessions are essential for all parents whether they are new to the school or have already had children through the school. We urge all parents to take up this opportunity to attend the session for their child as important information is discussed and it is also the opportunity to ask questions.

Dogs on school property

Please do not bring your dog onto school property

– this is an Education Authority regulation.

Dogs, even on leads, cannot enter the playground or be inside the school gates or on the school paths. Even the cutest, gentle and most obedient dog can have a 'bad day' which could result in a child being scarred for life! Please work with the school to keep everyone safe.



And finally...

We will always endeavour to answer your queries in a professional and timely manner. If you contact the office and do not get through then this means that there is someone already on the phone or that office staff are dealing with a parent at the hatch or a child at the office door. Please be patient and either call back or if urgent, leave a message on the answer phone and await a call back. Staff will listen to the messages when they are free and if you have provided enough information, will try to call you back.

However, office staff would often take calls from parents looking for information that is already contained within the bulletin, school website or that has been provided in a text message.

The weekly bulletin was created to provide you with as much information as possible in relation to what is happening in school as well as provide you with key dates, times and other useful information that you may need. We supplement this with a text message service and send out reminders.

I would urge all parents to ensure that they are signed up for See-Saw as this is how we deliver the bulletin to you at the end of each week.



HANDY TIP!
PLEASE LABEL EVERY ITEM OF SCHOOL UNIFORM.
WHEN THEY GET MISLAID, THEN THEY CAN ALWAYS
BE GIVEN BACK!