



06/10/23

Week One
Dinner menu
Next week

CIPS Weekly Bulletin

Half-Term Break

It will not be long before the Half-Term Break. We will finish term on Friday 27th October at 2pm and there will be no 2-3 Club or school bus on that day. We will start the new half-term on Monday 6th November at the normal time.



World Mental Health Day

We can all at times struggle with how we are feeling but sometimes things get tough, and it can be difficult to cope. For so many people when this happens, they don't get the help they need when they need it. World Mental Health Day is coming up soon. We, as a school community, are going to mark this on Friday, 13th October by joining with Young Minds and wearing our ordinary clothes to school and if possible, something yellow #Hello Yellow. By wearing yellow to mark this we can show that we are standing with young people to make sure they get the help they need, when they need it.

Half-Term DISCO

We are delighted to inform you that there will be a half-term disco, organised by the PTFA, on Thursday, 26th October. Pupils may come to school on that day wearing fancy dress and there will be a tuck shop. More details will follow closer to the time.



Harvest

Fighting food poverty from the heart of Belfast City, Storehouse is a local organisation which partners with schools to receive food donations.



This year, at Harvest, on 27th October, we are asking the children to be thankful for the food they eat and to be kind enough to give food to families who are struggling to pay their grocery bills.

Cliftonville Integrated Primary School has been asked to donate:-

TINNED TOMATOES, TINNED TUNA, BAGS OF RICE.

We recognise that many families are facing mounting bills and appreciate any donation you can give.

Please bring donation to school office



P.E Lessons

WE would just like to remind pupils that platform style trainers are not suitable for P.E. lessons.

Dinners

As you know from previous bulletins, dinner menus are on the school website. However, due to supplier issues, the canteen sometimes has to vary the menu at short notice. They always try to keep changes to a minimal and also always offer a wide and varied menu. The children are loving the new menus and more and more children are going to dinners.



All parents are reminded, free school meals included, that a dinner must be booked on the School Money website by 10pm the night before. We would also ask all parents to remind their children if they are dinners each morning, particularly if you switch between lunches and dinners on a regular basis.

Respect

This month we are focusing on respect and have talked to the children about how this looks like and staff are also modelling this for children. Last week, during assembly, the children, of all ages, were able to tell us what respect should look like so you should be very proud.



Interactions with Staff

Over the past couple of weeks, staff have reported that some parents have been quite abrasive in their approach with them. We would urge parents to think about how they interact with staff - be it in person or over the phone. We have no doubt that sometimes, where a parent is upset, their interactions may not come across how they intended but I would remind parents that we are all working together, in partnership, for the children. Please think carefully about how you approach staff.

Keeping Children Safe Online

The NSPCC has an excellent online safety hub which offers advice to parents about helping their children stay safe online. Talking regularly with your child is the greatest tool to help them stay safe online. There are lots of helpful ideas shared on this platform. There is even 'Lego Build and Talk' which will give you ideas on how to talk about key online safety topics through Lego play! The site may be visited at:



<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online>

Free Fruit Friday



Over the next few Fridays we will be able to provide pots of fruit for our pupils in different classes each week. This is to promote healthy snacks for our pupils. The classes receiving fruit pots will be as follows:

Friday 13th October- P6

Friday 20th October- P7

Friday 27th October- P3

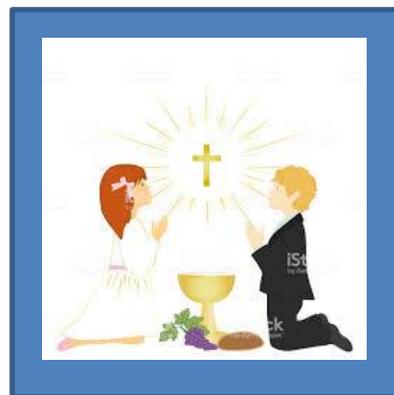
If there are some pots remaining each Friday these will be passed on to the next year group. We hope our pupils will enjoy their Free Fruit Fridays!

North Belfast Foodbank

North Belfast Foodbank provides emergency food parcels and support to people in our community. If you would like to receive assistance from the Foodbank please email the school on info@Cliftonville.belfast.ni.sch.uk These requests will be treated confidentially.

Dates for your Diary

Confirmation	Thursday 1 st February 2024 Sacred Heart Church, 11:00am
First confession	Thursday 14 th March 2024 Sacred Heart Church, 12:00pm
Communion	Friday 10 th May 2024 Sacred Heart Church, 11:00am



Seesaw

All parents should now have received their QR code to access and setup an account for Seesaw. Seesaw is used for delivery of parts of homework and to deliver important information to parents such as this bulletin. However, it is an **information only service** and therefore the facility to send messages is not available. Messages sent through Seesaw will not be seen or read, so to ensure you have your query answered, please contact the school office or better still, send a note in with your child for their teacher.

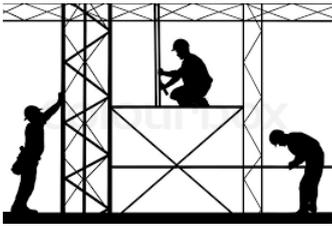


Uniform Policy

Parents are reminded of our uniform policy (available upon request. Whilst most children are wearing full uniform, increasingly some children are not. We have pasted a copy of current uniform below.

GIRLS	BOYS	PE KITS (all children)
School Tie White Blouse Navy Skirt or Pinafore or trousers Navy Jumper or Cardigan Navy and white checked Summer Dress White Socks or Navy Tights Black Shoes*	School Tie White or Grey Shirt Grey Trousers Grey Jumper or Cardigan Black Shoes*	Navy Track Suit Bottoms Bottle Green embroidered Polo Shirt with school crest Navy hoodie with school crest PE Shoes or Trainers
Jewellery		
For health and safety reasons, children are not permitted to wear jewellery in school. The exception to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears.		

Building Update



We continue to improve the facilities and school grounds. Work in the back playground is coming to an end with playground markings, painting and the refurbishment of the wall around the playground. This week, we were pleased to see the contractor complete the line markings in the front Carpark, including a remarking of the zebra crossing.

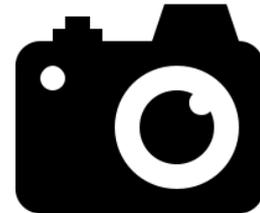
Patrol Person



Unfortunately, we do not have a Patrol Person available at present. Please exercise vigilance when crossing the road and remind children they must only cross at the crossing at the lights on the Cliftonville Road.

School Photographer

The school photographer will be in school on Tuesday, 7th November and Wednesday, 8th November. This is for individual and family photographs. Details will follow closer to the time.



We will be having a Mathletics and MathSeeds competition which will run for 2 weeks beginning on Monday 16th October. There will be prizes for children in each class who achieve the most amount of points in Mathletics and most amount of active minutes in MathSeeds.

Good luck!

And Finally.....

There are so many events coming up over the next few weeks which we hope our pupils will enjoy. We will also be having a film festival in school on the week beginning 23rd October. We look forward to some fun class activities during this week.

Reminders



Early Morning Sessions in the library

Our early morning session started last week and parents are making the most of this. The computer suite will be open for pupils to engage in Accelerated Reading, Mathletics or Mathseeds so why not make the most of the early start and send your child. These sessions operate daily from 8.30am for children from P3 to P7. **(No admittance after 8:45)**

Gate drop off for all pupils

Please remember that all pupils (including Primary 1) should be left at the front playground gate and staff will be there to assist their entry into school.

On wet mornings (torrential rain/icy) there will only be two points of entry. P1-P3 pupils will enter by the Primary 1 door and P4-P7 pupils will enter by the Primary 5 door.

Picking Children Up Early

We would like to remind parents that it is important that appointments are booked outside of school times, to avoid children missing key learning. Increasingly, over the past couple of days, parents have arrived in the office lobby to pick children up from school early for an appointment. In some instances, no note had been provided and therefore, both the teacher and the child were unaware of this.



Of course, emergencies do happen and last-minute appointments are not always available from GP's. However, removing children from class on a regular basis will be both detrimental to their child and disruptive to the class and office staff.

Please ensure that all appointments, during school time, are kept to a minimum and that notes are provided in advance clearly stating the reason for the withdrawal.

In addition, parents are asked to complete the sign out sheet at the office.

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.





Punctuality Book

Your child being punctual for school is very important as it gives them a good start to the day and learning is uninterrupted in the Classroom. If your child is late for school and it is past 9.10am then a parent/Carer must come to the school office and sign their child in and write a reason for the lateness.

Holidays During Term Time

Increasingly, some parents are booking holidays outside of school vacation periods. Whilst the temptation to do so is there, it should be noted that this has a direct impact on the education of their children. Parents should also note that such holidays require a letter to make the teacher aware of this absence. In most cases, unless the circumstances are exceptional, this absence will be unauthorised and will be marked on the attendance register as such.

Work in advance of or during holidays will not be provided for unauthorised absences.



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.



Contact Information Reminder

You have been given Data Capture and Parental Responsibility forms. Please could you ensure these are returned to school as soon as possible. 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. Given that we are in the middle of a pandemic, it is essential that we can communicate through text, at short notice.