

TOREAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

As we approach the last week before the Christmas holidays, we will continue to do our best to keep both the children and staff safe by continuing temperature checks, regular handwashing/sanitising and frequent cleaning of surfaces around the school.

Once again please do not send your child to school if they are feeling unwell. If your child or anyone in your household is showing any signs of Covid, they must get a test immediately. You must let me know right away if your child tests positive, as this will have consequences for the class bubble and staff. Please email me on lmorrow225@c2kni.net or phone 02828260617.

When term finishes on the 18th December, you must continue to let me know for a further 5 days (up to and including 23rd Dec) if your child tests positive.

I would remind you that you must be contactable throughout the school day at short notice should it be necessary if you need to pick up your child as soon as you are contacted. If your child is tested, they need to wait another 48 hours to return to school and should only return if they are feeling well and do not have a temperature (without Calpol/ Nurofen etc).



Christmas Festivities

Christmas Emails Monday 7th December – Friday 11th December

We have received some lovely Christmas emails – thank you. If your child wants to send a little message to the whole class or teacher, why not send an email. Address it to your child's teacher. The teacher can then show these to the class.

Christmas Jumper Day Friday 11th December

The children can wear a Christmas jumper/ bright jumper to school. Tracksuit bottoms/ leggings and trainers may also be worn. Unfortunately, we cannot have any Christmas headgear eg. reindeer antler etc. Remember to wear a coat! Hopefully this will bring a bit of Christmas cheer to us all.

Pantomime Friday 11th December

Although we are unable to go to the Panto in Belfast this year, we have booked one online, so hopefully we can have some fun!!! (any child who is self-isolating, will receive the link for Friday morning). This way no-one should lose out.



Christmas Video and Charity

Watch out for our **Christmas Video**. This will be on the website by **Friday afternoon 11th December**.

In the past many parents have very generously given their child's class teacher/classroom assistant a Christmas gift. Although this was always very much appreciated, this Christmas season we are encouraging a donation to our charity instead of purchasing a 'teacher' gift.

If you would like to donate to our charity, please send your donation in an envelope either tomorrow or Thursday 17th December. Thank you.



Next week Monday 14th – Friday 18th December

Classes will be taking part in different Christmas Activities. We also hope to have a fun / video day, when the children will receive a small bag of “treats” to eat. All the treats, bags etc are already in school therefore have been in school more than 72 hours and staff will ensure their hands have been sanitised or put on gloves before distribution. If, however you would rather your child does not receive this treat bag, please let the teacher know by Friday 11th December.

Primary 7 Transfer Test

Saturday 12th December

Familiarisation Day at Larne Grammar School- please follow all restrictions.

Next Monday, 3 tests will be given to the children, no other work will be given. These should be completed under exam conditions during the holidays and parents should take time to go over these thoroughly. You also have a plethora of tests which the children have already completed.

Remember it is important that the children have a break from school.

On return, the children will be given one test each week of the tests. These will have been carefully selected. I will also be spending time each day going over test type questions during these weeks.

Friday 18th December

School will close early for Christmas Holiday, collection times as follow:

11.50am	P5/6
12.00noon	P3/4
12.10pm	P1/2
12.20pm	P7

Monday 21st – Friday 1st January 2021

Christmas Holidays

Monday 4th January 2021

Term 2 School commences at the usual staggered start times.

Free School Meals

As the Education Authority will be paying parents directly up to and including Monday 4th January, children will need to bring their own packed lunch to school on this date. School meals will commence again on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

Thursday 7th January 2021

P1 applications open at 12 noon on Education Authority website.

AQE Test Dates

Saturday 9th January 2021

Saturday 16th January 2021

Saturday 23rd January 2021

Friday 29th January 2021

P1 online applications close at 12 noon.

Other InformationAttendance

The Education Welfare Officer has been in contact with school and asked for attendance records for this term for those children with under 85% attendance. As a school we have a statutory duty to refer those children under 85%. If your child has been off due to self - isolation or Covid issues, this will be taken into consideration.

Lateness

Every day there are around 6 children arriving late for school. Whilst I understand this may happen from time to time, I would ask that you are on time in the morning and at pick up time in the afternoon. Children arriving late disturbs the class routine and the work of Mrs Wilson in the office.

Hair Care

For practical reasons long hair should be tied back in school.

C L Morrow
Principal

09.12.2020