

# TOREAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

## **Child Protection/Safeguarding Team**

Designated Teacher: Miss Morrow ([lmorrow225@c2ni.net](mailto:lmorrow225@c2ni.net))  
Deputy Designated Teacher: Mrs Wells ([ywells497@c2kni.net](mailto:ywells497@c2kni.net))  
School Governor: Mrs H Apsley ([brian\\_apsley@fastmail.co.uk](mailto:brian_apsley@fastmail.co.uk))

### **Covid Update**

There continues to be a significant amount of Covid 19 in schools in our area. Whilst I understand getting a PCR test is not pleasant, it is a necessary evil. I can only again ask that you continue to air on the side of caution and follow the regulations as best you can. Many of our families have had Covid spread throughout the household, with household members testing positive up to and including day 8. My thanks to them for keeping their children off and thus keeping our school safer.

We continue to have staff off and it is nearly impossible to get substitute staff at the moment. I am just making you aware that it may be necessary to return to home learning, should this situation arise.

### **Extra Work**

Extra work will be given if a child or member of your household test positive. Teachers will put work on the home learning section of the website. This will only be put up if there are bubble members in this situation.

### **Sponsored Walkathon**

We cannot believe your generosity! This event has raised £2897.50. What an amazing amount! This is by far the best ever. Thank you so much.

### **Christmas Items**

Tea towels have not yet arrived, we have been in contact with the supplier and they should be delivered to school next week.

### **DIARY DATES**

[Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021](#)

P1 Health Review with the School Nurse.

[Friday 3 December 2021](#)

#### **Toreagh PS does The Daily Mile Santa Run**

Pupils should wear PE clothes and if they wish, can wear a Santa Hat, Christmas t-shirt or jumper whilst taking part in the Daily Mile that day! We are part of many schools around Northern Ireland getting moving on the same day to celebrate the positive benefits that daily activity can have on our mental health.

[Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021](#)

School will close for Christmas Holiday. Please note pick up times: -

P1	11.50am
P2 & P3	11.55am
P4	12.00pm
P5 & P6	12.05pm
P7	12.10pm

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December

School closed – Staff Development Days

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022 (inclusive)

Christmas Holiday School closed.

### **Ventilation**

PHA advise that we continue to make ventilation in school a priority. As the winter approaches, I am aware that the classrooms can be quite chilly. Children may wear e.g. a vest / sports' skin, or extra jumper below their school uniform. A coat should also be worn in the playground as we try to get outside during break and lunch. Make sure coats are named clearly.

### **Digital Safety**

It has never been more important for parents to regularly check their children's digital devices and phones. Through internet and social media safety in school, we highlight the dangers of the internet and social media, how it can be misused and how to keep safe. As parents, you have a vital role to play by checking what social media your child is using and what internet sites they are visiting. Don't underestimate your child's ability when using digital devices.

The most recent Digital Parenting Guide will be issued to each family on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

### **P1 Admissions 2022**

We are finalising details of our virtual video tour of our school for all new P1 children and parents. Information and School Prospectus can be found on the school website under P1 Admissions. It is also my intention to have a telephone or zoom call with new families to the school, in order to answer any questions parents might have. If you know of any parents who would like to send their children to Toreagh, please refer them to the website and ask them to get in touch with us.

Applications for P1 Admissions 2022 will open on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 12 noon. Further details will be issued when available from Education Authority.

Please contact Miss Morrow, on 02828260617 or by email [lmorrow225@c2kni.net](mailto:lmorrow225@c2kni.net) if you need further information.

### **Contact Details**

If any of your contact details have changed (address, phone number etc), please let Mrs Wilson in the office know as soon as possible, either by telephone 028 2826 0617 or email [swilson869@c2kni.net](mailto:swilson869@c2kni.net) It is vital these are kept up to date especially as we approach the winter months for our text message service.

### **Severe Weather Guidance for Parents**

As we move into the winter months, the potential for severe weather increases. There have been prolonged periods of frost and snow in recent years which have had an impact on the day to day running of some services. The following advice is designed to help you know how school will deal with such eventualities this incoming year.

In the event of severe weather, Toreagh PS will endeavour to remain open unless we cannot operate safely and effectively or that the risks of continuing to operate are such that it is in the

best interests of the pupils, staff and parents to close. The decision as to whether to stay open or closed is a difficult one for a school to make and is not taken lightly. While we appreciate school closure may be an inconvenience to parents/carers, safety is our priority and we ask for your understanding in this. This year there are other considerations as we maintain our class “bubbles.”

The nature of the climate in Northern Ireland means that weather conditions can change and develop very rapidly and decisions about school closure are often taken at short notice. We do our best to make the right judgement call and inform parents as quickly as possible. If we do have to close, we will be informing you by text.

C L Morrow  
Principal

26.11.2021