

# TOREAGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Child Protection/Safeguarding Team

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

‘Look After Yourself Week’ has been busy. The children have learnt about farm safety, water safety, online safety and how to keep their body healthy.

Our Walk-A-Challenge, has been fun and challenging today! Thank you for all the sponsor money already received. Please send any further money to school by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Half Term Holiday**

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2023 (inclusive)

### **Half day strike action by teachers on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February**

As you are aware, strike action has been planned by the teaching unions in Northern Ireland and after receiving information from the Education Authority, I wish to inform you about the impact this will have at our school.

**Please be advised that this guidance may be subject to change at any time.**

Toreagh Primary School will be **closed to ALL** pupils on the morning of Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2023. School gates will open for all pupils at **12.00noon**.

Lunch will be unaffected and free school meals will continue as normal on this day.

In terms of school attendance marks, your child’s percentage attendance will not be negatively impacted by the school closure.

### **After School Activities**

Block 4 will commence from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023. Please be on time to pick up at 4.00pm.

|                              | Mon                        | Wed                          | Thur                           |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Block 4<br>20/2/23 – 31/3/23 | Netball/basketball<br>P4/5 | Football P4                  | Hockey P6 and 7                |
| Block 5<br>17/4/23- 19/5/23  | Eco club<br>P4/5/6/7       | Football P5/6/7<br>Coding P5 | Cycling P7 Day to be confirmed |

### **Applying For A Year 8 Post Primary School Place September 2023**

Information can be found on our school website or [www.eani.org.ok](http://www.eani.org.ok) Applications close on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023 at 4.00pm**.

### **Documentation to Support Applications**

It is important that you support your application with any documents requested in the admissions criteria of the post-primary schools to which you are applying, for example, proof of address, eldest child/eldest eligible child status or an entrance test result certificate etc. A birth certificate needs to be uploaded for every child. If you do not supply the documents requested this could lead to the withdrawal of a place or the inability of a school to offer a place to your child.

Further information is available Education Authority website [www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk)

### **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

As part of our Shared Education Partnership, P1 – P3 will be going to Carnfunnock Country Park. Children will leave Toreagh at 9.30am and depart from Carnfunnock at 1.00pm. Transport will be provided by Travelwise Coaches.

Children, including those who receive a free school meal, will be required to bring a packed lunch on this day.

**Lunches should be brought in a named, disposable bag. Please do not send in a lunchbox. No glass bottles or fizzy drinks. A named water bottle can be brought as usual.**

As children will be taking part in outdoor activities, they may wear school sweatshirt, white polo shirt, tracksuit bottoms/leggings, a coat and suitable outdoor footwear on this day to help keep warm and facilitate play.

Please reinforce at home the need for best behaviour on this visit.

### **P7 Hoodies**

All orders should be returned to school by Friday 24.02.2023

### **Crawfordsburn Residential Trip P6 & P7**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June – Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023

If you wish to pay by instalments, money should be brought to school on a Monday. Cheques should be made payable to Toreagh Primary School. All money must be paid in full by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2023.

### **Entrance Gate & Parking**

The safety of all our children is important to us. Please make the children aware as they walk along the pavement that they should **stop and look before walking past the school gate** as cars may be entering or leaving the school grounds. Also, take care when dropping off and picking up your child. **Make anyone, who is leaving off or picking up your child aware that they should not turn at the school gate.** None of us want an accident to happen.

### **Lost Property**

An electronic key fob was found outside the school gate. This can be collected from the school office.

C L Morrow  
Principal

10.02.2023

# Safer Internet Day 2023



UK Safer  
Internet  
Centre

## **SAFER INTERNET**

The theme for Safer Internet Day 2023 is “Starting the Conversation.”

In the era that we now live, it is paramount that as parents you walk alongside your children in their journey. Please find a useful video at this link:

[https://youtu.be/rl\\_gZTQ9F7w](https://youtu.be/rl_gZTQ9F7w)

Here are some useful helpful points for parents from the UK Safer Internet Centre on how to start necessary conversations -

### **Practical tips for starting a conversation about life online**

The internet plays a significant role in the lives of children and young people; becoming integral to their social development as they get older. Talking to young people about their life online and encouraging them to share their experiences with you, is a key part of helping to safeguard your family.

Whatever your level of knowledge or confidence, these five tips will help you start, manage and maintain an open dialogue with your children about life online, and help you support them to use technology safely and positively.

### **Be positive and open minded about the internet**

It's important to recognise the exciting opportunities that going online can offer children and young people. Although your children may use the internet differently to you, their experiences are still significant.

If your child mentions something you haven't heard of, ask them to show you, or explain in more detail, or you may need to do your own research. Try to keep conversations broad, and value their opinions when they're talking about what they enjoy doing, to show that you are interested in all aspects of their online world.

### **Talk early and often**

The most effective way to deal with any online issue is to make conversations about the internet a part of your everyday routine.

Talking openly about life online from an early age, can be a helpful bridge to sharing safety

messages and addressing more difficult conversations at a later date; it also shows your child that you are someone who knows about the internet and can help them.

### Create a safe space for conversations

Look for opportunities to talk together. Sometimes, talking face-to-face can feel difficult, so talking alongside each other when out for a walk, or travelling in the car for example, are options that might make it easier.

The environment needs to be right; free from distractions, so that your child has your undivided attention. Remind them often that they can talk to you about anything, no matter how difficult, and that they will not be judged or blamed.

Your child might not be ready to talk about something straight away, so show them that you are there to listen whenever they are ready.

### Keep it relevant

As they get older, your children will use technology differently from when they first went online. Their knowledge and understanding will grow too, as will the challenges they may face on the internet.

To get a sense of how much they know and what support they still need, ask open-ended questions to let your child lead the conversations you have.

There are appropriate ways to approach all online safety topics with different ages. For example, with a teenager, nude images can be spoken about in wider conversations around consent and healthy relationships. For younger children, you could discuss what types of images are okay to share online, and what areas of our bodies are private.

### Be proactive

Working together to create an agreement, outlining how the internet and technology will be used within the family, is a useful way to set clear expectations and boundaries for your children.

You might include time spent online; who your children can communicate with; appropriate apps and games; and why safety tools are helpful to block and report inappropriate content. Ask your child what they would do if something went wrong online and they needed help, and reinforce the importance of telling an adult as soon as anything happens that makes them feel upset, worried or uncomfortable in any way.

As always if you need any further information or support, please contact Mrs Wells on [ywells497@c2kni.net](mailto:ywells497@c2kni.net)