



## Welcome back

As always, the new term starts with some fresh faces and new routines. Our building work is developing well and is ready for us to move into this week.



All children continue to have the class and teacher they were allocated. If you have any initial queries or questions about your child's development, please contact the class teacher in the first instance. The best way to do this is by emailing the school and clearly stating which teacher you would like to have a discussion with or feedback from. You may also contact the class teacher by letter. Emailing ensures that we definitely receive the message and that it's not sitting in the bottom of a school bag somewhere!

We are delighted to announce that we have three new DHTs starting with us this session. All of the SMT are currently in temporary 'acting' posts. Miss Katie Finch, Mrs Ruth Stannard, Mrs Christine Smith and we will all work together to ensure that all the children settle quickly, effectively and happily into their new classes. The Acting DHTs are all class committed and will be relieved from this for part of the week by existing members of staff.

### School Handbook

There are lots of helpful pieces of information on the website. Enter the website and click on School Handbook. This is usually updated at the beginning of every session.

## Beginning of the day

Children should arrive on the school premises at around 8.50am. Any earlier may cause them to become cold or wet in the winter months. Although the children are not technically supervised in the mornings by school staff, we often have a number of 'helpers' in Hi-Viz vests to assist us. When the weather is bad/raining staff will open their doors at 8.50am to ensure the children are not kept waiting in the rain.

The Primary 1 pupils all have their own timetable to follow during their first couple of weeks and all the other children will be going to new classrooms and teachers. I appreciate that this can be an apprehensive time for all involved. To put the minds of the parents and children at ease, we have come up with a logistics plan for the first day back.

We will continue to have an SMT presence at the main gate every morning. In Term 1, we will also have staff at the side gate on the lane. This is to ensure that all the Primary 3 children are supported in their transition and so that the volume of children coming in this gate can be monitored. A map of the school has been provided for you. Obviously, if you have children in two different areas of the school we would advise you to pick up younger children first.

Primary 1- Please follow the timetable and guidance you were given throughout the induction phase. By the end of this phase, all children should line up independently at their door with parents saying their 'goodbyes' at the gate. After the induction period, the Primary 1

children will be escorted by their teacher to Zone 4 and leave by the main gate.

Primary 2- All children will gather and line up in Zone 2. They will also leave at 3.15pm through this door. Parents are welcome to gather to collect their child here. Please leave by the main gate.

Primary 3- All children will line up in Zone 3 and will be shown their lining up order on their first day. They should enter by the side gate of the main playground. Leave by the side gate.

Primary 4- All children will line up in Zone 3 and will be shown their lining up order on their first day. They should enter by the side gate of the main playground. Primary 4 should mostly be familiar with this routine already. Leave by the side gate.

Primaries 5, 6 and 7 - In the morning, all P5, 6/5, 6 and 7 children should enter through the main gate and line up in zone 4. They will also be allocated a designated lining up space on the first day. Leave by the side gate.

Please ensure your child arrives at school on time. All 'lates' are recorded and put extra pressure on the office staff at a busy time in the morning. Your child being late also impacts on the administration aspect of school lunches first thing in the morning. Most importantly, the learning starts at the beginning of the day and it's important that children do not interrupt this crucial time. In some cases, some classes will make their way to the community Hall or be going outside at this time.

### After School

At 3.15pm the playground and surrounding areas are very busy. To ensure the safety of all children, please consider the following points:

The Car Park is strictly for staff use only. Children should never enter or leave the school through the emergency services gate. No parking in front of the gates under any circumstances. Access is required in the event of an emergency.

Ensure your child knows the arrangements for after school.

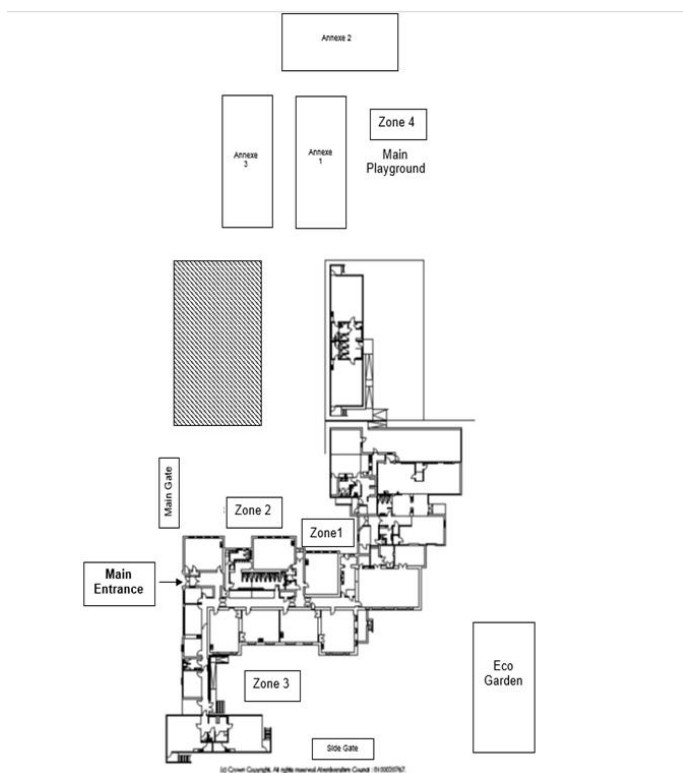
Remind your child to use the crossing as the main road is very busy.

In the event that your child becomes lost, it's a good idea to have a meeting place. During the 1<sup>st</sup> week back, we will reinforce the message that should children be lost, unsure or feel unsafe on the way home then they should report directly to the school office.

### After School Care and Transport

Please inform the class teacher of the days and arrangements for after school care. We will also keep a list of this in the office in the event that a child is unaware of the arrangements. Please inform your child of any changes to the regular routine or write it down in a note to the teacher. Our office is very busy and do their best but cannot always guarantee that messages are passed on.

Children using school transport should wait at the office to be collected by their driver. Children should be reminded to be prompt and



report to the office if they miss their transport for some reason.

### **Lunch hour**

P1 and P2	12.00 - 12.55
P3 and P4	12.15 - 1.10
P5, P6 and P7	12.30 - 1.25

If your child is going home for lunch, please collect them from the door they would normally leave from. Please return your child to school on time.

### **Housekeeping**

Where possible children should wear their school uniform. We are raising the profile and standards of the school and hope that creating a strong identity for the children helps them to take pride in their school community. Further information in the hand book.

Now that we are a 400+ school, we are experiencing a huge volume of lost property. All uniform, jackets and lunch boxes should be labelled. All children, teachers and pupil support assistants will be reminded to ensure that children are careful with their property. If unnamed items are not claimed after four weeks, they will be disposed of.

Before the end of term, you all received a list of items that children should bring to school. We have now bought a number of iPads and netbooks for each class. As they will be used frequently by all children, you may prefer to buy your child a set of headphones to keep in their tray. This would mean that the children don't have to share. Although this is not essential, it's an option. All our devices are set up to ensure that the volume is at the correct setting for the children to listen to. In-ear or headband type headphones would be acceptable.

### **Uniform Orders**

As you are all aware, uniform can be ordered from [kinellarschooluniform@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kinellarschooluniform@yahoo.co.uk) On Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> of August, any orders made before the end of the last session will be available for collection. Please contact the uniform email address for further information.

### **Curriculum**

Very soon in Term One, we will have a curricular evening and a 'Meet the Teacher.' The curricular evening will give you information and guidance on 'A Curriculum for Excellence,' Standardised Testing and the progress our school is making in Numeracy and Literacy. In addition to supporting us as a school, we also hope that you support the Kinellar Parent Council. Details of all meetings will be on the Annual Calendar and on the website in due course.

### **Extra- Curricular Clubs**

Luckily we have a number of very keen staff who want to run after-school activities for the children. You will receive information on these when we are back and settled into class. Once the ball is rolling, we hope to have netball, running, art and textiles. Watch this space.

### **Finally.....**

Any parents wanting to get involved in the school are more than welcome. If you work during the week, help is always appreciated at evening and weekend events.

We would like to take this opportunity to ask for your support and co-operation in ensuring that your children get off to the best possible start this academic session.

See you all on Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> of August.

From the SMT