



SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018

Welcome to our 'half-term newsletter!' ALL information is on our website www.camphillps.co.uk which means the 'Newsletter' at the end of each half term will only be a reference to information on the website or additional information we wish to share with you.

Please remember to take time to look at our website weekly as lots of information and dates are on this and only a further text reminder will be sent regarding dates etc... Each Monday the website's 'Ticker Tape' (red scrolling line) is updated with the main information needed for the week ahead - so it is very important that you do check this.

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to the new 2018-19 school year.

Once again I hope this year will be a successful and happy one for your child at Camphill PS. The first term in 2018 is off to a busy start with lots of things happening in class, outside the classroom and after school.

I extend a special welcome to the 58 new pupils who have started Primary 1 and to the pupils who have joined us from other schools. This year we have maintained a school enrolment of 399 with certain year groups at their maximum capacity. Our building does however have a capacity for 406 pupils!

Staffing

Our 2018/19 class structure is on our website along with photos of all staff.

We welcome Miss Emma McCook to the staff as a new JIGSAW worker (see her profile on our website.)

Congratulations to Mrs Davis who gave birth to a baby girl in July! Both mum and baby are very well!

Child Protection/Safeguarding

A reminder of the Child Protection Team in School -

Mrs McLaughlin (Designated Teacher for Safeguarding) & Miss Scott (Deputy Designated Teacher for Safeguarding) along with Mrs

McMaster (Principal). Posters explaining our Safeguarding procedures are displayed around the school. In addition, there is information on how to report any concerns you may have on our website. We regularly share this information with children too. They can speak to any member of staff if they have a concern or worry, or to any member of the Child Protection (Safeguarding) Team. ***Please remember about our 'NSPCC' 'Keeping Safe' Parental Workshop on Thursday 8th November at 1:30pm - 2:30pm** (pupils of parents attending in P1-P3 will be looked after in school until the workshop ends)

School Uniform

I am delighted with the way our children are dressed for school once again this year and I would encourage you to continue this high standard. As I say regularly to the pupils - the way we look and present ourselves sends out a strong positive message about our school. Visitors to Camphill often comment on how well our pupils look in their uniforms and it's huge thanks to our parents & carers for making sure that their children are well turned out each day. **Please remember to label all clothing.** We spend valuable time trying to trace items of clothing that have been misplaced and this is made so much more difficult when jumpers, coats etc. are not named. If an item of clothing has been lost the class teacher can only ask the children in the class to look carefully for the item. Please remember to label all clothing, lunch boxes, pencil cases, PE shoes, bags etc...as already this year (especially after lots of afternoon clubs) personal belongings are being misplaced/left behind and sometimes never seem to be claimed!

If you need to purchase any new school uniform over the year please contact the school office.

May I also remind all pupils that the wearing of jewellery is not encouraged for safety reasons- if your child does wear any item of jewellery deemed not appropriate for school he/she will be asked to remove it. Also, prominent or

inappropriate hairstyles are not acceptable in school.

Key Stage 2 (Primary 5-7) PE KIT

All Primary 5-7 pupils are now wearing the school PE Kit - the school office hold a small amount of extra stock for sale throughout the year.

Communication

Contact with Teaching Staff

We have already held P1 - P7 'Information Evenings' in September where 284 pupils/72% of our school were represented. This figure allows the school to see that parents are committed to working with us to help their child/ren develop their full potential. Parent-Teacher meetings were also completed during the last 2 weeks for P2-P7 pupils and we are delighted to see that 99% of pupils were represented. P1 parents will meet again with the class teacher in January 2019.

Please remember **we welcome contact with you:** communication with you is important to us and an essential part of ensuring your child's well-being and progress. Once again at the beginning of a school year, we are reminding you of the importance of communicating with the school - whether this is through formal pre-arranged meetings or informal telephone calls/notes to school. If you do wish to speak to your child's class teacher remember this should be pre-arranged in advance if at all possible - **please do not enter classrooms directly - please contact the school office and they will direct you to your child's classroom or contact the teacher and arrange an appointment with you on their behalf. Please remember adults must not enter classrooms via cloakrooms - from 8:45am- 9am as this time is allocated to staff for preparation so we would be grateful if this time could be uninterrupted unless it is completely essential to do so. If the staff member does need to ring you back they will do this at their earliest convenience. No phone calls can be put through to teachers during class time.**

Please note:- School telephone lines are only manned between 8:30am- 3:30pm Monday - Thursday and 8:30am - 3:00pm on a Friday.

In order to help the office staff, we would ask all parents to please do the following:

- ***Read all notes/information on the website carefully and check the information on the website weekly making a note of everything relevant to your child/children***
- ***Make sure your child is organised every day and your child comes to school with everything he/she needs.***
- ***Make sure your child is in on time and collected on time.***

Of course there will be the very odd time that you or your child will forget something - that is fine, but please make it the exception rather than the norm.

Contact with the Principal

Please remember that contact with the Principal should also be by appointment or again by reporting to the school office where they will make arrangements for you to meet/talk with the Principal.

Parental Access to School Policy

Please read our 'Parental Access to School' policy on our website. Hopefully this policy will never have to be implemented in Camphill PS but as with all public buildings and public areas all employees and personnel in a building should be treated with mutual respect and feel safe. All PUPILS should feel safe in our school grounds and therefore no unknown adult should ever speak to or approach another child in the playground or paths/car parks etc.. and also should never photograph another child. The use of mobile phones is strictly prohibited inside and outside the school building. *Please note: - Staff members will ask you not to use your mobile phone if doing so in certain areas of the school grounds.*



The use of mobile phones is strictly prohibited

Photographs at School Events

We understand that parents/carers are keen to take photographs of their children at school events and certainly school wouldn't stop this but please be mindful that not all parents would wish their children's photos being posted on social networking sites. As such, if you wish to share a photograph of a school event - please ensure you seek the permission of the parents of any child featuring in it. Thank you.

Social Media

Due to the popularity of social media it is timely to remind all parents & pupils about our expectations online regarding school. Social media is being used more and more to fuel complaints against schools. The Education Authority are very clear in their response to unacceptable comments online about schools or staff. The Education Authority do not take matters like this lightly as it is unlawful for anyone to write something negative about a school or person online. As a school if we feel that our children, staff or school are victims of social media abuse we will have no hesitation in evoking the full rigour of the law. Guidance outlines that 'the subject' of a defamatory statement can sue 'the publisher' where the individual is guilty of an offence where he/she publishes a statement that causes, or is likely to cause, serious harm to the reputation of 'the claimant' - eg. this can be the school or person. Parents or pupils should not post malicious or fictitious comments on social media about the school or any member of the school community. In such cases school will consider its legal options and the need to report the matter to the PSNI to deal with such misuse of social networking. The legal position of an individual posting content online is clear- he or she is responsible for that content. If your child is aware of social media sites please ensure you highlight to them how careful you must be with what is 'posted' at all times. **Please remember that often there is 'two sides' to every story and if you have any issues or concerns regarding school these matters are to be discussed with the school and should not be discussed on social media sites.**

As we also take your child's safety on the internet very seriously we have a piece of software installed through the C2K Schools system. 'Securas' Education is a piece of software which helps us to identify any misuse on

our computer network. 'Securas' alerts staff to any words on search engines used on our network that may be deemed inappropriate and breaching our high standards of safeguarding. Incidents flagged by 'Securas' would include any evidence of online bullying, inappropriate language, indicators of emotional distress and searches for harmful websites and so on. A screen capture is taken of every incident, showing who was logged on at the time and where and when the incident took place. These captures enable staff to respond to potentially serious or disruptive situations with confidence.

Please do remember what age your child should be to be engaging on Social Media Platforms.



Attendance

At Camphill we do a lot of things to promote regular attendance. We offer support/ advice for parents, encourage full attendance (other than when your child is ill) and offer a range of incentives to promote this. We understand that it may be impossible for a child who has been ill to achieve a full attendance award at the end of the year so we have built in a few things to help everyone celebrate:

1. Monthly attendance rewards for best class. (promoting good attendance per year group) Each month a class from P1-P4 and a class from P5-P7 with the highest monthly attendance figure receives the CLASS CUP in an Assembly. If your child's class wins



this they win a one night 'Homework Pass' from the Principal. ☺

2. Monthly stickers for pupils who have full attendance during that month.
3. End of year 'treat' for the best P1-P4 class and the best P5 -P7 class for overall attendance throughout the year.
4. Yearly GOLD awards for pupils who have successfully completed a full year - 100% attendance.
5. *NEW* this year - Yearly SILVER awards for pupils who have achieved a 99% attendance rate.

September Attendance winners!

WELL DONE to P2LA & P4SG/LR who were joint F/S KS1 winners and to P5LY who won the KS2 monthly cup.

Whole School average for September - **98.2%**

It should be noted that those classes with the lowest attendance for September included children who had unauthorised holidays during the month.

Please note that dates for our Summer Assessment weeks are now on the school calendar on the website - if a child is on holiday during this time in May 2019 and misses their annual Standardised Tests no formal Standardised Test will be administered on their return meaning that there will be no result reported on in their June 2019 annual report.

Pupil Absence

If your child is absent from school please contact the school office either on day 1 or on return to school. Please send in a note explaining the reason for the absence. If your child is absent from school and on their return to school the school has not been notified of their absence either by telephone or in writing the pupil will be given an '**Absence Notification Form**' to take home. The parent must then complete this and return it to school. **PLEASE REMEMBER ALL ABSENCES ARE RECORDED AND SCHOOL MUST BE NOTIFIED.** Monthly computerised checks are carried out by the Principal and any 'unauthorised' absences or regular absence patterns showing will be brought to the attention of the parents and any other relevant agencies. **If your child's attendance falls below 85% in**

any given month a slip will be sent home with your child identifying this.

Absence arising from illness is unavoidable, however, in the interests of continuity and progression of learning, we once again request that you do not arrange holidays during term time. Each year however a small minority of parents insist on taking holidays during the school year and this year already has been no exception. Whilst, I know holidays are much cheaper outside of the summer months, it is still more important that your child is in school at all times; not only does this 'pull down' your child's own percentage attendance it also is reflected on our overall end of year attendance.

Leaving school for an appointment

Please remember your child must be signed out of school by an adult when leaving school at any point outside the normal times of the school day. An appointment card/letter must always be shown to the school office. **It is in the pupil's best interests to minimise absenteeism - please look carefully at the table above - guiding you on what the DEPT. of ED. deem to be satisfactory levels of attendance - 95% or above! Please compare this figure with the figure on your child's June 2018 report.**

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed	Excellent
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Satisfactory
90% Attendance	19 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Poor
85% Attendance	28 Days of Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Very Poor
80% Attendance	38 Days of Absence 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Unacceptable
75% Attendance	46 Days of Absence 9 Weeks and 1 Day of Learning Missed	Unacceptable

Personal information update

Please remember the information given to us by you **is the only information** we have on your child so please keep this up-to-date. Therefore whatever you want us to know eg. medically/personally etc... please inform us. Also please remember to keep us up-to-date if

anything needs changed/updated throughout the school year. As you know we have just completed our bi-annual distribution of consent forms and up-date on personal information so this will not

Please note that it is vital that you supply the telephone numbers of three people we can contact in the event of an emergency.

Our text-messaging service is also reliant on us having your current mobile number.

be completed again until Sep' 20.

Please do remember to keep your address details correct with us as school Meals/Transport/Transfer Branch/Educational Welfare & Health etc...all use this from our system.

As you also know we use our school text message service often to remind parents about events/early closures etc. we send the message to the first contact number you supply us with - so remember if this mobile number is not up-to-date you will not be receiving our texts.



Communication on SEVERE WEATHER for Parents

As we move into the winter months, the potential for severe weather increases. There have been prolonged periods of frost and snow along with storms in recent years which can have an impact on the day-to-day running of schools. In the event of severe weather, Camphill PS will remain open unless we cannot operate safely and effectively. The decision as to whether to stay open or close is a difficult one for a school to make and is not taken lightly. While we appreciate school closures may be an inconvenience to parents/carers, pupils safety is our priority and we ask for your understanding in this.

If we do have to close, we will use the following methods:-

- Text message from school
- Scrolling 'Ticker Tape' on Website highlighting message
- www.nidirect.gov.uk/schoolclosures

It is also timely to mention that in severe weather the roads around Carolhill/Camphill Park are not routinely gritted so please always bear this in mind. Within school grounds our Building

Supervisor does his very best to keep paths cleared/gritted but again always be careful.

Administration of Medicines

We wish to ensure that pupils with medication needs receive appropriate care and support at school. While pupils should not be sent to school when they are acutely unwell or infectious, we realise that sometimes a doctor may advise pupils to attend school while still needing to take medication. As the responsibility for the administration of medicine lies with the parents, we ask that parents regulate the time for administering medicines so as to avoid the school day if possible.

The Principal will accept responsibility for members of the school staff giving or supervising pupils taking **prescribed medication** during the school day **where those members of staff have volunteered to do so.** (*Teachers have the right not to administer medication and may only agree to observe your child while taking medication in their presence*).

Please remember to complete the 'Administration of Medicines' form downloadable from the website if your child needs to take any medicine/tablets/inhalers in school. Prescribed medication will not be accepted in school without this form completed.

First Aid

In the event of a child having a minor injury in school, staff will deal with the incident eg. cuts/grazes/bumps usually by cleaning the wound and applying a plaster or cold cloth/ice pack. For any more serious incidents parents will be contacted.

Court Orders

A small number of parents filled in information detailing information on specific court orders linked to their child. Please note - we need to have evidence of these orders. Unless the school has this we cannot be held responsible if for example a 'contact order' is not adhered to.

School Day

Classes begin at 9:00am and children should all be in school for this time, your child will be given

a late mark if they arrive in school after **9:10am** and this information is recorded monthly. Please remember children should not be on site before 8:45am (unless attending Breakfast Club) as supervision is not in place until then.

PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION

The playground is supervised by teachers from 8:45am-9am each morning and we would expect that from after half-term all parents should be confident in 'dropping' their child off in the morning and 'heading' on. At this stage in the year no parents should be walking their children into school from P4 - P7 as all of these children are independent enough to walk into the playground and leave their belongings in their cloakrooms and go on out to play. We would also encourage P1-P3 parents to do the same.

Settling in Success

On this note well done to everyone for a great settling in period. In particular, those children who have joined us in Year 1. It can be an anxious time for parents, but we appreciate parents taking on board our suggestions to help your children settle in. It is so important to encourage independence from an early age. If there are any problems after you leave, please be reassured we will contact you!

Please note by 9:15am the gates are closed in the school playground areas and the back entrance gate is locked. At breaktime supervision is carried out by Teaching Staff and Classroom Assistants and at lunchtime by 'General Assistants' known to the pupils as 'Lunchtime Ladies'. (Their photos are on the website)

Home-Time Arrangements

P1 & P2 - 2:00pm every day - Front

Path - All parents to collect pupils from top front gate.

Back Path - All parents to collect pupils at the bottom of the back outside the greenhouse/main hall back doors.

P3 - Mon, Tues & Weds -at 3:00pm - Front

Path - All parents to collect pupils from main bottom gates/top of roundabout - all pupils will be led down the front path by a member of staff. **Back Path** - All pupils will be walked up the back path with a member of staff and will be able to exit through the back gate on their own.



P3 - Thurs/Fri - at 2:00pm - Front Path - All parents to collect pupils from top front gate.

Back Path - Parents to collect pupils at the bottom of the back path outside the greenhouse/main hall back doors.

Please ensure that when collecting pupils in P1-P3 you make yourself visible to the staff dismissing pupils and that all children leave the school grounds safely at these peak times.

P4-P7 -at 3:00pm - Front Path - All parents to collect pupils from main bottom gates/top of roundabout - all pupils will be led down the front path by a member of staff. **Back Path** - All pupils will be walked up the back path with a member of staff and will be able to exit through the back gate on their own.

Car Parking

It's this time of year again! I am very much aware of how busy our car park area is inside the school grounds and the lack of space we have for you to park - unfortunately no one in the Dept. of Education believes that we have a lack of car parking space!!!! All schools in the town unfortunately face the same problem.

If you use the front entrance to school, entering from Carolhill/Camphill Park please follow the parking instructions below. Our school BUILDING SUPERVISOR, 'Andy', is in attendance at peak times and his parking instructions **must be followed. Please remember he is there to do his job, as directed by the Principal and if there is any issue regarding the following of his instructions then other alternative parking arrangements outside the school building will be issued.**



Please be patient, courteous to others and park in the grounds safely - traffic moves quickly if everyone follows the parking instructions.

ALWAYS remember your SPEED in and around school grounds. Please in the mornings do not block or park 'STAFF' car parking spaces as all staff car parking spaces are designated.

BE CONSIDERATE TO our neighbours

Please remember not to park/block our neighbours driveways both in Carolhill/Camphill Parks and at the back entrance in Hollybank Park.

Please help to maintain a safe environment for our children and follow all car parking guidance - be prepared to park safely and don't put your child or anyone else at risk. All pupils have been told how to exit school and know how to keep safe on pathways and the expected standard of behaviour.

Please ensure that all children take care when walking across car parks to their cars as surrounding cars can begin to move off very quickly. Make sure your child always has a seatbelt on when your car is moving. If everyone works together at 'peak times' this should help all drivers to enter and exit the school grounds safely and quickly.

Ulsterbus/School bus transport (School via Tullygarley, Galgorm Road to the Bus Station)
If your child travels by bus.....are you aware that Ulsterbus have 'Smart Link' Cards for all school pupils? Please contact 'Ulsterbus' for details.
(Please remember that parents must be at the bus stop to meet their child off the bus at 2pm otherwise the child will be returned to school/bus station) Can we also ask that if your child travels by bus that they have your contact number in their pouch/schoolbag as, if there ever were an emergency on the bus or at a bus stop, the driver would have a number to ring.

Homework/Looking after school books/equipment

Pupils are given homework Monday - Thursday and therefore parents should always be checking for 'homework' each afternoon; it is expected that parents will ensure that the work is completed and homework diaries and pouches are checked. Those children who progress better in school are those whose parents take the time to work with them at home - please hear your child read and ask them some questions about it. Ask your child their spellings and tables and help with their written work if necessary. Always check school pouches/school bags/homework diaries or message books (P1) for letters/notes home - staff always emphasise with their pupils how important it is for these letters/messages to be read at home! Please ensure that all books are returned to school when requested and that they are kept in

good condition! If your child forgets to bring home a piece of homework and you wish to return to school later on in the afternoon for this please make sure you make yourself known to a member of staff - the building supervisor and cleaning staff are in the building until 5:00pm.

School Meals

We are fortunate to have our own school meals kitchen where fresh food is prepared daily on site. Nutritious and healthy meals are available to all pupils at a daily cost of £2.60. Throughout the year we will also have special dinners and 'theme' events for the children to enjoy. Each week's menu is on our school website
Please be aware that you may be entitled to 'Free School Meals' even if you do work - application forms are available from the school office or EA, County Hall.

The EA School Catering Service currently provides for Special Dietary Requirements that have been medically prescribed, including pupils who have allergies, or ethical, religious or cultural reasons. To guarantee the safeguarding of pupils with allergies, or any other special dietary requirements, it is vital that parents inform the school cook, Sandra, so that as far as possible a nutritionally balanced meal that meets the dietary requirements of the pupil can be provided. **Please contact Sandra direct on 25651813** if any of this information relates to your child who will be taking a canteen meal at anytime throughout the school year.

Packed Lunches

Please remember no 'hot' items should be sent with your child taking a packed lunch as, if spillage occurs, a child may get burnt.

Breakfast Club

Please remember Breakfast Club runs in the school canteen each morning from 8:15am - 8:45am where all children are welcome to pay **80p** and receive breakfast in school - just turn up and get a breakfast Please note breakfast is only served up to 8:35am. Children will not gain entry into Breakfast Club after 8:35am. Debbie and Glenda, our two classroom assistants, are our club leaders!

Healthy Breaks

As the school participates in the 'Healthy Breaks' Programme which is encouraged by the Dept of Education please support us with this by sending in a fresh fruit, fresh vegetable or plain bread based snack for your child. In line with healthy eating guidelines for Primary Schools, the snack should be fruit, vegetable or bread based with no sugary spreads. Crisps, bars, etc are not acceptable as break choices. Check out the School Food Trust website for support with healthy snacks and lunchboxes. Thank you for supporting us with this. *(PLEASE READ our 'Food in Schools' policy on our website)*



<http://www.childrensfoodtrust.org.uk/childrens-food-trust/parents/>

Nut Allergies

In school we have children who are required to carry an Epipen due to the possibility of them having an allergic reaction and going into anaphylactic shock - therefore I am asking all parents **not** to send any nuts or bars containing nuts into school as break or lunchtime snacks. Thank you.

Water

Promoting a healthy lifestyle is an essential part of what we do in school. As such, water may be brought to school everyday. It is acceptable for children to drink water throughout the day and apart from the obvious benefits in terms of general hydration, water is good for the brain!! However, do respect teachers decisions as to how they manage this within their own classrooms.

Breaktime/Canteen Menu

At breaktime everyday **P3 - P7 pupils** can buy items from the canteen. A range of items are available and these, along with prices can be found on the school website.

Milk

We are continuing to offer milk at break to our pupils at the cost of 20p per day. This is payable in advance each half-term. Please remember there is a very

quick turn around in the ordering/paying of milk.

Money Pouches

As parents regularly send money to school for various events and activities please remember you can buy 'Money Pouches'. These come in packs of 40 and an example is shown.

We are selling them at the following cost:-

1 pack of 40 = £1.75

2 packs = £3.00

5 packs = £7.00

7 packs = £10.00

If you would like to buy any packs please contact school office at anytime throughout the school year.

Health & Safety

Please remember that dogs are not allowed inside the school grounds and a non-smoking policy exists both inside and outside within school grounds.



To safeguard our pupils,
please remember that
DOGS
should not be brought into
the grounds of our school.




Please also note that a
**NON-SMOKING
POLICY**
exists throughout our
school grounds.

Evacuation Procedures

We have in place procedures to follow if there were to be a fire in the building or if we had to completely evacuate the school site in an emergency. In the unlikely event of this happening and the school had to be cleared immediately we have arranged that the school would be evacuated to either ALAN FRANCEY'S FUNERAL HOME yard or BALLEE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. Obviously if the school had time a text message would be sent to all 1st contacts telling you where your child may be collected from.

Fundraising Help!

We have been encouraged by individual responses from parents about wanting to help out at events.

 **CAMP HILL
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Child's Name:

Class: Date:

☐ Cafeteria Money ☐ Charity

☐ Trip Money

Other:

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED £

money pouch™

This is so good to hear. This year we will continue to try to organise some events and we may need your help with supervision /organisation etc. **If you are interested in helping out please complete the blue form sent home this week or leave your name at the school office!**

I strongly encourage you to continue to support the forthcoming fundraisers during the 2018-19 school year. Planning is underway for a number of pre-Xmas fundraisers - our Calendar, a Toy Sale in November with a Christmas disco and raffle in December. *Information will follow soon after Halloween!*

School 2019

Calendar - please

note pupils are photographed in the calendar under their birthday month so for example all the pupils with a birthday this month in October - their group photograph was taken outside in the autumn leaves. ALL photographs have been taken over the week bg. 15th Oct and 22nd Oct so if your child was absent on any date during this time please be aware that they may have missed being in their photograph. Order forms have already been sent home - Last day for Calendar orders - Friday 16th November



MUSIC in Camphill

This year we have the EA Music Service once again in school offering **string and woodwind** tuition to pupils from Primary 4-7. We also have a **piano** Teacher (Demelza McFetridge DipLCM,Bsc,Msc) in school on a Monday. If your child would be interested in taking up lessons please contact Mrs Archibald for more information - waiting lists are being collated for all music teachers.

We also teach **recorder** to all pupils in Primary 4-7 and pupils are required to buy a recorder, either from a local supplier or through school - Mrs Archibald has recorders for sale at a cost of £3.25. These are now available.

Once again this year we have an Orchestra, a Junior (P3 & P4) and a Senior (P5, P6 & P7) **school**

choir who are all now in 'full swing' practicing for Christmas!!

'Extended Schools' plans

Once again we have received funding from the Dept. of Education to provide additional activities to our pupils. Planning for the expenditure of this is complete and a range of clubs will be on offer over the academic year. *See pictures on the website from the clubs already started along with dates of upcoming clubs on our school calendar!*

SHARED EDUCATION

In 2016 Shared Education became a statutory requirement for schools in N.I. To facilitate this funding has been made available to schools to develop a partnership through the EUs PEACE IV Programme. We are delighted to have established a link/partnership with Mary Queen of Peace in Glenravel/Cargan and look forward to building links with both their pupils and staff. This year we are starting with our Primary 4 year group participating in shared fun/lessons - more information for P4 pupils will follow after Halloween.

'RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOLS' AWARD

We are currently working towards our Silver Rights Respecting School award and look forward to achieving this in 2019. Mrs McLarnon is leading this in school and will be sending information home later in the year regarding this.

SUSTRANS 'SILVER' AWARD

Congratulations to all the pupils and Mrs McCullagh who were presented with the SUSTRANS Silver Award this week. *(photos on the website)* This is a prestigious award with only 3 schools in the Ballymena area having received this. We now are aiming for our GOLD award in 2019!

CHARITY

During the year we take opportunities to help others. During 2018/19 we plan to support a set number of charities - Radio Cracker, The Poppy Appeal, Children in Need, Comic Relief, Action Cancer and the NI Air Ambulance.

Did you also see on our website our fantastic donation of 'old' school uniform being so gratefully received by the children of Kenya!

In each classroom we also continue to keep a little 'Hungry Hippo' money box for any loose change or 'found' unclaimed money - please use these as you so wish as we collect them in and count them each month and every penny always counts!!



SCHOOL NURSE TEAM - Flu Vaccination

As you are aware pupils will get their Flu Vaccination on Monday 12th November - the team will be administering this to all pupils with consent given.

WHAT ELSE HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN SCHOOL DURING September/October 2018?

On the website you will see lots and lots of **pictures and videos** under each year groups page along with the general NEWS page

EVENTS & DATES TO NOTE

Dates for all events are on the website for the school year - so please check what is happening each month as we will only be sending out a reminder text message a day in advance of most main school events.

School Holidays for the year are also on the website.

OUTSIDE SCHOOL EVENTS & INFORMATION

We receive regularly information from Community groups and the public asking us to advertise their events. Always check the 'Community' section of the website as this is where all this information is placed. Please do note however we are only advertising these activities and are not endorsing them.

CLOTHING BIN!

We now have a large 'BLUE CLOTHING BIN' inside our school grounds (*near the EXIT GATE at the front of the school*) this is for the school and the whole community to use as in return the

school will earn much needed funds! To this 'Clothing Bank' you can add :-

- Clean clothing/paired shoes/towels/curtains etc...

Please do not 'bank' dirty clothing or wet clothing.



Have a look at our fantastic AUTUMN artwork!



*K McMaster
Sep/Oct 2018*

