



"Memorable
Learning"
2021 -2022

Ampertaine Primary School Newsletter



Friday 24th September 2021

Recent Newsletters are available online at ampertaineps.co.uk/parents/newsletters

PLEASE KEEP CHECKING OUR WEB SITE FOR LATEST PICTURES AND DATES OF EVENTS



NEWS FROM ROOM 1

P1 have been very busy. We've started our phonics, with s and a. We've made the letters in sand, with playdough, using white board markers and with a pencil in our books. We are now using our white boards in our Morning Meeting. Look at how well we can write the day, the date and show what the weather is!

Room 2 News

We have had a fantastic kick off to the new school year. Room 2 are making the most of what dry weather September brings, getting outside to enjoy playtime. Sand and waffle bricks are big hits. Homework is well underway, and we are getting to grips with Seesaw. It is great to have such good parental involvement in children's learning journeys and a healthy home school link.





NEWS FROM THE MOBILE

What do you think of our owls? We are very proud of them. Can you name the different parts of an owl? P3/4 know that owls have special claws called talons.

P3 had lots of fun using their feet and handspans to measure objects in the classroom and at home while P4 used rulers to measure length, height and width in centimetres. Holding the ruler straight to draw lines was tricky!

P4 are enjoying reading and quizzing on their AR books. P3 can start AR too, once they complete level 8 of Lexia.

Room 3 News

So, we eventually got our class photo taken! Here we all are.. only 9 girls out of 28 in total! We've had a busy time with our work since starting back and P5 are working on their joined handwriting daily while P6 fine tune their various dictionary skills in class. We've also started swimming sessions again at Magherafelt Leisure Centre and are really enjoying them. September has been busy for us all; have a look on our class page from our website to see what else we've been up to!



Room 4

Room 4 have been very busy learning about rules, contracts and agreements. The children were able to take part in group work allowing each pupil voice to be heard and respected.

The children are finalising their rules through democratic voting. Once established a contract will be made and signed by everyone in the class. Even the teachers.

It has been brilliant to have more group work taking place in our room. The children have worked very hard and shown excellent mutual respect and understanding for each other.





Last week, every family from P2-7 received a letter about Mathletics. This is an online programme school pays for to help your child develop in knowledge, reinforcement and enjoyment in Maths. Every child is registered as a user and P1s will be getting more details sent home about it soon too. This is just a reminder to let you know how successful it is and that certificates and prizes are given in assemblies to praise and encourage the children to use this great online tool..have a look at some of our summer winners from the youngest to the oldest!! More photos on website coming soon.



Packed Lunches

We would ask parents to include a freezer bag or sealable sandwich bag in their children's packed lunches.

Presently any rubbish or food not eaten is being kept in lunch boxes and sent home. In the instance of an uneaten yogurt or other liquids these will be placed by the pupil in the sealable bag and then taken home in their lunch boxes.

Due to Covid 19 restrictions and maintaining our bubbles, the pupils are not able to walk around the hall and use the bins.



NUT-FREE ZONE

NOTICE

NUT-FREE ZONE

**NO FOOD WITH PEANUTS OR
TRACES OF NUTS TO BE
CONSUMED ON THESE PREMISES**

Please continue to do the outstanding job with regards to food being brought into school.

We are a NUT-FREE SCHOOL and will continue to monitor the food eaten at break and lunch time.

It is vital that ALL are proactive, ensuring the health and welfare of our staff and pupils.

Thank you for your continued cooperation in this matter.

Tempest Photos – Tuesday 28th September

Tempest Photography will be in school this Tuesday 28th September. Photography will begin at 8:30am for those wishing to have a family photo involving children who do not presently attend Ampertaine Primary school.

A schedule has been made to accommodate those who wish family photos for children who attend Ampertaine.

We would ask that each family returns their slip by Monday indicating your preferences for the day.



School Car Park SLOTS

Thank you for your continued patience particularly on a Friday. We realise it is slower at the moment due to young children still getting used to the system. .

We would ask that all pupils are ready to exit their cars with coats and bags ready to go. The mornings can be very busy and we wish to encourage a constant flow in and out of the car park.

ALL PUPILS are now expected to use the system. We would ask that you stick to your time slots to avoid confusion and to maintain a constant flow of traffic particularly when collecting. At times with forgotten bags etc classes may be out just after their slot. Please come within your ten-minute time slot.

Thank you for continuing to give priority to those exiting the car park.

Contacting school

We would ask at these times for all parents to use our school info account when informing school of information. If you have any queries for our teachers or wish to speak with them, please use our email account to arrange an appointment.

Our school email is info@ampertaineps.maghera.ni.sch.uk . We would ask for your email subject to include the name of the pupil and class.

COVID Guidance update

We are very conscious that COVID numbers across NI are still high so if your child is symptomatic at all, or has been identified as a close contact, please do not send them to school. Isolate them, notify us and book a PCR test immediately.

All arrangements will be kept under review and any changes will be communicated to you as and when appropriate and/or necessary. If you have any other queries or questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

We thank our parents for their understanding during an ever changing line of guidance from the EA.

Our FIVE steps to follow
1. If your child is unwell, please keep him/her at home.
2. If your child is unwell in school, he/she will be sent home.
3. If you feel that your child MIGHT have Covid-19 symptoms, please do a Lateral Flow Test or book a PCR test. Preference being PCR.
4. If your child tests positive for Covid-19, please keep your child at home to isolate.
5. If a child or staff member in class tests positive for Covid-19, I will inform parents from that class (and anyone else who may have been close contact). The PHA may contact close contacts but this could take time and may not include your child. In this case, it is the RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH PARENT to decide whether to regularly do Lateral Flow Tests with their child, book a PCR test for their child or do nothing.

It is essential that EVERYONE plays a part in keeping themselves and others safe.

School payments

Children should bring payment into school on MONDAY morning.

Payments **MUST** include correct change and be organised with the school envelope clearly labelled with:

- Nature of payment ie school dinners
- Payment details ie days of the week
- Child's name and class

School envelopes can be purchased at a cost of £2.50.

We are required to deal with all money using appropriate PPE, all money will be removed from the building and banked before a complete clean down of the office area. This is why it is vital that money is received in this way and can **ONLY** be dealt with on a **MONDAY** morning. We greatly appreciate your assistance in this matter in this unprecedented situation.

School dinners

The children had responded well to the new system in place with those taking dinners increasing as the school term as developed.

We hope you approve of our changes and we look forward to more pupils enjoying the delicious meals. The menu is on our website in the Newsletter section and has been emailed to all who have subscribed to our website.

All money **MUST** be in an envelope clearly labelled and brought into school on the **MONDAY** to enable Clare to count and then sanitise the work area. The **EXACT AMOUNT OF MONEY** should be in the envelope.

Recycling @ Ampertaine

At Ampertaine, we pride ourselves on encouraging and observing good environmentally friendly practices. Part of our aim is to **reduce** the amount of single use plastics. To this end, we would encourage reusable containers for lunches and snacks instead of single use plastics such as sandwich bags, cling wrap, frubes, yoghurt pots, fruit shoots and so on. However, we do realise this is not always practical.

As part of our **recycling** programme therefore, we are very honoured to be in partnership with Vicky Seviour-Crockett in collecting recyclable items to raise money for Kicks Count, the UK's leading baby movement resource and awareness campaign.



We would therefore ask you to be mindful of the packaging you are using, in order to help us out with our green credentials. The Kicks Count campaign can accept the following:

- All brands of biscuit, cake, cracker, cereal bar, rice cakes.
- All brands of crisp, popcorn and pretzels.
- All brands of sweets and chocolate (plastic only).
- All Kinder packaging.
- Bread bags, pancake, soda, crumpet, croissant, rolls, wrap packets, etc.,
- Cheese packaging
- Babybel wax and packaging.
- Pringles tubes and lids.

Advice to help protect your home from COVID-19 Parentline NI “Bounce Back” FREE Sessions
<http://ni.germdefence.org/>



Germ Defence

Help protect your home from COVID-19
ni.germdefence.org

HSC Public Health Agency HSC Health and Social Care

Go to ni.germdefence.org

After around 10 minutes answering questions online, Germ Defence offers tailored advice to fit your personal circumstances. It is based on scientific evidence.



Parentline NI
 0808 8020 400

Bounce Back

“Do you find yourself in cycles of nagging and bickering with partners and children? Are you fed up ‘fighting fires’ at home every day?”

If so then join us as we look at real ways to manage day to day challenges, cope with bumps along the way and all the while Keeping our cool.

FREE parent and carer workshops via zoom
 6 sessions 8pm-9pm starting Mon 4th Oct or Thurs 4th Nov 2021

Call us on
 0808 8020 400
 to learn more and book your place

Mon-Thurs 9am-9pm
 Friday 9am-5pm
 Saturday 9am-1pm
 Supported by the Public Health Agency through the Clear Project

HSC Public Health Agency Project supported by the PHA **Clear**
 Empowered with training to protect health

Calendar Dates

September	
Monday 27th	MUSIC and SWIMMING LESSONS
Tuesday 28th	Tempest School Photographs. Children have information home with them.
Wednesday 29th	Online Safety Day - more information to follow.
October	
Wednesday 13th	Whole school Flu Vaccine.