



"Memorable
Learning"

2021 -2022

Ampertaine Primary School Newsletter



Friday 14th January 2022

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

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



NEWS FROM ROOM 1

On Friday, it snowed. At lunch time we played in the snow after we had eaten our lunch. It was so cold! We got a bit wet but we had great fun! We put our wellies on to keep our feet dry!

Our new topic is Pets and Vets. We will be learning about how to look after animals, different animal x-rays and sorting animals. We will be reading lots of books about animals.

Room 2 News – Winter Wonderland

P2 & 3 in Room 2 have been busy creating a Winter Wonderland scene. They painted robins in three different ways. They also created snowmen with their faces on them. They are enjoying learning about the season of Winter and reading Winter stories. They are hoping for snow so they can build real snowmen very soon.



Mobile News



The children are just loving our new wooden outdoor play equipment. They have been working on gross motor skills, balancing, climbing, swinging and developing their upper body strength while having fun in the fresh air!

Thank you to our PTA, Little Amps and Shared Education who assisted school with funding towards this special equipment that all children will benefit from.

Room 3 News

Can you believe it's now 2022?! Happy new year to everyone! 🎉

In class, we have been talking about what happened over 2021, reflecting on our achievements, things we enjoyed and other things we didn't enjoy so much! We have also thought about our new year goals (or resolutions) and are working on how we can achieve them. Some of these resolutions are for home and others for school. We're hoping to keep them and not break them to soon!



Room 4

P6 and 7 in Room 4 have been learning about The Victorians in their current World Around Us topic. They began by learning about Queen Victoria and have created some fantastic pencil sketches of her. They have also created a fact sheet about her life and reign. They have been researching schools and key events of the Victorian era and they are currently learning about Victorian workhouses. They are fantastic history detectives.

NEW P1 ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2022- PORTAL NOW OPEN!!!!!!

Our online virtual tour of school for our potential new P1 families including messages from Mrs Logan, our P1 teacher is now available on our school website. Unfortunately, due to Covid restrictions and to keep everyone safe we are not able to have an open morning for new parents. We still want to showcase our fantastic school so we feel this is the next best way to do it. Please go to our website and open the tour!

Feel free to pass this message onto others and they can contact school for further information at any time.

The system for applying for P1 places will be by on-line applications. Information regarding the procedure can be obtained through the EA website. **The Portal for applications opened at 12 noon on Monday 10th January.** Applications received after the deadline, 12 noon on Friday 28th January, cannot be considered.



Diarrhoea and Vomiting



If your child has been physically sick or passed diarrhoea either in school or at home, they must not return to school for **48 hours** from the time of their last episode. This is the recommended time as set in our guidelines. We thank all for cooperating and respecting this set time frame.

Remote learning Provision

- Work will only be provided remotely to a child who is either covid positive and well or isolating due to being a close contact.
- Work will be uploaded to the appropriate online platform for your child. Either Google classroom or Seesaw.
- The work will be based on class work from that day. Instructions will be limited. Work is not expected to be handed in or uploaded to teachers. All work to be given to teachers once pupils return.

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

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.



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.

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.

Easyfundraising – Easy to use and easy to raise money

At this particularly challenging time for us all, please don't forget that over 4,100 shops and sites will donate to Ampertaine Primary School PTA for FREE every time you use easyfundraising to shop with them. This means you can support the school, when you get your groceries, order a takeaway, renew your insurance policies or buy anything else online – at no extra cost to yourself! If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE to use.



Just visit:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ampertainepta1/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=s-n4

And lastly.....

A Happy New Year to all in our school community!

It is great to have the children back in school refreshed and sharing stories of the fun they had over Christmas. We have been very encouraged by the settled start to the new term.

Whilst Covid 19 is rife across Northern Ireland, we do feel that better days will come soon and so our focus now is on treading a careful path back to a normal school experience for the children.

We all know that school is the best place for our children and the disruption to learning that many experienced last term will have impacted on their learning, and in some cases, overall wellbeing. There is a balance to be struck between trying to contain the spread of the virus to avoid class closures and ensuring that children aren't off school unnecessarily.

The mitigations already in place in school will continue including:

1. Staggered starting and leaving times.
2. Strict handwashing and respiratory hygiene.
3. Class bubbles maintained inside the school building and year group bubbles while pupils are outside.
4. Rooms are well ventilated, doors and windows kept open.
5. CO2 monitors have been installed in all classrooms and we are researching the availability of air filters.

Our aim this term, as we emerge from the restrictions of the pandemic, is to get the attendance rate back to a minimum of 96%, in line with previous years. When this happens, we will be confident that all our children are getting the best possible academic, social, emotional, and physical provision that they can have.

I hope this reassures you that we have significant mitigations, above what is required, in place to protect everyone.

Thank you for your support in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our children and staff. We are looking forward to a very happy, successful, and enjoyable second term.

Kind regards

M Dillon

Calendar Dates

January	
Monday 17th	Swimming begins for Room 4 pupils - RETURN TO SCHOOL 3:30pm
Tuesday 18th	Room 4 Zoom with Sperrin Integrated College
Friday 21st	Kids Court - PSNI - Speed awareness
Wednesday 26th	We welcome Rev. Morrison to our school Assembly