

# Clare News

Sept- Oct 2017



Welcome back to another school year. Hopefully this Newsheet will continue to be a successful means of keeping you informed of what is happening in Clare PS. As we have done in the past, as well as sending a paper copy of the current Newsletter home to each family, you will also be able to access it on our website: [www.clareprimary.com](http://www.clareprimary.com).



## **Holiday List 2017/18**(all dates are inclusive)

Half Term: 30<sup>th</sup> Oct – 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov '17 (Half Day, Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Oct)  
Christmas: 21<sup>st</sup> Dec '17–2<sup>nd</sup> Jan '18  
Half Term: 15<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Feb '18  
St. Patrick's Day: 19 Mar '18  
Easter: 29<sup>th</sup> Mar – 11<sup>th</sup> Apr '18  
May: 7<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> May '18  
\*The above list includes all Exceptional Closures for the school year.

## **Morning arrangements.**

May we please remind you that pupils can be left into school from **8.40am** onwards. **In special circumstances**, pupils can arrive at 8.30 onwards (please contact Mrs Briggs to make arrangements for this). Please remember that only staff cars are permitted within the school grounds – this is for the health and safety of our pupils.

## **After-school Activities**

These will commence on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> September, from 3.15-4.00pm and will run every week until Half Term (please collect children promptly).  
Monday: ICT Club (P6 only)  
Tuesday: Scripture Union (P5-P7)  
Wednesday: Cross Country (P5-P7 boys & girls)  
Thursday: P1-P7 Football (see separate heading below)  
Friday: P2-P5 Hockey (see separate heading below)

## **P1-P7 Burns Soccer School**

Burns Soccer School will be returning to Clare PS, giving football coaching for all

interested boys. These coaching sessions will run consecutively on Thursday afternoons: P1-P3 from 2.15-3.15pm and P4-P7 from 3.15-4.15pm. A consent form with the cost and dates will be sent home by Mrs Turkington.

## **P2-P5 After-school Hockey**

Miss Christine Russell will also be returning to Clare PS to continue her two After-school clubs this term. These will run consecutively on Friday afternoons; P2-P3 will run from 2.15-3.15pm, then P4-P5 from 3.15-4.15pm, with Mrs Turkington leaving the children to the school gate for parents to collect. As places are limited, places will be allocated on a first-come basis. A consent form with the cost and dates will be sent home by Mrs Turkington.

## **Dinner Money**

Dinners remain at £2.60 per day. It would be really appreciated if dinner money for the week could be sent in a clearly marked envelope on a Monday morning – Money Pouches can be bought in the Office for £2.50 (1<sup>st</sup> 2 weeks of term only). To avoid taking up valuable teaching time, please send exact money each week.



## **Swimming lessons**

Swimming for P6-P7 pupils will commence on Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> September for a 10-week period. The money for this should be paid before the start of lessons (£30 per pupil).



## **Healthy Break**

As the school supports the 'Boost Better Breaks' campaign, we would ask you to send a healthy snack to school on Monday-Thursday. This can also be bought through the school kitchen at a cost of £1.20 per week. Please send money into school on a Friday.



PTO

### Curriculum Information Sheets

To help keep you informed of what your child is learning in school, we have prepared an outline sheet highlighting the main areas of learning your child will be covering in class this year. These will be sent home by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> Sept.

### Parent-Teacher Meetings



We are planning to hold our annual parent-teacher meetings during the week beginning 13<sup>th</sup> November. To accommodate this, **ALL** pupils will go home at 1.30pm on Monday & Tuesday.

### Parent Texting Service



We are planning to continue using our texting service. If your mobile number has changed, please inform the Office ASAP.

### Medicine

Remember that we are unable to administer medication, such as antibiotics or Pain Relief. To avoid embarrassment or upset, we'd appreciate if medication was not brought to school.

### Defibrillator



We are very grateful to the Friends of Clare group who provided us with the money to purchase a defibrillator, suitable for adults and children for the school. Hopefully we will never have to use it, but it is reassuring to have this invaluable First Aid tool available in school. Many thanks to Dr A. Cupples for offering to give training to all members of staff.

### School-gate pick-up

We are very conscious of how dangerous the road at the front of school is for children at the end of their school day. To try and keep the children as safe as possible, we would ask that parents come down the path and pick their children up from the teacher so that they are holding your hand as they go out through the gate. Please pass this information on to all adults who have responsibility for picking up your children, thank you.

### P1/P2 Information Afternoon.

Mrs Martin and Mrs Turkington are planning to hold an information afternoon for the parents of their class pupils. This will be an opportunity for parents to learn/revise how we teach phonics etc. in the Foundation Stage. Mrs Martin will hold her P1 meeting on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm and Mrs Turkington will hold her meeting on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm.

### Music Tuition

P6 & P7 pupils will again be offered tuition in a selection of brass and woodwind instruments. Once again, the cost to hire their instrument will be £30 per child – a note for this will be sent out in due course.

### Old Coins



As per bank guidelines, we will not be accepting the old £1.00 coins from 2<sup>nd</sup> October. If we do receive any in dinner money etc. these will be sent home again to be replaced.

### Christmas Event



We are excited to inform you that we are planning to host a 'Supper with Santa' on Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> November. This will include making Reindeer food, listening to Christmas stories, having a Christmas supper as well as meeting Old Santa himself! Further information will follow, but please put the date in your diary.

### Inside-Out Day

The School Council have already been selected by the pupils and have held their first meeting. They have decided to host an Inside-Out Day on Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September. This will involve everyone wearing their jumper or cardigan inside out and bringing £1.00 for school funds.

### R.E.

The Primary 5/6 and 7 classes will be having a series of lessons taught to them by Jenny McCullough called Bible Explorers. This term, the focus will be on Old Testament stories.