

EDUCATION AUTHORITY SOUTHERN REGION

Principal

Mr K D Campbell B.Ed. (Hons),
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Dear Parent,

As Half Term is upon us, we'd like to pass on some further relevant information.

Strike Action 21 February

Following consultation with EA and our BOG we wish to provide an update in relation to the proposed strike action which has been called by teaching unions for next Tuesday 21 February. Please note the following:

- School will be closed until 12 noon on that day. The children should not enter school before 12:00 noon as supervision will not be available and all children should be in school by 12:15pm at the latest.
- Buses will not be available at 12:00 noon but will be operating as normal at 3:25pm.
- School dinners will be available at the usual time (1:00pm). Please indicate clearly on the weekly money slip whether your child will be having dinners on Tuesday 21st February. The latest dinner menu can be viewed on our school website.
- P1-3 After School Club will take place as normal.

Staffing

- We are delighted that Mrs Geary recently gave birth to baby Isla Grace and both mum and baby are doing well.
- Stranmillis student - We are pleased to have Miss Emily Condy, a 3rd year Stranmillis student, in school for teaching practice during the month of February. She's been a very popular addition to the P3/4 classroom!

Parents Of Drumhillery

A POD meeting was held recently to discuss our next event. This will be a Family Fun Night & BBQ on Thursday 1 June 2023 and you are warmly invited. Please mark the date carefully in your diary as we'd love to see a great turnout.

Our **Break the Rules Day** proved a great success last Friday. The amazing total of £420.00 was raised for school funds and specifically for the purchase of a new Interactive Whiteboard for the P3/4 classroom. Thank you once more for your fantastic support for our school.

P1 Admissions

We're very pleased to have 7 new applications for P1 in September 2023, with 2 new families joining us. We have 5 Primary 7 pupils transferring to post primary this year.

Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 7th February we supported Safer Internet Day. This year's theme was 'Want to talk about it? Making space for conversations about life online'. All pupils had the opportunity to talk about their online experiences and the dangers associated with these. Key Safety advice was also highlighted. In Key Stage 2 several pupils mentioned social media sites including Tik Tok. This is becoming a very popular social media site among young children. Please note this requires users to be at least 13 years old.

Within the Curriculum area and on the ICT page on our school website we have uploaded a very useful Tik Tok Guide for Parents. This has been produced by EA and Safer Schools NI. It gives very helpful advice and support for parents, carers and is worth a read by us all.

Winter weather

We would like to thank parents for their patience during the recent cold weather spell, especially with its effect on school buses. Our buses drivers make every effort to complete their route but on occasions this is not possible since the safety of the children on board is paramount.

Pupil of the Month Awards

We had a wonderful Achievement Assembly on Friday 10 February to celebrate our pupils' recent successes. Awards were distributed as follows:

Class	Pupil of the Month (Jan)	Be Courteous Award
P1-2	Lilly Reid	Pippa Murphy
P3-4	Laura Wilson	Ella Haffey
P5	Maisie Anderson	Luke Nesbitt
P6-7	Harry Dunwoody	Elizabeth Kuck

P5-7 pupils were presented with hockey certificates and Jack Rowntree (P1) was presented with the Headteacher's Special Award. This is a new award specifically for those pupils who have shown a special skill or quality which deserves recognition, or perhaps someone who has shown courage in the face of adversity.

We're also thankful to Rev Abraham who presented the certificates. Photos can be viewed on our school website.

We have a new section on our school website called '**Drumhillery's Got Talent**' (under Kiddies Corner) where you can see some other great skills which were on display that day!

Half Term Holidays

We'd like to wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable Half Term Break. School will be closed from Wednesday 15-Friday 17 February (inc). For a full list of holidays and forthcoming events keep an eye on our website calendar which is updated every week.

Yours faithfully,
K D Campbell
Principal.

