

Newtownards Model School News

The photographer will be in school on Friday 7 May to take team photographs, P1 & P7 class photographs and P7 friendship photographs. Our P7 children will have a traditional class photograph taken **and** the children will have the opportunity to have a photograph taken with their best friends in casual clothes. P7 children should come to school in uniform and bring their casual clothes to change into for the friendship photo. More information will be forthcoming.

A meeting for parents of P7 children attending the residential to York from 24 - 27 May will take place in the Hall on Wednesday 12th May at 6.30 pm. It is important that **all** parents of children travelling attend the briefing.

School will be closed on the following dates:

- Monday 3 May (Bank Holiday)
- Thursday 6 May (Election)
- Wednesday 26 May (School Development Day)
- Thursday 27 May (School Development Day)
- Friday 28 May (School Development Day)
- Monday 31 May (Bank Holiday)

We will be looking for parents to escort our pupils to the swimming pool at Ards Leisure Centre from September. If you are not already vetted and would like to help, please contact the school office for a Voluntary Helper Form.

In the next few weeks our P3-7 children will be completing Standardised Tests in Mathematics and English. These are in-school diagnostic tests which help us monitor the children's progress. Our P4 children will also be completing NRIT tests which will give teachers a baseline to help track performance. The scores achieved in these tests will be presented in the Annual Report issued in June along with explanatory information to analyse the scores.

To date we have raised £1448 towards the cost of building a house in Southern India for victims of the Tsunami. Our non uniform days have provided most of this amount but a number of classes and individuals have held sales and sold items to support the fund raising and everyone involved deserves credit. We hope to raise the £3000 required before the end of the school year so we hope that all our future events will be equally well supported.

Stranmillis College will be visiting our school in May to make some instructional films for trainee teachers. A camera crew will be visiting classrooms to watch and record good practice.

Our P6 children enjoyed a wonderful residential to Greenhill YMCA and thanks are due to Miss Christie for organising the trip and to Mr McCullough, Miss Gillespie and Miss Gray for accompanying the children.

The Breakfast Club continues to flourish. This facility is open to all our children and runs from 8.00am to 8.30am. Children can use this facility on a full time or casual basis and includes a nutritious breakfast costing 50p.

P.T.A.

- Huge thanks are due to the PTA for donating £5000 to the school. This money will be used to purchase a range of resources which will support all our children.
- Annual Treasure Hunt - This will take place on Friday 28 May. More information will be forthcoming.
- Easter Competition - Many thanks to the PTA for providing Easter Eggs for our Easter competition.
- Our biannual Balloon Race will take place on Friday 18 June. More information will be forthcoming.

Diary Dates

15 April P7 visit to BeSafe at Ards arena
16 April P7 girls football continues
20 April Boys & girls hockey tournament
21 April Tag Rugby competition at Ards RFC
21 April Netball Tournament at West Winds
22 April Choir at Bangor festival
22 April P7 Spring Clean with Ards Council at Islandhill
23 April P5J visit to Share Centre
26 April DOE Road Safety Officer with all classes
27 April P6&7 visit to St Marks Church
7 May Boys & Girls Soccer Tournament at Bangor Sportsplex
11 May P7's working with Belfast Giants
14 May Indoor Kwik Cricket tournament
24-27 May P7 Residential to York
8 June Induction Night New P1 parents 7.00 pm
8 June Sportsday P1-P3 11.00-12 noon
9 June Sportsday P4/P5 10.45-12 noon
9 June Sportsday P6/P7 1.30-2.45 pm
11 June Kwik cricket Tournament NDCC
15/16 June New P1 pupils to visit teachers
23 June Leavers' Night/Music Concert 7.00 pm
30 June Last day of term
25 August School starts after summer break

Parents are advised that due to Child Protection issues, it will no longer be possible for P3-7 parents to enter the building with their children in the morning. Parents who wish to speak with their child's teacher may do so only after an appointment is made with the School Secretary.

Parents of P1&2 children can continue to bring their children into the building but must enter the school via the door at Mrs Langley's classroom.

Apologies for any inconvenience but our children's safety is paramount.

Computer Class - Tuesday Evening

Adults attending the Tuesday evening computer class may bring their children to school and leave them with Miss Johnston who organises a film club from 7.00pm-8.30pm. This facility is free of charge.

Please visit our school website www.newtownardsmodelps.co.uk which has lots of interesting up-to-date information including holidays, activities, school policies and Model News.

14 April 2010