



# NEWTOWNARDS MODEL SCHOOL NEWS

## P6 Parents meeting

A meeting to inform the parents of P6 children about the Transfer Test and the AOE will take place on Thursday 09 May at 8.15am in the Dining Hall.

AOE applications for children wishing to sit the AOE in November 2019 are now available and can be downloaded from the AOE website or collected from a Grammar School.

## Sports Days

As per previous years we will be running separate sports days which allow more children to participate. This format gives parents more opportunity to watch their child/children perform.

|    |           |         |         |
|----|-----------|---------|---------|
| P1 | Tuesday   | 04 June | 9.30am  |
| P2 | Tuesday   | 04 June | 11.15am |
| P3 | Wednesday | 05 June | 9.30am  |
| P4 | Thursday  | 06 June | 9.30am  |
| P5 | Thursday  | 06 June | 11.00am |
| P6 | Wednesday | 05 June | 10.45am |
| P7 | Friday    | 07 June | 11.00am |

Following the awful weather in this period over the last few years and the difficulties attached to rescheduling the sports days, we will simply run the events on their intended days and we will not reschedule if there is inclement weather.

## Rock Bottom

The production was once again of the highest standard and congratulations are due to the children and the staff for putting on such an enjoyable performance of Rock Bottom. They will all come to understand the one-liners in time!

## Orchestra

Congratulations to our Orchestra for winning their section at the Carrickfergus Music Festival. This particular group of children are not only very talented but played their pieces beautifully and fully justified winning the event.

A number of solo entries in the Festival also performed with aplomb. My thanks to Mrs Ryan and Mr Loughhead for preparing the children for their performances.



Mr Loughhead conducting our Orchestra at Carrickfergus.

## PTA

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Easter competitions and congratulations to all the children who won the prizes. The Easter bunny's name was Cotton-tail and there were 207 mini eggs in the jar – all probably eaten by now! As yet, there is no final total – this will be in the next newsletter.

## Fashion Show

Our next event is the Fashion Show. The theme is "A Night at the Movies!". Successful models will be notified at the end of this week and the PTA is very grateful to Matalan for agreeing to help us with the clothing. More details will be given shortly.

## Ballot

Running alongside the fashion show will be the Summer Ballot. Raffle tickets will be sent home next week. A strip of tickets costs £1. There are some fantastic prizes to be won including family passes to Streamvale Farm, W5, Mount Stewart, Odyssey Bowl and many more.

## Standardised Tests

From this week, our children will be completing Standardised Tests in Mathematics and English. These are in-school diagnostic tests which help us monitor the children's progress.

Scores achieved in these tests by P3 - 7 children will be presented in the Annual Report issued on 14 June along with explanatory information to analyse the scores. Reports will be sent home in schoolbags on 14 June so please ensure these are retrieved safely.

## Free School Meals

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL ENTITLEMENT TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS ENDS ON 30 JUNE AND A RENEWAL FORM POSTED TO THOSE CURRENTLY ELIGIBLE BY E.A. MUST BE FILLED IN AND RETURNED TO E.A. FOR ENTITLEMENT TO CONTINUE IN AUGUST 2019

## School Closures

School will be closed on the following dates:

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Thursday 02 May   | Election  |
| Monday 06 May     | Bank Holiday  |
| Monday 20 May     | School Development Day  |
| Tuesday 21 May    | School Development Day  |
| Wednesday 22 May  | School Development Day  |
| Thursday 23 May   | European Election   |
| Monday 27 May     | Bank Holiday  |
| Friday 28 June    | School finishes for all classes at 12.15pm.                       |
| Tuesday 27 August | School reopens for a half day.<br>(all classes finish at 12.15pm) |

## Sport

Our P7 girls will start their soccer coaching sessions on Friday 03 May. Our P7 children will have a number of cricket sessions over the term with the cricket professional from North Down Cricket Club.

Our Girls' hockey team played very well at the recent tournament at Regent House School.



Our Girls' hockey team after their recent success.

## Railings at the front of the school.

Throughout the school day children are not permitted to stand on the wall at the front of the school. This is because of the inherent dangers caused by falling and the attached railings. It has been noted that some parents, upon collection, then permit their children to climb on the wall and clamber along the railings. I would ask parents to ensure that this does not happen, as it sends mixed messages to our children and could result in a nasty accident.



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## Leavers Event

Our Leavers Event will take place on Tuesday 25 June at 3.30pm. At the event we will have musical performances by our P7 musicians and the P7 children will receive various trophies and awards. All P7 parents are very welcome to this 'graduation'.

## Diary Dates

- 29 April P3-P7 children start GL internal Standardised Tests.
- 02 May – School closed due to Election.
- 06 May – School closed for Bank Holiday
- 08 May – P5 visit to the Ulster Museum
- 14 May- P4W Shared Education Showcase event.
- 13 -16th May – P7 Residential to York.
- 15 May – Meet the Lifeguard. (Water safety workshop)
- 20 -22nd May- School closed for School Development Days
- 23 May –School closed for European election
- 27 May – School closed for Bank Holiday.
- 29 May – P5L Shared Education Showcase event.
- 31 May – PTA fashion Show in school.
- 03 June – New P1 intake parents' meeting 4.00pm.
- 04 June – P1 sports at 9.30am.
- 04 June – P2 Sports at 11.15am.
- 05 June – P3 Sports at 9.30am.
- 05 June – P6 sports at 10.45am.
- 06 June – P4 Sports at 9.30am.
- 06 June – P5 Sports at 11.00am.
- 07 June – P7 Sports at 11.00am.
- 11 June – New P1 visit.
- 12 June – New P1 visit.
- 14 June – Reports out.
- 18 June –Music Concert 7.00pm.
- 25 June – P7 Leavers Event at 3.30pm.
- 26 June -P1 visit to the beach at Crawfordsburn
- 28 June – School finishes for all classes at 12.15am.

## It's Your Move

Glenn Johnston from Scrabo Hall will be holding three workshops for our P7 pupils this term, entitled, It's Your Move. In these workshops the P7 children will have the opportunity to discuss their impending move to post-primary school and the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. These workshops have been incredibly useful to our P7 children in the past and we thank Glenn once again for the many ways in which he and his church support our school.

## Shared Education

P4W pupils have been participating in a Shared Education programme throughout the year with pupils from Londonderry Primary School and St. Finian's Primary School. There will be a celebration of this programme on Tuesday 14 May from 1.00 - 2.00pm at St. Patrick's Parish Hall, North Street, Newtownards. P4W parents/guardians are invited to this event to showcase some of the work the children completed together during the programme. There will be light refreshments provided and a musical performance from the pupils.

P5L will be hosting parents in St Patrick's Parish Hall on Tuesday 28 May from 1-2pm to celebrate our Shared Education programme. Tea and coffee will be provided on arrival and the children will be performing and showing off the work they have been doing. We look forward to seeing you there.