

August 2025

Dear Parent,

Welcome to the beginning of the 2025/26 school year. I hope you have all enjoyed your summer break and that our pupils are ready for another busy and exciting year in school. I would like to extend our warmest welcome to our P1s, the newest members of our school family.

I am also delighted to tell you that Mrs Hobson welcomed a baby son to her family at the end of June and Mrs Magowan welcomed her baby daughter in August. We wish them both a wonderful maternity leave as they spend time with their newly extended families.

The information provided in this newsletter is important for the smooth running of our school and I would ask you to read carefully over each section.

PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Our PTA provides much needed and greatly valued support for our school not only in terms of financial assistance but also in providing social events for both pupils and parents. I would encourage everyone to lend their support to the PTA, whether this is by becoming a member or by attending the various events throughout the year.

The first meeting of the PTA will be held on Monday 1 September at 6.30pm in the school. The positions of Chair, Treasurer and Secretary will be appointed and planning for term one will be discussed. Please complete the attendance form below to assist with preparations for the meeting.

<https://forms.gle/rDrynqxvew5mRjn89>

EMAIL COMMUNICATIONS

To ensure all parents are receiving school communications via email please complete the google form below.

<https://forms.gle/uym5KnyjBmHhgmWs9>

LIBRARY VAN

The library van will make its first visit on **Wednesday 3 September** and every three weeks following this date. Pupils in P2-P7 should already be registered users and our new P1s will receive an application form to join. These should be returned to Mrs Moore by Friday 12 September. Additional application forms will be available in the school office if required.

JUNE 2025 PARENT MEETING FEEDBACK

School Opening Hours – I am pleased to announce that the school's opening hours will change from **Monday 1 September**.

The school gates will now open at **8.30am** Monday – Friday

Pupils should enter the school using the front door **after the bell rings at 08.30**. **No pupils are permitted to be on school premises before this time.** Pupils will have morning playtime from 08.45 in the playground as normal.

A copy of this newsletter is available on the school website

<https://www.parkgate-primary.co.uk/>

Homework Club – The school will offer a homework club for pupils between **2pm and 4pm** on a **Monday and Tuesday**. This will be trialled throughout the school year and will be staffed by our classroom assistants. Please complete the form below to help gauge interest levels in this service. Full details, to include costs, will be included in the next newsletter.

<https://forms.gle/NzNgWeSdndFBA9KC9>

Social Media

An Instagram page for the school will be live in the incoming weeks.

Community Links

Rhyme Time with Mrs Moore – On Friday 19 September we plan to start weekly sessions of Rhyme Time for children aged 2yrs – preschool from 1.10pm – 1.50pm in the foundation stage classroom. The session will include lots of fun early childhood educational activities including storytelling, puppets, singing and of course rhymes!

Parents/carers are required to stay during the session. Everyone is welcome, spread the word!

NORTHERN IRELAND CHILDCARE SUBSIDY SCHEME

Please see the attached letter from the Education Minister, Paul Givan and the NICSS factsheet.

SILVER SMASH

Money Monday restarts on Monday 1 September and will continue until we have smashed our full jar target.

PIANO LESSONS

Piano lessons will restart on Tuesday afternoons week commencing 1 September. Mrs Brown has some slots available for new pupils. If you wish to make enquiries, please contact Mrs Brown on 07843 678633.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

03.09.25	Library Van visit
19.09.25	Rhyme Time begins
24.09.25	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon
26.09.25	School Closure – School Development Day 1
17.10.25	Harvest Event
20.10.25	Whole School Photographs
21.10.25	P1-P7 Parent Consultations – School closes at 1pm for all pupils
23.10.25	P1-P7 Parent Consultations – School closes at 1pm for all pupils
24.10.25	Library Van visit
27-31.10.25	Mid-Term break
05.11.25	After School Clubs commence for all pupils.
21.11.25	School Development Day 2
09.12.25	Christmas Concert (6.30pm)
19.12.25	End of Term – school closes at 12pm

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