

September (1) 2023

Dear parent,

Many of you attended curriculum meetings with teaching staff this week and have hopefully found these to be useful. For those of you who were unable to attend, you will find a link below to the school website where the PowerPoints have been added. Thank you for taking the time to read the information included in this week's newsletter.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Official school photographs will be taken by CS Moments on Friday 15th September.

Babies and toddlers will be made welcome on the first floor lobby from **8.30am** for group portraits.

Each pupil should wear their school sweatshirt and polo shirt/shirt and tie and should wear their skirt/pinafore or trousers and smart shoes for their photograph. Girls wearing a skirt/pinafore should wear either white knee length socks or black tights.

P1 START TIME REMINDER

We look forward to our new P1 pupils joining morning playground from 08.45 onwards on Monday 4 September.

SCHOOL LUNCHES

Unfortunately our school's kitchen staff member will not be attending work for the next 6 weeks due to family circumstances. As the EA is experiencing a critical shortage of kitchen staff, they have no relief staff to provide a kitchen service in our school.

Therefore, for the next 6 weeks the school will have to revert to **packed lunches only** and hot meals will not recommence until Mrs Burns is able to return to work. A list of the daily sandwiches is below.

Monday	Ham
Tuesday	Tuna
Wednesday	Cheese
Thursday	Chicken
Friday	Cheese & Ham

Packed lunches should be ordered as usual on a Monday morning with payment in a named envelope indicating which days you wish your child to have a lunch.

It may be possible to have a return to hot school lunches if a staff member could be sourced on a temporary basis. If you know of someone who would be willing to take on the role for the next few weeks, please contact the school office for further information.

A copy of this newsletter is available on the school website

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

CURRICULUM MEETINGS

Each of the curriculum meeting PowerPoint presentations has been added to the Parent section of the school website. These will be available for the month of September.

<https://www.parkgate-primary.co.uk/general-5>

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

These will commence the week beginning **Monday 25 September** for **P2-P7** pupils. A google form will be included in next week's newsletter. An Afterschool's plan 2023/24 will be sent home with your eldest child next week. Please note that the viability of clubs is subject to numbers and there may be changes to provision throughout the year.

PTA

The first meeting of the PTA will be held on **Monday 11 September** at **7pm** in the school. All parents are welcome to attend as we plan our 2023/24 event calendar.

Please indicate your availability to attend the meeting by completing the google form linked below by **Friday 8 September**. If you are a new parent to the school and wish to be added to the PTA email list and/or PTA WhatsApp group, please also complete the relevant sections of the form.

<https://forms.gle/phxzw9k3Z1PZFtSb7>

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Library Van – This service will commence on Wednesday 6 September with all pupils P1-P7 having the opportunity to borrow books. P1 pupils who do not currently hold a library card will be provided with an application form.

Parenting NI - Attached is a poster regarding an up and coming - Helping Children Manage Change and Transitions online seminar, which will take place on Zoom on **Monday 18th September 2023 7pm – 8pm**.

If you would like to attend you can register by telephoning the Parenting NI Support Line **0808 8010 722** the lines are open Monday – Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

Please keep reading for dates for your diary.

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

11.09.23	PTA Meeting 7pm
15.09.22	School Photographs
26.09.23	After School Clubs commence P2-P7 pupils
26.09.23	Dance 1
27.09.23	Macmillan Coffee Afternoon
28.09.23	Basketball 1
29.09.23	School Closure – School Development Day 1
05.10.23	P1 Parent Consultations
17.10.23	Dance 4 – Final Session
18.10.23	Harvest Assembly
19.10.23	Basketball 4 – (Continues after mid -term break)
25.10.23	P2-P7 Parent Consultations
26.10.23	P2-P7 Parent Consultations
12.12.23	Christmas Concert (6.30pm)

Mrs V Ferguson
(PRINCIPAL)

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