

KNOCKMORE PRIMARY SCHOOL

19th March 2020



Thank you for your support at this time. We have published our Newsletter early to provide you with information. Please check the website and Facebook page for updated information.

COVID-19

Thank you for your support over the last number of weeks in terms of following advice from the Public Health Agency in relation to COVID-19.

Unfortunately, as you know, we have now been informed by the Department of Education that all schools in Northern Ireland will close. We do not have a date for reopening. A note has already been issued re the collection of 'Closure packs' on Friday 20th March.

We will update our website and Facebook page with any new information and we ask parents to check these regularly. Any administration queries can be sent to our email address which will be monitored. The school office will not always be available to take telephone calls.

The information below relates to normal school procedures, assuming that school resumes after Easter.
Check the website and Facebook page for updates.

FOCUS ON PUNCTUALITY

Could we please remind parents that school starts at **8.45 am.**

Children who are regularly late can never recover certain essential parts of their school day such as settling down to get ready to learn, the lesson's introduction, important announcements, explanations and the thinking that makes learning come alive and gets them ready for the rest of the day. Of course, when your child grows up and seeks a job, they will quickly learn that employers need reliable, dependable and responsible people to fill employment positions. Being punctual from an early age equips them with the skills to keep it up as adults.



You may think that your child is only missing a few minutes in the morning, but **a pupil who is 10 minutes late every day will miss 30 hours of teaching during the year.** That's a large number of teaching hours that cannot be replaced.

Lack of punctuality affects learning and behavior, not only of the pupil who is late, but also for all other learners in the class. **Pupils arriving late disrupt the class** and reduce learning time for the rest of the class. Additionally, the process of signing children in or office staff having to take your child directly to class can cause further delay.

Please ensure that your child arrives in school ready to start work at 8.45 am and support us in this important area of school life.

Healthy Break and Milk

Milk for Term 3 and Healthy Break for April have now been ordered. Orders for May and June will be arranged after the Easter holiday.



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Club bookings and other money

We are aware that some parents have paid for clubs, dinners, milk, etc in advance. As you know, the situation is very uncertain and we are awaiting further guidance from the Department of Education. Any bookings can be carried forward when school reopens, or refunds will be given in due course.



Procedures for concerns regarding safeguarding

If you have any concerns regarding safeguarding, please contact Mr D Cunningham, Designated Teacher (Head of Units and SENCO) or Ms A Hardwick, Deputy Designated Teacher.



Other queries should be directed to your child's teacher or classroom assistant.

Website

Please remember to check our website, www.knockmoreps.co.uk or our Facebook page for up-to-date information and photographs. All newsletters are available to view on the website— check regularly in case the paper copy doesn't make it home, or you can sign up on the homepage and these will be sent direct! There is a calendar of events, general news and class 'look at us' pages.

We wish you a happy and safe Easter.

