

**HART MEMORIAL
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Charles Street
Portadown
CRAIGAVON
N. Ireland
BT62 4BD



Fax (02838) 332817

Email: info@hartmemorial.portadown.ni.sch.uk

Principal: **J Shipley**

Website: www.hartmemorialps.org.uk

14-6-21

NEW SCHOOL YEAR 2021/22

Dear Parents,

So that you can plan ahead, we are letting you know the arrangements for next year – what is staying the same and what will be different.

UNIFORM

The school uniform will be the same as this year:

- **Black leggings / track bottoms**
- **Yellow polo shirt**
- **Black crested school sweatshirt**
- **Black trainers**

This uniform is easier – no need to change for PE – and more comfortable for our pupils and it is more easily managed for you, the parents – no shirts to iron, no ties to tie, no separate PE kit to provide. To keep our pupils smart and our uniform ‘uniform’, we ask that you do not deviate from the above list.



SCHOOL BAGS

This year, we asked that all pupils **come to school with a Book Bag** (available from the office for £3 or easily purchased online). The vast majority of you got these for your children – many thanks. For the small number of pupils who came to school with bulky back-packs, we ask that you get a Book Bag before next August. Our school is filled to the maximum number of pupils that we are allowed to enrol and *we simply do not have space for storage*.



EQUIPMENT

All **materials your child needs for his / her education will be provided** – books, pencils, rulers, art equipment etc; you will not be asked to purchase any of these things yourself. The only thing you may wish to send in with your children is a **pencil case** to keep all their stationery items together. They may bring their own pencil, rubber, sharpener etc, if they wish, but please do not send in any other items from home.



START TIMES

This year, to allow for social distancing and the maintaining of class ‘bubbles’, we had three staggered drop-off times, with a 9am start to lessons. This will change for 21/22:

- Choice of staggered drop-off times: **8.25am OR 8.40am**
- **Nursery drop-off time** will move to **8.45am**
- **P1-P7 lessons will commence at 8.45am sharp**

To enable you to drop off your children at the time that best suits your routine / work pattern, we are asking you to **Seesaw your preferred family drop-off time** (all siblings will have the same drop-off time, for your convenience) **to the teacher of your eldest child** (excluding P7 pupils who will not be here next year) **before Friday 18 June 2021**.

If 8.25am is not early enough for you to be able to get to work on time, you may wish to avail of **Early Birds (P1-7) / Early Chicks (Nursery)**. These clubs open their doors at 8am and cost £1 / day. If you will need Early Birds on a regular basis, please indicate this in your Seesaw message. Please note that, whilst social distancing restrictions continue, numbers will be limited; if over-subscribed, we will be asking parents to register for Early Birds / Early Chicks, as per this year, stating the reason why it is needed (it must be work-related).



FINISH TIMES

In line with the changes to drop-off times, the staggered *pick-up times will also change* and are reduced to two:

Choice of staggered pick-up times:

- **2.35pm OR 2.50pm (P4-P7 every day and P3 Monday-Wednesday)**
- **1.35pm OR 1.50pm (P1 & P2 every day and P3 Thursday & Friday)**
- **1.15pm-1.30pm flexible pick-up time for Nursery pupils**

Please **indicate which pick-up time you prefer when you Seesaw the teacher of your eldest child.**

If you require your younger child to stay in school until your older child is finished, **Young Harts** will be available. However, we cannot, unfortunately, accommodate every family which has two different pick-up times. If you wish to **register for Young Harts**, please email jshingley527@c2kni.net with your reason (it *must* be work-related).



AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

We await Department of Education direction on when it is no longer necessary to keep children in class 'bubbles'. When that happens, we will gradually re-introduce a variety of after school activities. In the meantime, **Sportz Club**, run by **Coach Steve**, will start up again in **early September**, and will be available for different classes in turn. You will receive a **letter via Seesaw** when it is the turn of your child's class. Initially this will be for P3-P7 pupils and will run from **2.30pm-3.30pm** per session.



OUTDOOR PHYSICAL & EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING FOCUS

The focus this year on **outdoor physical activity to promote emotional health and well-being**, as well as physical fitness, will continue next year. Every pupil will be outside for physical activity **at least four times a week**. In light of this, please *ensure your child brings a coat to school every day* and, if possible, has a *light waterproof coat* that can be left in school. Light rain / drizzle will not stop us but please trust us to know when rain is too heavy for outdoor activities!

IN-SCHOOL ORGANISATION

Arrangements will stay as they are as they have worked so well this year:

- Each class will have its **own footfall area** – i.e. **entrance & exit door**, specific area of corridor that can be used
- Each class will have its own **designated toilet** (each with boys' and girls' cubicles) which the children can use when they need during class time
- Each class will have its **own playground** for play at break and lunch times



PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

The **Seesaw app** is an excellent tool for **strong home-school liaison**. Your child's teacher can post samples of work, give you progress updates and pass on any information specific to your child or his/her class (whole school information will be shared through the Hart Memorial Primary school app, free to download from the App Store). Seesaw also enables you to let your child's teacher know if he /she is sick (*please send a message early in the morning of your child's first day of absence*), ask the teacher questions, let us know of any updates to collection arrangements, medical conditions etc. You can also use Seesaw to arrange a telephone conversation with the teacher, if needed. A **strong home-school partnership is vital for your child to achieve his/her full potential** in school.

PUPIL & PARENT INDUCTION DAY

Friday 27 August 2021 is the **first day of term**. In normal times, you would be accompanying your child to one of the three sessions – **9am, 11am or 1pm** – on this Pupil & Parent Induction Day. At the moment, we are still restricted by covid regulations as to the adults we are allowed into the school buildings – e.g. school nurses, peripatetic tutors, educational psychologist and other professionals. We are planning for **pupil-only sessions** and you will receive a *letter in your eldest child's Annual Report envelope with information on Induction Day and the session time for your child.* If you have more than one child in the school, they will all have the same session time. If restrictions change over the next few weeks and adults are allowed to attend with their children, we will post a second letter to you with the amended details. In this case, the times for your children will be staggered to allow you to attend the session with each of your children in turn.



Yours faithfully

J Shipley
Principal