

12 Courtenay Hill, Newry, Co Down, BT34 2EA

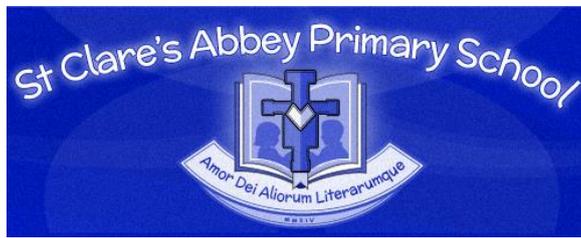
Phone: (028) 3026 2175

Dear parents,

It was absolutely wonderful for us all to welcome your lovely, lovely children back to school this week. They were so happy to be here, as were we !!

I thank you for keeping up to date with the huge amounts of correspondence I have been sending to you and I ask you to read this message carefully as some of the earlier pieces of information have been changed after 'seeing things in action' when the children were in school.

1. Water bottles and coats are the two things that pupils will take home each day- remember lunch and break snacks must come into school in a disposable bag- the bags will not come home.
2. Please remember that the Warrenpoint Rd bus is leaving school earlier- between 2.20 and 2.30. Ensure that your child is met from the bus at this earlier time.
3. The cashless system will start from Monday so no money can be brought into school. It is a new and complicated set up and Mrs Downey and Mrs Mc Neaney are working extremely hard to make it as smooth a transition as possible. Please be patient and 'bear with us.'
4. Parents wishing older children to leave school at the same time as younger siblings must make a request to the office so that this can be organised. To protect the 'integrity of class bubbles' we need to manage this very carefully and will be practising the dismissal procedure with relevant pupils, throughout the first week.
5. Primary 1 parents- whilst 8.15 'drop-off' time is an option for P1 parents from 1st September, I urge you to use it wisely. The 8.15 - 8.45 slot will be supervised by the classroom assistant in your child's class bubble. Therefore if your child is anxious and upset I would suggest that you should wait until 8.45 to leave him/her to school when the teacher and assistant will be in situ allowing one adult to give your child the attention needed whilst the other remains with the other pupils. Prior to 8.45 you will need to remain with your child if he/she is fretful as the assistant must remain with the other pupils.
6. Availability of Mrs Palis for parental contact- Several parents have been accustomed to telephoning Mrs Palis (one of our Polish speaking assistants) with queries. This arrangement will now need to be made via email [apalis834@c2kni.net](mailto:apalis834@c2kni.net) as Mrs Palis cannot step into the school office bubble to take phone calls and E Safety guidelines state that she can not use her own personal phone for such contact. Mrs Palis will respond to emails within school hours, a little time has been allocated at the start and end of each day for her to do this.



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7. Teachers have or will be asking you to become fully operational with Seesaw as soon as possible. they will ask for a response from you to confirm that you are up and running with two way communication via the app. This is crucial as we may have a situation whereby a class has to go into 'learning from home' during the term and all pupils must be 'good to go' with Seesaw.

8. All communication will be electronic so parents must have;

Seesaw App & St Clare's Abbey App. Generally speaking, I will make my communications via St Clare's Abbey App and teachers will make theirs via Seesaw App. All communication from me will also be posted on the school website [www.stclaresabbeyps.com](http://www.stclaresabbeyps.com)

So to conclude.....

Can I remind everyone of the importance of familiarising yourself with your child's pick up point and time. We need everyone to be where they need to be at the correct times, otherwise our meticulously prepared plans will not work.

- I also urge parents to be mindful of their responsibility to socially distance from others.
- The only parents who can park cars in school are those who hold a ' Blue Badge' for their child.
- I thank you sincerely for the supplies that you sent into school with your children, we have an abundant store now which we will put to great use in our efforts to keep school safe.

I sign off by saying 'thank you everyone and please enjoy the bank holiday weekend. It is great to be back together again and I speak for the staff when I say that a very promising, reassuring and positive start has been made to the new term. Thank you for the part you have played in it.'

Yours in partnership,

Mrs Monaghan.