



## DEERARK PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

September/October 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are almost at the end of our first term of Session 2020-21 and I cannot believe how quickly the time is passing by.

Our children are doing well in school and I want to take this opportunity to thank all the pupils and staff for their hard work this term. I also want to thank the parent body for all of their support thus far. It is a joy to lead the team in Deerpark.

### Staffing Updates

I am delighted to inform you that Mrs Farr will join the team at Deerpark after the Oct break. Mrs Farr joins us as an Improving Outcomes Principal Teacher of Inclusion and will be with the team until June 2021. We are looking forward to having her here with us.

We say goodbye to Mrs Mosettig this Friday. Mrs Mosettig, our Early Intervention Worker is moving to pastures new and joins the teams across Abercromby and Fishcross Primary School. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Mosettig for all of her hard work during her time in Deerpark. She has been a valued member of the team and we all wish her well. We welcome Miss Currie and Miss Steele to the team as Early Intervention Workers. Both Miss Currie and Miss Steele will be working across our Early Years team supporting learning and play. I am sure you will join me in welcoming them to Deerpark.

### School Holidays

The school will close for the October break at 3pm on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October. We return to school on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October. We hope you all have a well-earned rest.

### Changes to the In-service Day

Agreement has been reached within the LNCT that the In-service day provisionally set for 30<sup>th</sup> April will now be held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November. Please note that the school will not be open to pupils on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

### Curriculum

Health and Wellbeing continues to be our focus for all children and staff and our School Improvement Plan and Pupil Equity Fund Plan incorporates this. A copy of the plans are available for you to view on Class Dojo and our website. Our Standards and Quality report for session 2020-21 is also available on the website. Should you wish a paper copy of any of these documents, please contact the school office.

We will continue to provide regular learning updates on Class Dojo in a bid to share learning with you all. Class teachers will update their Class Story regularly so you can see what the children are doing in class.

### Contact Information

It is crucial that contact details are up to date, this is even more important during these uncertain times. Please make the school aware of any changes to addresses, phone numbers or email addresses. To help avoid transferring paper etc. between home and school, we will be sending most letters home by email. We will also post copies on School Story on Class Dojo and our website. Please let us know if you do not receive these so we can fix the issue.

### School Vision, Values and Aims

We are delighted that we have been able to share with you our new Vision, Values and Aims. This has been a huge piece of work for us all this term and we appreciate your contributions to this. We are working hard to embed values into our daily practice in Deerpark Primary.

### Water Bottles in School

The children are encouraged to drink water throughout the school day to keep them hydrated. Research has proven that remaining hydrated improves learning. Water bottles should go home each day for a wash and returned to school each day. The children should only have water in their bottles - no juice or flavoured water please. The children are able to have juice at break and lunchtimes. Energy drinks should not be sent to school.

### Head Lice

Head Lice are very common in young children and their families. They do not have anything to do with dirty hair and are picked up by head-to-head contact, therefore it is important that hair is checked regularly. Head lice cause itching and they can be treated using wet combing and medicated shampoos that are widely available from the chemist. Please be aware that many treatments require multiple applications.

### Outdoor Learning and P.E

As we are trying to spend more time outdoors it is essential that pupils always come to school with a waterproof jacket and suitable clothing for all weathers. If you are able to, please provide your child with wellie boots and a change of clothes. These can now be left in school and taken home to wash as and when required.

At present P.E. is unable to take place indoors and we are only in for break and lunchtimes when it is not safe to be outside. We are also continuing to build on the use of our outdoor spaces and outdoor learning and need to be able to do this on a regular basis. We are aware that our Loose Parts play area can become muddy at times. Once again, classes will only be out in this area when it is safe to do so. To support with outdoor learning, we are looking to purchase a stock of outdoor clothes.

I wish you all a safe and relaxing October break. Stay safe and well everyone! As always, should you have any comments, queries or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Rice  
Head Teacher