



## Loanends Primary School

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1 June 2023

Dear Parent

### JUNE UPDATE

- **Friday 2 June-Coronation themed Sports Day:** PTAFAs will provide party bags containing water, crisps and Haribo and alternatives for those who have allergies and intolerances. We also should have Wildflower seeds from the Council. You should have received information from Mrs Watson and Mr Hyde about arrangements for the day. The PTAFAs will be hosting a sponsored day of bouncy castles and Ice-cream on **Monday 26 June**. All classes will be timetabled for a slot during the day. More details will follow from the PTAFAs closer to the time.
- **P7 Leavers' Assembly: Friday 23 June 2023 at 9:30am.** PTAFAs are funding a bbq for P7s and their parents after assembly - More details will be sent out closer to the time.
- **P1 Parents Evening (September 2023 intake): 7:15pm- Monday 19 June**
- **Tuesday 20 June:** P1 Induction Morning – 2 sessions -9:15am to 10:15am and 10:45am to 11:45am. Parents will already have been advised which session to attend.
- **The last day of term for P7 pupils: Tuesday 27 June at 3:00pm.** We wish all our leavers the very best as they transfer to their new schools in September.
- **School will finish:** For all other pupils on **Friday 30 June at 12:15pm.**
- **Outstanding Payments:** Please ensure that all payments for music tuition, instrument hire, photographs, swimming, dinners and uniform are made by **Friday 23 June** at the latest. Your cooperation with this would be greatly appreciated.
- **Please ensure all library books,** text books and reading books are returned to teachers, not later than the last day of term. There is a small charge of £5.00 for any lost books.
- **End of year reports** will be sent home during the last week of term. If you plan to be away on holiday, please leave a stamped addressed envelope into the office. Reports will not be posted out early.
- **Classes for next year:** Governors are working on this. If this can be accomplished before the end of term, information regarding classes will be sent out with the end of year report.
- **Cash for Clobber Reminder:** At LPS we have registered for the 'Cash for Clobber' scheme run by Cookstown Textiles in conjunction with Eco Schools NI. The programme aims to teach school children the environmental and social benefits of recycling while helping those less fortunate and raising significant valuable funds for the school. The school gets 40p for every Kilogram and at the end of the school year, the organisation with the most 'clobber' wins an extra £1500. If you have any old clothes, bedding, curtains, shoes or handbags, you can put them into either one of the 50 'Cash for Clobber' bags available via the office, or alternatively you can put them in a sturdy bin bag. Please leave items into school at your own convenience and we will arrange for them to be collected. Please note, no duvets, pillows or soiled items should be included. Thank you in advance!
- **Free School Meals/Uniform Allowance:** Please apply online: <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants>

Due to the many pressures on family resources the number of free school meals has risen not only in Loanends but in other local schools as well. We would encourage parents to make use of these. The criteria for **Free School Meals** are as follows:

1. The parent/guardian is in receipt of Income/Income Related Employment and Support Allowance/Income based Jobseeker's Allowance or if a pupil claims Income Support in their own name.
2. The parent/guardian is in receipt of the guarantee element of Pension Credit.

3. The parent receives Child Tax Credit/Working Tax Credit and has an annual taxable income of less than £16,190.
  4. He/she has a statement of educational needs and is designated to require a special diet.
  5. Universal credit and have net household earnings not exceeding £14,000 per year.
  6. He/she is a child of an Asylum Seeker supported by the Home Office Asylum Support Assessment Team (ASAT).
- **Uniform Allowance-Primary/Special School Pupils:-** A pupil in full time education shall be entitled to a uniform allowance where the entitlement criterion is met at points 1, 2, 3 or 6.
  - **Please note that school will recommence on Tuesday 29 August:** This is a **full school day**. P3 will finish at 3pm on the Tuesday and follow the normal pattern of 2:00pm finish from Wednesday 30 August onwards.

**Please note the following with regard to the last week in August/start of the new term:**

- **There will be no school bus available until Friday 1 September.** Parents will need to make their own arrangements to transport children to and from school from **Tuesday 29 to Thursday 31 August**.
- **All pupils will** require a break since there won't be Healthy Break available until **Monday 4 September**.
- **A packed lunch for everyone is required for three days: Tuesday 29 to Thursday 31 August; school meals will be available from Friday 1 September.**
- **School milk will be available from mid September.** More information to follow in the September Update.

#### Planning Ahead for September 2023

- **Ordering/Collection of Uniform:** You will be informed by Seesaw when school uniforms are ready for collection.
- **New PE Kit (P3 to P7 2023):** We are introducing a new PE Kit for Loanends for the 2023-2024 school year. To view this and place an order, please visit the following link. When ordering, select 'for collection' and your order will be delivered to the school for distribution.

<https://schoolwearco.com/collections/loanends-primary-school>

Parents should order and pay on line but choose '*collection*' for delivery, and these items will be delivered to the school for distribution.

Blue Hoodies (P5 to P7 2023) are also available on the shop.

Whilst these items are not compulsory, it is our aspiration at least, that each child should wear a plain white t-shirt and plain black or navy shorts or bottoms. Further information re sizing etc has been sent on Seesaw.

- **Arrival and Collection Times:** There is a "window" of 15 minutes for children to arrive to school in the morning. Class teaching will begin at **9:00am**. Time keeping for a few pupils hasn't been great at both ends of the day. The side gates are locked at 9:00am; therefore all children should be in class by this time since lateness causes disruption and means that children don't get the best start to the day. I also would be grateful if parents could please ensure pupils are collected at the appropriate time in the afternoons. Teachers and Classroom Assistants have other duties at the end of the day. Supervising pupils has a knock on effect. Please make every effort to keep to the times.
- **Morning Club:** This will also continue. Supervision will be in place in the Assembly Hall from 8:30am and payment of £1 per day can be made in advance by SchoolMoney. It is important that a space is booked in advance to ensure the appropriate level of supervision.
- **Thank you** to all parents who helped out this year with PTA events, trips, transport, tree planting, Health Promotion Week and after school activities etc. A special word of thanks to Mr James McCartney, who spent hours power hosing around the paved areas of the school, in the blistering heat this week. He kindly gave his services free of charge; please give his business a like/share on Facebook (Waystone External Cleaning).

As ever, your time, talent, loyalty and commitment have been very much appreciated and contributes to all that we offer our pupils. We would love to have more parents willing to help out, particularly with PTA, as on the ground support falls to a few people. Any parent who would like to volunteer to help out with the PTA, school events or activities must have the appropriate checks completed. If you would like to be included from September on our list, please speak to me.

Principal: Mrs L Armour BEd MEd

A special thank you to two P3 pupils (Parker Rodgers and Sophia Robb) who used their own initiative to fundraise through the Easter Raffle and sale of Sunflowers. The money raised from the raffle was used to buy paints and glue for the classrooms and the sunflower money went towards the purchasing of games for the P3 room. Thank you! You are brilliant!

- **...and finally:** The staff and I are deeply appreciative of the tremendous support we have had from our parents this school year. Thank you for the words and notes of encouragement as well as the buns, cakes, scones and biscuits that arrived periodically to the staffroom! They didn't last long!

Our children are a credit to us and to you as parents in the way they conduct themselves and present themselves in public. It was so lovely to receive an email from a lady we met in the Riverside Museum whilst on the school trip to Edinburgh. Mr Hyde provided an impromptu piano recital and was accompanied by enthusiastic pupils who sang: "A spoonful of Sugar." The lady took a picture of our school badge and sent the following email:

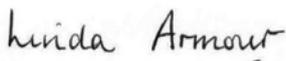
*"I had the privilege to meet Sam and Linda (I'm sure that's right) and your lovely school children at the Glasgow museum last week and they all made my day! Fun excitement enthusiasm and lots more x you must be very proud. We spent a great 20 minutes together and it made our day x Best of luck to you all. Bridget Crawford."*

I am immensely proud to lead Loanends Primary School and equally proud of the pupils and staff who make up the Loanends family. It gets harder every year (or maybe it's because I'm getting older!), particularly as we work against the tide of falling financial support and direct services to school. I am indebted to the staff who, this year, despite Union Guidance, have continued to go above and beyond to provide the best for our pupils and have given them, what I believe, is the very best in terms of pastoral support, education and opportunities outside of the classroom. I think we can say with pride that we have delivered EA's Vision – **"to inspire, support and challenge all our children and young people to be the best that they can be."**

So, it's almost time to recharge the batteries and get ready for a new wee group of Loanends pupils coming in. But in the meantime there is a summer to enjoy with family and friends.

Wishing everyone a lovely and enjoyable summer ahead.

Mrs L Armour  
Principal



CC Mr M Lucas  
Chairman of the Board of Governors