



Loanends Primary School

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6 June 2022

Dear Parent

Possibly this is the last update of this upside down school year! It's hard to believe that summer is almost upon us.

For the interest of P6 parents: AQE registration opened on 4 May and closes on 23 September. PPTCNI registration dates are the same as AQE. Test dates are as follows:

GL Assessment	Saturday 12 November
AQE Assessment 1	Saturday 19 November
AQE Assessment 2	Saturday 26 November
AQE Assessment 3	Saturday 3 December
Results	Saturday 4 February 2023 (provisional)

Visit www.aqe.org.uk and www.pptcni.com for further information.

- **Joseph the Musical:** Despite a few stops and starts along the way we are so pleased that after a two-year wait, P5-7 can bring you "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat". This is planned for two nights in June **Wednesday 15 to Thursday 16 June. On those two days, ALL pupils will finish school at 2:00pm. P5-7 pupils are permitted to come into school the mornings following the show at 10:00am.** If it suits better, P5-7 may come in at the usual time. More details about tickets and arrangements for the two nights have been sent via Seesaw from Mr Hyde.
- **School Photographer:** P7 Fun Packs and individual photographs will be taken on Thursday 9 June. Permission slips will be sent home before then.
- **P7 Leavers' Assembly:** This will be held in school at **9:30am on Friday 24 June.** For the first time in two years, we plan to have a "normal" assembly. There will be an opportunity for parents to have a cup of tea and take photographs at the end of the assembly.

Planning Ahead for September 2022

- **Ordering/Collection of Uniform:** You will be informed by Seesaw when uniforms are ready for collection.
- **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.
- **Colour Run:** Please ensure all pupil sponsorship money is returned to school no later than **Friday 10 June.**
- **P1 Parents Evening: 7:15pm- Monday 13 June (September 2022 intake).**
- **Tuesday 14 June-P1 Induction Morning** – 2 sessions -9:15am to 10:15am and 11:00am to 12:00pm. Parents will already have been advised which session to attend.
- **The last day of term** for P7 pupils will be **Tuesday 28 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 **Thursday 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 17 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.
- **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 30 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 31 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 Thursday 1 September.** Parents will need to make their own arrangements to transport children to and from school from on **Tuesday 30 and Wednesday 31 August**.
- **All pupils will** require a break since there won't be Healthy Break available until **Monday 5 September**.
- **A packed lunch for everyone is required on Tuesday 30 and Wednesday 31 August; school meals will be available from Thursday 1 September.**
- **School milk will be available from mid September.** More information to follow in the September Update.
- **Thank you** to all parents who helped out this year with PTA events, trips, transport and after school activities etc. 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. Any parent who would like to volunteer to help out with 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.

I want to finish the year by saying that 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!

It has been a difficult year, particularly during Term 1 and 2 when we had to respond to the challenges of Covid and the impact this had upon pupils and staffing levels. Our children are a credit to us and you as parents in the way they have been resilient and coped with change and at times disappointment. It was so lovely to receive an email from "Dario," the coach driver, who accompanied the P7s to Edinburgh. He commented: "the kids

demonstrated an adult level of maturity, which at my age I could only dream of. This is clearly a merit of the school in which you lead.”

I am proud to lead Loanends Primary School and equally proud of the staff and pupils who make up the Loanends family. Along with supportive and caring parents we have navigated our way through the challenges of this school year. We now look forward to a settled 2022-23 but before that, let's go and enjoy a break, some family time and simply just a chance to enjoy the simple things of life.

Wishing everyone a lovely and enjoyable summer ahead.

Mrs L Armour
Principal



CC Mr M Lucas
Chairman of the Board of Governors