



ACORN INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL, NURSERY & PLAYGROUP

March 2020 Newsletter

Website: www.acornips.com



Contact Numbers/email addresses: Please ensure the school is informed of any changes to contact details, especially mobile phone numbers as these change quite frequently. We will be using both text and email to communicate with you. Please note we can only send information to one address/phone number. Information can also be found on the school website.

PLEASE NOTE THAT MOST COMMUNICATION WILL BE SENT OUT BY EMAIL. PLEASE CHECK YOUR NOMINATED ACCOUNT REGULARLY.

Active Travel News

Our first event this year was 'Ditch the Dark' on Friday 14 February. It was really well supported thank you. You can see the photos on our Facebook page.



With the better weather coming in, why not choose a sustainable way of travelling to school?

First Confession



Our Catholic children from Primary 3 joined their friends from St Nicholas' Primary School to make their Sacrament of Reconciliation. Thank you to their families and Mrs Higgins for all the preparation involved.



Book Fair

Thank you for your great support for the book fair. It was great to see so many children picking out new books to read. Your support will allow us to purchase about £400 of books for use in school. Thank you.

Recycling at Acorn



Remember we have recycling facilities at Acorn. We can take bagged clothes (the blue clothes bank is near the pedestrian entrance) and used ink cartridges (hand these in at the office). We receive £4 for each bag of clothes donated. The money raised from both these initiatives go into the school fundraising account.

St Patrick's Day



Reminder:

School is closed on Monday 16 March (Staff Training Day) and 17 March (St Patrick's Day). As we will not be in school on St Patrick's Day, we will have a non-uniform day on Friday 13 March, when the children are encouraged to wear green.

After School Football



Reminder P1 – 3 football on Monday afternoons with Daniel has now finished. The P4 – 7 girls' football club starts on Monday 9 March at 2.00pm.

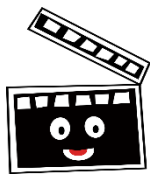
Parents' Council News



Thank you to everyone who came along to support the family quiz and particularly to Phil and Caroline Mone, who set the questions and marked all the papers. Congratulations to the Stronge Family who came top of the form!



Our next event is the Easter ballot. Tickets (£1 each) will be on sale from Monday 9 March and the ballot will be drawn on the last day of term Tuesday 7 April.



The Parents' Council will be sponsoring a free Movie and Munch event for your children on Monday 6 April during class time. There will be a tuck shop on the day.



Have you sent in your reply slip to volunteer for our big Strictly event in November? Professional dance lessons and a great evening ahead and all for a good cause. If you can't dance, is there anyone in your family who will? All they need is a bit of encouragement!

The next Parents' Council meeting is on Thursday 19 March at 7.00pm in school, all parents and guardians are welcome.



Carrickfergus Foodbank write:

We provide 3 days of emergency food for people who are struggling and in crisis. We have been overwhelmed by the response from schools, churches, businesses and the community of Carrickfergus with food donations and want to ensure that no one who is facing a crisis should struggle with Food Poverty.

Please access the service if you haven't already.

Here in Acorn we hold the vouchers that are needed to access the Foodbank, please contact me via the school office. This can be done by sending in a letter for my attention.

Parents contacting school



Parents are welcome to contact school via email or telephone. Please note, that all teaching staff have teaching commitments and will be unavailable to take a phone call from a parent when teaching. If a parent leaves a message with office staff, this will be forwarded to the relevant staff who will return the call as soon as possible or offer an appointment. If the call refers to an urgent pastoral matter, then please ask for the message to be forwarded to a member of the Child Protection Team.

Child Protection/Safeguarding Children

Our Child Protection and Safeguarding Team are:

Board of Gov Chairperson: Dr A Gregory
Designated Teacher: Mrs A Rolloos
Deputy Designated Teacher: Mrs S McIlmail
Principal and Health and Safety Co-ordinator: Mrs C Webb
Govs with Child Protection responsibility: Dr A Gregory and Mrs T Phillips

School Policies

These are found on the school website or they can be provided in hard copy by request to the school office.

School office opening hours:



8.45am – 12.15pm, closed for lunch 12.15pm to 12.45pm, reopens 12.45pm to 3.15pm.

Mrs C M Webb
Principal



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH 2020

- **Week beg 9 March** **Cycling Proficiency starts for Primary 7**
- **Tues 10 March** **Primary 3 to Ulster Museum**
- **Fri 13 March** **Non uniform – wear something green**
- **Mon 16 – Tues 17 March** **School closed**
- **Thurs 19 March** **7.00pm Parents' Council meeting**

APRIL 2020

- **Fri 3 April** **Odd Socks Day for the Integrated Education Fund –**
info to follow
- **Mon 6 April** **Movie and Munch Day**
- **Tues 7 April** **Easter Ballot draw**
- **Tues 7 April** **School closes at 12 noon (no school dinners)**
- **Mon 20 April** **Summer term starts at 8.55am**
- **Thurs 23 April** **P7 leavers' photos (details to follow)**
- **Fri 24 April** **Sustrans Big Pedal Day (details to follow)**