



Principal's Newsletter

May 2018



Dear Parents / Carers,

This last month has been an extremely busy month for everyone in our school community. Our PTA have been busy organising their Bingo Night (Thurs 3rd May) and our annual Summer Fayre (Saturday 16th June), our Orchestra have been working hard to put on a great show at last week's Carrickfergus Festival, our football and hockey teams have been getting ready for their end of year tournaments, Primary 4 and 5 pupils have been going swimming on a weekly basis and all the children have been getting ready for their end of year tests. Huge thanks to everyone involved in all our activities here at Victoria Primary School and Nursery Unit!

Many thanks,

Mr C. Fulton

Principal

Sports Day

Our annual school sports day is approaching very quickly. This will be taking place this year on **Wednesday 6th June** – final timings will be sent out in coming weeks. Can you please make sure that your child has their school PE Kit in school every day from now on, as classes may spend some extra time outside getting ready for sports day.



Safeguarding Notice For Sports Day

Sports Day is an opportunity for the entire school community to come together to enjoy watching the children take part in a range of different activities. We are really proud to be able to invite our parents and carers to come and watch this really special event. However, although we are here to celebrate all of our children, at last year's sports day, despite being asked not to, some parents and carers took their children from their class lines during the activities. The staff work as hard as possible to keep all the children safe and secure during this day. Please **do not** take your children from their lines or cross over the barriers put up on this day. It is vital that this area of safeguarding is observed by all attending. If this were to happen again this year, we will be required to review how we operate Sports Day in the future in terms of parent / carer audiences being present.

Thank you for your support with this matter.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Principal

Mr C. Fulton

Acting Vice Principal / Foundation & KS1 Lead

Mrs J. Orr

Special Needs Co- ordinator and Designated Teacher for Child Protection

Miss J. Minnis

Nursery Lead

Mrs P. Addis

KS2 Representative

Mrs H. Galbraith

I'M WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD IN SCHOOL.

If you are concerned about the welfare of a pupil in school, please speak with Miss Minnis (Designated Teacher for Child Protection)



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The Daily Mile is something that you may have already heard about in the news in recent years. The aim of The Daily Mile is to improve the physical, social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing of our children – regardless of age, ability or personal circumstances.

It is a profoundly simple but effective concept, which any primary or nursery school can implement completely free of charge and without the need for staff training.

Its impact can be transformational – improving not only the children's fitness, but also their concentration levels, mood, behaviour and general wellbeing.

The Daily Mile is a social activity, wherein the children run or jog – at their own pace – in the fresh air with friends. Children can occasionally walk to catch their breath, if necessary, but should aim to run or jog for the full 15 minutes. Our Primary 7 pupils have been trialing this concept for us here at Victoria – out running 1 mile every morning for the last two weeks. Keep your eye out for other classes joining in. If you would be interested in reading more about the daily mile have a look at their website - <https://thedailymile.co.uk/>



What the children think....

"It is great because I get to spend time with my friends and the exercise makes me feel fresh and ready for work." **Reece Robinson**

"It makes me feel happy because I like being outside and doing lots of exercise." **Amie Whitten**



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Does your child have a mobile phone / tablet?

Do they have internet access?

Are you 100% sure of what each app on the phone is?

In my last newsletter I made parents / carers aware of a few different apps that they should be looking out for on their child's mobile phone or tablet. An app that has recently come to my attention that was not on this list is an app called **IMVU** – this is an online virtual reality app that allows people to chat anonymously online. Can I ask that you check devices for this app too.

I would also have a conversation with your child to inform them that when online, if they come across anything that they believe is 'not right' websites will have the Report Abuse button or Report It button for children to use.



The PSNI recently came into school to speak with our P7 children about being safe online. The officers commented to me at the end of the sessions about how well behaved the children had been and later mentioned how impressed they felt on the PSNI Facebook Page. Well done to all our Primary 7 pupils.



PSNI Carrickfergus

8 hrs • 🌐

Despite what some might say, there is never a minute in Neighbourhood!

Already today we have been engaging with young people at health fair in Carrickfergus College.

Talked to an incredibly well behaved group of P7's about staying safe online at Victoria Primary School

A new chapter...



Some of our parents and carers may be aware that Mrs Moffett (School Secretary) has decided to start a new chapter in her life at the end of this academic year and retire. Mrs Moffett has been a member of staff here at Victoria Primary School and Nursery Unit since 2005 and has got to know many children and families over the years. Mrs Moffett will still be with us until Friday 29th June this year.

Miss Wendy Newbold has been appointed as our new School Secretary and will be working with Mrs Moffett from the middle of June.



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Dates for your diary

Dates highlighted in bold are new or have been recently amended.



3rd May 2018	-	PTA Bingo Evening @ 7pm
4 th May 2018	-	School Closed (School Development Day)
7 th May 2018	-	School Closed – Bank Holiday
24 th May 2018	-	Victoria's Musical Celebration
28 th May 2018	-	School Closed – Bank Holiday
6 th June 2018	-	Sports Day
7 th – 8 th June 2018	-	School Closed (School Development Day)
16 th June 2018	-	Summer Fayre
27 th June 2018 1pm for all other pupils)	-	P7 Record of Achievement Day (School Closes at
28 th June 2018	-	Summer Disco
29 th June 2018	-	School closes at 12pm for Summer Holidays.

AFTER SCHOOL WRAPAROUND CLUB

A reminder that our afterschool wraparound activity club takes place each day. If you would like to book your child in please pick up a booking form from the school office.

Thanks to our parents and carers for returning the questionnaire regarding extending the opening hours of our wraparound activity up until 6pm each evening. Unfortunately, we did not gain enough interest for this to happen at this time.