

# PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

## END OF TERM 2023

### A MESSAGE FROM MR FULTON



We have made it to the end of another very busy academic year here at Victoria Primary School, Nursery Unit and Learning Support Class.

May I take this opportunity to thank you, the school community, for your continued support over the last year and, thank you in advance, for the support you will continue to provide school with moving forward. We simply could not operate a successful school without really great parental support. THANK YOU.

Earlier this week we said goodbye to our Primary 7 pupils. We wish them the very best of luck as they move on to their new schools and become the very best of what Northern Ireland has to offer.

This newsletter is PACKED with all the information you need to know for children starting back to school at the end of August. Please have a read so that you know what to expect. It's a pretty busy newsletter.

Have a WONDERFUL SUMMER

Thanks,

Mr C. Fulton  
Principal

### REMINDERS



**SNACK SERVICE** – The school snack service WILL NOT continue in the new academic year.



**SCHOOL LUNCHES** – School lunch menu is available on the school website.



**KIDS' CAVE** – Kids' Cave will return in the new school year and will begin on Wednesday 23rd August.

### FOOD BANK VOUCHERS

A reminder that we, as a school, are an authorised supplier of food bank vouchers for Carrickfergus Food Bank.

If you would like access to these vouchers, please do reach out. You can call school on 028 9335 1781 or e-mail Mr Fulton directly on [cfulton579@c2kni.net](mailto:cfulton579@c2kni.net).

Your request will be treated with the strictest confidence.



## **SCHOOL MONEY - CASHLESS SYSTEM**

In the new academic year we will be moving away from 99% of cash payments in school and moving to a cashless payment system. This system will be in place for the start of the new school year. If you have not yet registered for SCHOOL MONEY please do so using the link that has been sent to you. If you did not receive a link or you are unable to register, please contact the school office ASAP to check your details. Mrs Ritchie will be in the school office from 8:30am - 1:30pm on Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th July. Please make contact with her if you need any help signing up to school money.

## **EQUIPMENT REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER**

All children will receive a list of equipment and resources they will need when they start back to school. This will be sent home in your child's Annual School Report. I would be very grateful if children could bring all their equipment with them on their first day back to school. Please be advised that all parents will be required to purchase a school planner for their children in September. These will be priced at £4.00 per planner and will be sent home at the start of the new academic year. These can be paid for in September via the school money app.

**PLEASE MAKE SURE  
YOUR HAVE REGISTERED  
FOR SCHOOL MONEY -  
DO THIS ASAP**



# VPS NEWS

## PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER END OF TERM 2023



### Important Information

#### Starting Back To School – August 2023

- Nursery and Primary 1 pupils will get their starting information at induction nights being held in June.
- School will start back, in a staggered way, from Wednesday 23rd August for children in P2 – P7. Please see points below for your information:
  - \*Wednesday 23rd August – Children with surnames beginning with letters A – J will come to school for half a day – leaving at 12noon. The rest of the children will not come to school.
  - \* Thursday 24th August – Children with surnames beginning with K – Z will come to school for half a day – leaving school at 12noon. The rest of the children will not come to school.
  - \*Thursday 24th August – From 1pm – 2:30pm – Parent Drop In session. If you feel you need to speak to the class teacher to update school on anything that has happened over the Summer Holidays in relation to your child, your child's class teacher will be available for a drop in.
  - \* Friday 25th August – ALL children will come to school for half a day – leaving at 12noon.



# VPS NEWS

## PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER END OF TERM 2023

### Important Information Continued Starting Back To School – August 2023

\*For any families with siblings with different surnames, you are welcome to pick which day you would like to send them to school (they can attend on the same day to make it easier to manage).

As with last year, the ability of bringing in smaller groups of children for the first day allowed the class teacher the opportunity to get to know each child better.

· All children will then return to school, for full days, on Tuesday 29th August. School is closed on Monday 28th August for the Bank Holiday.

· There will be no school dinners until Tuesday 29th August.

### KIDS' CAVE 2023/24

\*Kids' Cave will operate again in the new academic year. The costs will remain the same.

\*Kids' Cave payments **MUST** be made via the school money system and more info will be sent out about this prior to school starting back. **All Kids' Cave bookings and payments MUST be made by 12noon on the Friday the week before the bookings are required. School staff WILL NOT check for any bookings made after this time each week. This means that, if you do not book by 12noon on a Friday, for the following week, we will not know that your child is attending Kids' Cave and they will not be collected to attend Kids' Cave.**

\*If, on the VERY ODD OCCASION, you require an emergency booking after the 12noon cut off period, you must log on to school money, make the late booking and make the late booking payment and then telephone school to inform staff that you have made this late booking. That is the only way that we will know a late booking has been made and the only way for us to ensure that your child attends on that day.



# VPS NEWS

## PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER END OF TERM 2023

### SCHOOL LUNCHES

\*School lunches will begin on TUESDAY 29th August 2023. A menu will be uploaded to the school website in advance.

\*ALL school lunch bookings will be made via the school money app. You will have the option to select the specific day you wish your child to attend and pay directly in order to book meals for the week.

**\*ALL school lunches must be booked by midnight on a Sunday for the coming week. School money will not allow you to book meals for that week after the midnight deadline and school staff will only run a meals report on a Monday morning for that week.**

**\*You must use the school money app, weekly, to order school lunches even if your child is eligible for free school meals. There will be no cost, however, it is registering on what days you want your child to have a meal.**

**\*Those parents who have children eligible for free school meals must apply each year. School money is auto linked to our school management system. As soon as your application is confirmed for free meals, school money will be updated. However, until this happens, any school meals booked on a weekly basis will need to be paid for.**

### BREAKFAST CLUB 2023 / 24

\*Breakfast Club will continue to run in September and will operate from Wednesday 23rd August.

\*Again, booking and payment must be made via the School Money app by midnight on the Sunday night for the coming week.





**VPS NEWS**  
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## Term Dates 2023 - 24

<b>Term Dates</b>	
<b>August</b>	<p>Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> – P2 – P7 return (half day and half classes - <b>surnames A – J only</b>)</p> <p>Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> – P2 – P7 return (half day and half classes – <b>surnames K – Z only</b>)</p> <p>Fri 25<sup>th</sup> – P2 – P7 return (half day and full classes)</p> <p>Mon 28<sup>th</sup> – <b>School Closed (Public Holiday)</b></p> <p>Tues 29<sup>th</sup> – P2 – P7 return to school full days.</p>
<b>September</b>	<p>Fri 1<sup>st</sup> – P1 and Nursery children begin school. Specific dates and times will be communicated to individual parents.</p> <p>Fri 29<sup>th</sup> – <b>School Development Day (School Closed)</b></p>
<b>October</b>	Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> & Tues 31 <sup>st</sup> – <b>School Closed (Half Term)</b>
<b>November</b>	Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> , Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup> , Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> – <b>School Closed (Half Term)</b>
<b>December</b>	<p>Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> – School closes from 11:50am - 12noon for all pupils.</p> <p>Mon 25<sup>th</sup> – Fri 29<sup>th</sup> – <b>School Closed (Christmas Holidays)</b></p>
<b>January</b>	<p>Mon 1<sup>st</sup> – Fri 5<sup>th</sup> – <b>School Closed (Christmas Holidays)</b></p> <p>Mon 8<sup>th</sup> – P2 – P7 pupils return to school. OPEN DAY (Nursery and P1 pupils off today)</p> <p>Tues 9<sup>th</sup> – Nursery and P1 pupils return to school.</p>
<b>February</b>	Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 16 <sup>th</sup> – <b>School Closed (Half Term)</b>
<b>March</b>	<p>Mon 18<sup>th</sup> – School closes from 11:50am-12noon for all pupils (No school canteen and transport)</p> <p>Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> - School closes from 11:50am-12noon for all pupils.</p> <p>Mon 25<sup>th</sup> – Fri 29<sup>th</sup> – <b>School Closed (Easter Holidays)</b></p>
<b>April</b>	Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> – Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> – <b>School Closed (Easter Holidays)</b>
<b>May</b>	<p>Mon 6<sup>th</sup> – <b>School Closed (Bank Holiday)</b></p> <p>Mon 27<sup>th</sup> – Fri 31<sup>st</sup> – <b>School Closed (Half Term)</b></p>
<b>June</b>	<p>Tues 25<sup>th</sup> – P7 pupils finish at 12noon.</p> <p>Fri 28<sup>th</sup> – School closes for Summer Holidays</p>

