



Cool News

October 2025

Diary Dates

Harvest Service

Our Primary School Harvest Service will be held on Friday 24th October at 9.30 a.m. All of our classes from Yr 1-7 will be participating in this service and all of our friends and family are invited to attend.

As part of our harvest celebrations, we will be collecting items for the Omagh foodbank. Donations may be left in school 20th—24th October. Food donations that have been requested are cuppa soup, packets of soup, tins of soup, fruit, tuna, ham or spam.

Parent Teacher Meetings

School will close at **12.45 p.m.** on **Tuesday 21st October** and **Thursday 23rd October after an early lunch** to facilitate Parent Teacher meetings. These meetings will be held in the school hall between **1.15—3.15 p.m.** and will be drop-in sessions.

To help with organisation:

- Surnames beginning **A—G**: drop-in session **Tuesday 21st October**
- Surnames beginning **H—Z**: drop-in session **Thursday 23rd October**

If your drop-in session does not suit, please contact either your child's class teacher or the school office to arrange an alternative appointment.

Time to Read Programme

Our school will be continuing with the Time to Read programme this year.

This programme is designed to help improve literacy skills of pupils by delivering one-to-one paired reading sessions with pupils. All of the pupils who participated in this programme last year really benefitted from the experience and we are grateful for the volunteers last year who made that possible.

Volunteers come into school for one hour per week to deliver the sessions. Training and support is provided as part of the programme.

If you would be interested in joining our team of volunteers, please contact the school office.

24th Oct: Harvest Service @ 9.30

21st & 23rd Oct: Parent Teacher Meetings: School closes @ 12.45

27th - 31st Oct: (inclusive)
School Closed: half-term

11th Nov: Remembrance Assembly @ 9.30

10th - 14th Nov: Anti-Bullying Week

28th Nov: Open Day (Primary School)

4th Dec: Nursery Christmas Performance

11th Dec: Christmas Concert (9.30 a.m. & 7 p.m. Primary School)

12th Dec: Nursery Open Morning (11 a.m.—1.45 p.m.)

19th Dec: School closes at 12 noon: No school dinners

22nd Dec - 2nd Jan: (inclusive):
School Closed: Christmas holidays

5th Jan: School Development Day (School Closed)

All dates are subject to change.

Congratulations!

We would like to congratulate Mrs Keys and her family on the safe arrival of baby Esther at the start of September. We wish mum and baby well.

Pupil Responsibilities

At the beginning of September we held elections for our School Council and Eco Committee. Pupils submitted their election campaign before pupils in Yrs 3-7 voted for their class representatives. Congratulations to all of our pupils who were successful in being elected, we are looking forward to hearing their ideas and seeing their plans in action!

This year we have also introduced class Librarians, Digital Leaders and Playground Monitors in Yrs 5-7. Pupils have applied for their preferred responsibilities and staff will be viewing these applications in the upcoming weeks.



Parking

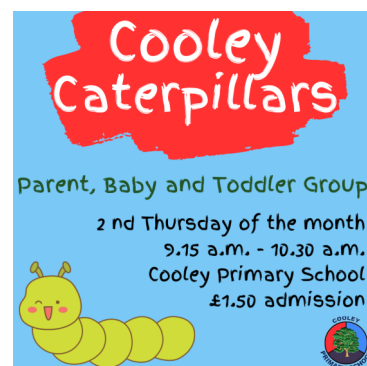
It is important that in the case of any emergency, vehicles are able to access and leave our school grounds quickly. When dropping off or collecting pupils throughout the school day, we would ask that all available car parking spaces are used and that parking at the kerbs is avoided as much as possible.

Car parking is available both at the side and the front of the school building.

Cooley Caterpillars

Our parent, baby and toddler group, Cooley Caterpillars, will be continuing this year on the second Thursday of every month. The group meets in our Assembly Hall, 9.15 a.m.—10.30 a.m. on these days. Thank you to our parent volunteers who organise the activities and events. Please feel free to come along and invite your friends and family to join as well.

If you would like to help with Cooley Caterpillars, please contact the school office.



Uniform

Please ensure your child's personal belongings are clearly labelled with their name, especially their school jumper/cardigan. Items can get easily misplaced or mixed up in school and naming them helps us to easily reunite them with their owner.

Mandarin Lessons

Our Mandarin lessons have once again recommenced this year for pupils in Yrs 1-7. Our tutor this year is Ms Qimeng Xia (Shirley). Through this programme pupils will be introduced to the language and culture of China and will learn simple phrases such as greetings and numbers.

Music Tuition

Our strings tuition, provided by the EA Music Service, has recommenced again for this year. Ms McGeough provides these lessons on Wednesday afternoons. Our drumming and piping tuition, funded by the Ulster Scots Agency has also recommenced on Mondays and Tuesdays. Mr Ian Matchett is our drumming tutor while Mr Ivor Laird is our piping tutor. We would like to thank the Ulster Scots Agency for providing these sessions in our school.

Textile Recycling

Our textile recycling bin is located on the left hand side of the school building. This bin accepts donations of used clothing, shoes, sheets etc. Our school receives a payment for these donations so please do support us in this way if you can.

Safer Schools NI

Safer Schools NI is an app and portal that parents can access and which provides online safety advice. Notifications and alerts are sent which provide prompts and warnings for parents about online trends and threats, information about fake news and advice on social media and gaming platforms. To access this app:



**SAFER
SCHOOLS NI**

- download it from your app provider
- Create an account by selecting parent/carer > register here
- Select Cooley PS and NU
- Type in entry code

Entry codes and instructions are available on the school online learning platforms: SeeSaw (Yr 1-4) and Class DoJo (Yr 5-7).

Easyfundraising

When you are shopping online, please consider registering on the easyfundraising website and selecting our school as your cause. Once registered, access your favourite shopping websites via the portal and once you complete your purchase our school will receive a donation at no extra cost to you or to the school. The websites that you use and the purchases that you make remain confidential and are not disclosed to anyone in school.

AMMA Partnership Programme

Our school is part of a local cluster of schools that has been accepted onto the AMMA Partnership Programme this year. Throughout the year, staff will receive training in the area of Games Based Learning and will receive support in the planning and delivery of lessons in class.

Shared Education

Our school will be continuing our Shared Education Partnership with St. Oliver Plunkett PS & NU, Beragh. Funding from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council and the Department of Education has been received to help support these activities. Activities will include trips, for some pupils, to the Ulster American Folk Park, Enniskillen Castle, Pomeroy Forest and Gortin Glen Forest. Years 1, 3 and 7 will participate in shared lessons, the focus of which will be learning outdoors and ICT.

Ulster-Scots Leid Week

Our PTA have been successful in securing funding to help support activities during Ulster-Scots Leid Week, which will be held 24th—28th November. Ceilidh dancing sessions will be held on Wednesday 26th November while Lambeg drumming sessions will be held on Friday 28th November. These sessions will be for our Primary School pupils and parents will be welcome to attend. Further details will follow closer to the time.

PTA

Our PTA will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Monday 6th October at 7 p.m. All parents are welcome to attend this meeting and we would encourage everyone to come and join us and to support the learning within our school.

The PTA play a vital role in helping organise activities throughout the school year and in helping to raise money for much needed school resources that we otherwise would have to do without. During the last academic year their fundraising activities and applications provided a range of new resources to our school including an outdoor classroom and a range of construction resources. Events included a table quiz, Easter Eggstravaganza and a Summer Fete.

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