



Cool News

September 2023

Diary Dates

Welcome Back

We hope that everyone had an enjoyable summer, enjoyed their break and are feeling ready for the new school year! We are pleased to welcome all of our pupils, both those who are new to Cooley and those who are returning.

There are a number of changes in our school staff this year. Mrs Beth Keys is our new Nursery Teacher, Mrs Jennifer Byrne has moved to our Year 3/4 classroom on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday mornings and Mrs Julie Brownlee is our Principal Release teacher in Year 5/6 on Thursdays and Fridays.

Please continue to follow our Social Media pages and visit our school website to keep up-to-date with the latest news and information.

Our Designated Teacher for Child Protection is Mrs Carrothers, our Deputy Designated Teacher is Mrs Mitchell. Mrs Byrne is our SENCo.

We hope that everyone enjoys the 2023/2024 school year.

Thank You

The staff would like to thank everyone who gave gifts and cards at the end of term last year. We really appreciated your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Attendance

A copy of the school attendance policy has been sent home. Please take the time to familiarise yourself with the practices and procedures regarding school attendance. We encourage pupils to attend school as much as possible as vital learning opportunities can be missed through unnecessary absences. We would ask that family holidays are planned during school closures to avoid missing any days off school.

RSE

There are a number of reports circulating about changes to the teaching of RSE within schools in Northern Ireland. The current proposed changes apply to schools with KS3 and KS4 pupils and not to primary schools. There are currently no proposed changes to the teaching of RSE within primary schools and the practices within RSE in Cooley remain unchanged and as per our RSE policy.

8th Sept: School Council Elections: Yr 3-7

15th Sept: Eco Council Elections: Yr 3-7

21st Sept: PTA AGM at 7.30 pm

18th Oct: Harvest Service @ 9.30

24th & 26th Oct: Parent Teacher Meetings: School closes @ 12.45

30th Oct - 3rd Nov: (inclusive) School Closed: half-term

13th - 17th Nov: Anti-Bullying Week

1st Dec: Drop-in Day

8th Dec: Nursery Open Morning

7th Dec: Nursery Christmas Performance

14th Dec: School Christmas Performance

20th Dec: School closes at 12 noon: No school dinners

21st Dec - 3rd Jan: (inclusive): School Closed: Christmas holidays

All dates are subject to change.

Nut Free School

Due to a number of pupils with a nut allergy, our school remains a nut free zone. No products which contain nuts are allowed in school at any time.

Home Learning

Yr 1-4 classes will continue to use SeeSaw to communicate and share some home learning activities for pupils with home. SeeSaw can be downloaded as an app and information about joining up will be sent home with pupils.

Yr 5 - 7 classes will be using Google Classroom to share home learning activities and Class DoJo to communicate and share our reward system with home. Google Classroom can be downloaded as an app or via classroom.google.com. Pupils will use their c2k username and password to sign in. Information about joining up to Class DoJo will be sent home with pupils.

Please check both these platforms daily to keep up to date with news and activities within your child's classroom.

Classroom Resources

As our school budget continues to be limited, we would ask that pupils bring the following items to school:

- Well stocked pencil case: pencils, rubber, pencil sharpener (Y2-7), pen (Y6 & 7)
- Pritt Stick – 40g
- 30cm ruler (Y4-7)
- A4 Tuff Bag zip wallet/Plastic wallet
- A4 ringbinder (Y5-7)
- Box of tissues
- Water Bottle (for Classroom use)

Please ensure all belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name.

PTA

Our PTA will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Thursday 21st September at 7.30 p.m. All parents are welcome to attend this meeting and we would encourage everyone to come and join us and provide a helping hand.

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 two Promethean ActivPanels and coding resources. Events included a Movie and Munch night, a Burns Night, a Fun Night and a Uniform Exchange.

Cooley Primary School

90 Cooley Road,

Sixmilecross.

BT79 9DH

www.cooleyps.co.uk

