

**Welcome Back!**

Welcome to a new school year in St Eugene’s. We are delighted to see all of our pupils return safe and well from their holidays and we look forward to another enjoyable and successful year in school.

We are delighted to once again join with you our parents in working closely together to ensure that we provide the best possible experience of school for you and your child. Please communicate with the staff if you have any issues or worries. No school year will pass without some little bumps in the road but with parents and staff supporting each other along the way, we can navigate those bumps in the best interests of the children.

***Some helpful information below that will help with a smooth transition back to school for your children….***

**Arrival at School**

School begins at 9.15. Pupils can be supervised from 9.00 onwards but should not be on the school grounds before this time, unless they are attending Breakfast Club (see below).

**Breakfast Club**

We will be offering the Breakfast Club again in the 1st term of the year and will review its viability based upon the numbers attending. Breakfast Club will operate from 8.10am and children can have breakfast and be supervised until school begins = Cost £1 per day.

**Uniform**

Please make sure that your child wears the appropriate uniform each day. All items of uniform should be labelled with your child’s name as this makes it much easier to identify the owners of various items.

***Black shoes*** should be worn as part of uniform – trainers of various colours and designs can be brought in to be worn at break or lunch for play so that black school shoes can be protected and last longer.

Further details on our uniform will be made available later this week.

**Attendance**

Regular attendance at school has a very positive impact upon pupil attainment. We are aiming again this year to improve the attendance of our pupils.

As part of this initiative we will be **rewarding attendance on a weekly basis** in each class, with all pupils who attend for a full week entered into a draw for a ‘Homework Pass’ for 1 night off homework the following week.

**Each month** we will also recognise those pupils who attend school every day for a month. In a change from previous practice, those pupils who attend for the whole month will be given a ticket to enter into our prize draw box. At Christmas, Easter and then June, a prize will be drawn. Thus, pupils who attend regularly and achieve 100% for a number of months, will have a greater chance of winning the prize.

**School Dinners**

School meals cost £2.60 per day, or £13 per week. Remember that if you are entitled to Free School Meals to visit the Education Authority Website for further information. We would ask that if you are entitled to Free School Meals but your child does not intend to avail of these to still make an application as this can help the school to benefit from funding for projects, staff and resources.

It is very important to pay for school dinners on a weekly basis and we would encourage parents to send in dinner money on a Monday as this makes the management of money and records in our office much more straightforward.

**Milk**

The nutritional value of milk is very high and it helps children to develop a strong and healthy body. Please encourage your child to take milk each day as part of their healthy diet.

Milk will be available for pupils from ***Monday 10th September***. The cost of milk for your child for each term is as follows…

***Term 1: £***, Term 2: £ Term 3: £(all termly costs equal 20p per day)

To ensure that we order the correct amount of Milk, please send in the £13 for this term, in a sealed envelope with your child’s name on it, ***on or before Wednesday 5th September.***

**We will only be able to order milk each week for those who have paid.**

**Tin Whistle**

Tin Whistle will be resuming for our P4-7 pupils from Tuesday 11th September. This is a part of the Music Curriculum which the school must deliver and like ICT, Maths or Literacy – pupils are not obliged to ‘opt out’.

Lessons cost £1 per week and can be paid on a monthly basis. Tin Whistles are also available at a cost of £3

**Medication**

Please ensure that it is returned to school on the first day back in September.

Check the following before returning any medication:

* That it is *in date*
* That your *child’s name* is clearly marked on all items
* That it is in a *small ‘lunchbox’ type container with a secure/clip lid*, labelled with your child’s name
* That the *prescription label* is visible on all items
* That you have enclosed a *signed, written note* clearly advising of dosage instruction.

NB – remember the school can only keep blue inhalers on the premises. All other colours must be kept at home. If these need to be administered during the school day, you must make arrangements to come to the school to do this.

This also applies to any non-prescription medication, eg Calpol (unless you order it on prescription and it then displays a prescription/pharmacy label). We cannot store any non-prescription medication.

**After School Activities**

After School Games will resume again on Monday 10th September 2018.

After School Supervision for P2 pupils will also resume on Monday 10th September 2018.

After School Supervision for P1 pupils will resume on Monday 17th September 2018.

**Swimming**

P5-7 pupils will begin attending swimming lessons on **Friday 7th September** for 15 weeks until Christmas.

The cost of swimming is £1 per session and we would request that the £15 to cover swimming is paid on or before Friday 7th September.

**Healthy Break**

In St Eugene’s we promote a healthy lifestyle and diet. We encourage all pupils to bring a healthy snack to school for mid-morning break. Please refer to the list of healthy options available on the website or through Twitter (@StEugene58) and Facebook

**School Gates**

Last year we made a change to arrangements for dropping off and collecting pupils. This involved you our parents, dropping children off at the pedestrian gate. We are very grateful for your support with this approach and it has worked extremely well. Thus – the same process will continue now in September.

Staff will be on hand to ‘remind’ you should you forget!

**Important Dates**

Monday 10th September – After School Sports begin with 3.15-4.15

Friday 28th September – Welcome Assembly @ 9.30am

Friday 26th October – Reporting to Parents Day

Monday 29th October – Friday 2nd November – Mid Term Break

**Mass**

**Prayer of the Month – September**

**Our Father**

Our Father who art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us,

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

Amen