



Principal: S Cumper
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Monday 13th May 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian



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Harding Memorial Integrated Primary School Parent, Teacher & Friends Association

MAY FAIR

Saturday 25th May 2023 from 10.00am to 12.00pm

We would like to invite Pupils, Parent/Guardians and Families of the school to the PTFA May Fair that will take place in school grounds on Saturday 25th May from 10.00am – 12.00pm. We hope that everyone will join us to celebrate this very important and enjoyable social event in the life of the school.

➤ **School will close at 2.00pm on Friday 24th May for all P4 – P7 Pupils to allow for final organisational preparations in advance of this event**

Please remember that Friday 17th May will be A Non School Uniform Day for all P1 to P7 Pupils as a Fundraiser to collect donations for the PTFA May Fair. We hope that every child will bring “some chocolate to school” on Friday as a donation for the PTFA May Fair Chocolate Tombola.

After School Clubs

In Harding Memorial Integrated Primary School we aim to give our pupils the opportunity to further and widen their interests and offer an extensive range of “After School” activities. These clubs form an important part of our extended school life and are only possible because of the support of the various External Organisations associated with our School. We would also like to remind Parent/Guardians about the importance of being aware of the finishing times for all these after school activities and that arrangements are particularly clear for the collection of our youngest pupils at the end of After School Activities. In particular, we would hope that all Parent/Guardians would be aware of the necessity to be punctual for P2 & P3 Pupil Pick Up Times as these pupils will not be dismissed until an appropriate adult arrives at 3.00pm. In addition we would request that all P2 – P7 Parent/Guardians please check which dates the Monday to Thursday After School Clubs will be taking place as they have been occasions in the past when a child has not been collected on time due to a Parent/Guardian forgetting that the After School Club is not on that particular date.



Harding Memorial Integrated Primary

School Sports Day

Tuesday 11th June 2024

- **Races for P1 – P3 will commence at approximately 10.15am**
- **Races for P4 – P7 will commence at approximately 1.15pm**

Primary 1 – Primary 3 and Primary 4 – Primary 7 School Sports Day

Our School Sports Day will take place in Cregagh Sports Ground (behind Iceland) on Tuesday 11th June 2024. (weather permitting). **P1 – P3 children will be dismissed from school that day at 12.15 pm.** (No school dinners or packed lunches). P4 – P7 children will be returning to school and dismissed at their usual time. Pupils do not need to wear school uniform and may come to school dressed ready for Sports Day. We would ask you to ensure that your child has suitable footwear to participate in races and brings a coat to school as it can be cold. The children should come to school wearing appropriate clothing e.g. shorts, t-shirt, trainers and leggings/bottoms and top to keep warm between events. Parents are warmly invited to attend but please note we are unable to provide seating for spectators. **In the event of sports day being cancelled due to inclement weather the same lunch arrangements will remain in place and all P1 - P3 children will go home from school at 12.15 pm.** Sports races will then be run off in school as and when timetabling permits – unfortunately it will not be possible to invite Parent/Guardians

Operation Encompass

Operation Encompass is an early intervention partnership between Police and Schools. It is aimed at supporting children who are victims of domestic violence. It is a very simple idea, but one that will help us to support and protect vulnerable children. When the Police attend an incident of domestic violence where one of our pupils is present, **they will inform the School's Designated Teacher for Safeguarding & Child Protection** (Either Mr Cumper or Mrs Baird) at the start of the next school day. This information is shared in strict confidence


and School Staff are only told on a need-to-know basis. Following any notification from the PSNI, our staff will provide immediate support to any child who has been the victim of domestic abuse. We know that when children do witness domestic abuse at home, this is a highly traumatic experience for them. By taking part in Operation Encompass, we can provide tailored and compassionate support to our pupils, in line with our school ethos. This builds on our existing commitment to child safeguarding. Should you wish to find out more information, please contact Mr Cumper or alternatively you can read more about Operation Encompass at www.operationencompass.org

Date	Future Event
➤ Friday 17 th May	P1 – P7 Non School Uniform Day with PTFA Chocolate Donation
➤ Friday 24 th May	School will close at 2.00pm for P4 – P7 Pupils to enable preparation in school for the PTA May Fair
➤ Saturday 25 th May	PTFA May Fair in the School Grounds From 10.00am – 12.00pm
➤ Monday 27 th May	School will be closed for the May Bank Holiday
➤ Monday 3 rd June	School Development Day and P1 – P7 Pupils Should Not Attend School On This Date
➤ Tuesday 11 th June	School Sports Day starting for P1 – P3 Pupils at 10.15am and starting for P4 – P7 Pupils at 1.15pm
➤ Monday 17 th June	School Development Day and P1 – P7 Pupils Should Not Attend School On This Date

Harding Memorial Integrated Primary School will stop for all P1 – P7 pupils on Friday 28th June and there will be no school dinners available on this date.

PHRASES TO CALM DOWN YOUR ANXIOUS CHILD

- ☑ "Let's pretend we're blowing up a giant balloon. We'll take a deep breath and blow it up to the count of 5."
- ☑ "Let's count backwards from 10. Ready?"
- ☑ "Let's pull out our calm-down checklist and go through it together."



- ☑ "I sometimes get anxious and worried about things too."
- ☑ "What are these negative thoughts telling you? Let's write out the opposite."
- ☑ "What does it feel like for you?"



A Reminder About School Policy Regarding Dogs In Harding Memorial Integrated P.S.

Harding Memorial acknowledges that children can benefit both educationally and emotionally through increasing their understanding of responsibility and nurturing skills through contact with pets. In addition to these benefits, children can take great enjoyment from interaction with dogs and puppies. As dogs are one of the most popular pets, it is more than likely that children will have some exposure to a dog while still at school. However, Harding Memorial Integrated Primary School also acknowledges other families (and individuals) can find contact with dogs stressful, indeed at times even frightening.

All Parent/Guardians and other Visitors To Our School who are intending to bring their dogs to school must adhere to the School Code of Conduct regarding the presence of Dogs In School which states:

- ✓ All dogs must be on a lead that keeps the dog reasonably close to the adult.
- ✓ Dogs' leads need to be held by adults only. Dogs may be tied up away from door entry on a short lead for brief periods of time (giving enough time to take a child into class)
- ✓ **No dogs are allowed near places where children are playing or waiting in the playground or near entrance areas as children have to feel free to be able to enter and leave school and play away from dogs.**
- ✓ Dogs should be walked around the perimeter of the main playground when collecting children.
- ✓ **Dogs must be under constant adult supervision and must be kept away from the school entrance areas so that children have a choice whether they want to come in direct contact with dogs.**
- ✓ No dogs accompanying children to and from school are allowed inside any school buildings.
- ✓ **Parents are responsible for cleaning up any soiling by their dog on the school grounds and failure to do so will mean the dog will no longer be allowed in the school grounds.**
- ✓ When bringing dogs on to the site, **parents do so with an absolute understanding that their dog has no issues around children, has never displayed any aggression towards children and that the owner believes the dog is fully trustworthy in a school environment.**
- ✓ *The policy and Code of Conduct make clear that bringing dogs to school is a privilege not a right.* Harding Memorial Integrated Primary School is committed to teaching children appropriate behaviour when approaching and interacting with all pets, in a bid to further minimise the risk of accidents and injury. For the avoidance of doubt, HMIPS retains the right to direct that a dog is not to be brought into the school grounds during the working school week at the Headteacher's discretion.