

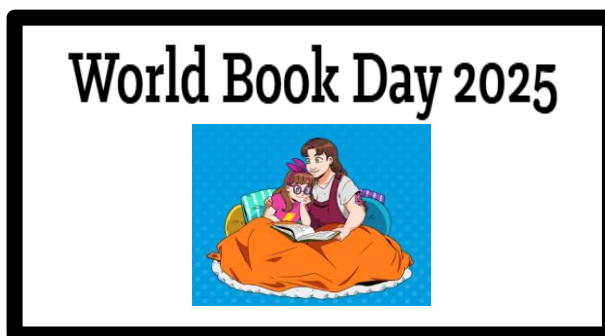
Harding Memorial Integrated Primary School



Principal: S Cumper
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Tuesday 18th February 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian



105 Cregagh Road
Belfast BT6 8PZ
Telephone: 028 90458040
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Harding Memorial will be celebrating World Book Day on Monday 3rd March 2025

<https://www.worldbookday.com/families/>

World Book Day was created by UNESCO on 23rd April 1995 as a worldwide celebration of books and reading. World Book Day is marked in over 100 countries around the globe. The first World Book Day in the UK and Ireland took place in 1997 and its aim was to encourage young people to discover the pleasure of reading. **In Harding Memorial Integrated Primary School we continually aim to promote reading for pleasure.**

Harding Memorial are celebrating **World Book Day** on **Friday 7th March**. We will be running our own Book Fair where children will be able to buy books. In school the children are being taught to be environmentally friendly and reuse items to prevent waste and protect our planet. Therefore, to show the children what this means in practise we are asking parents to send in any good quality books that your children no longer use so that we can stock our Book Fair.

Please start bringing your book donations into school **from Wednesday 26th February**. You can send book donations **up until Tuesday 4th March**. Please ensure the books you donate are suitable for primary school aged children.

On Friday 7th March, each class will have the opportunity to attend the Book Fair and purchase books. The books will cost £1 each.

To buy a £1 token for the book fair, please go to the School Shop section of the Eduspot School Money App and purchase as many £1 tokens as you like. Please be aware there will be no refunds if your child does not use the tokens. All proceeds from the tokens purchased will go towards school fund. School Money will be open to buy book tokens on Tuesday 4th March.

Friday 7th March will be a non-uniform day in school. Children may dress up as book characters if they wish but we are not officially dressing up this year.

Primary 1 – Primary 6 Parent/Teacher Interview Week

Harding Memorial Integrated Primary School always seeks to inform and involve parents as much as possible in the education of their children. In line with this objective a second set of P1 – P6 Parent/Teacher interviews will take place in the week commencing Monday 10th March 2025.

➤ **All Primary 1 – Primary 7 pupils will finish school early from Monday 10th March to Friday 14th March 2025 in order to facilitate Parent Teacher Interview meetings.**

➤ **All P1 – P7 pupils will finish school at 1.00pm during that week.**

Please ensure any child requiring adult supervision after school is collected promptly at this time. Thank you in anticipation of your co-operation in this matter. Further details about individual Parent/Teacher Interview times will be distributed to each Parent/Guardian via their child/children in due course. We hope that all Parents/Guardians will be able to participate in these important interviews which are intended to be a two-way exchange of information and guidance between Home and School so that together we can more effectively support your child's learning.



We would like to remind all School Stakeholders that the information within the Highway Code – Section Road Users requiring extra care” (204 to 225) states: *Near Schools - Drive slowly and be particularly aware of young cyclists and pedestrians. In some places, there may be flashing amber signal below the 'School' warning sign which tells you that there may be children crossing the road ahead. Drive very slowly until you are clear of the area.*

Also all motorists should be aware of section 210, which states; **“You MUST stop when a School Patrol shows a ‘Stop For Children’ sign.”**

- **Please note that there may be occasions when the Harding Memorial Integrated Primary School Road Crossing Patrol Personnel will be unavailable. In such circumstances School will endeavour to send out a Text Message to all P1 – P7 Parent/Guardians well in advance of any such absence. However this may not always be possible.**
- **It should be noted that the ultimate responsibility for a child travelling to and from school safely lies with each individual Parent/Guardian.**

Positive Behaviour Scheme - Harding Hero for Honesty

The “Harding Hero” Scheme is used to reinforce and promote Positive Behaviour amongst all the pupils at our school. The aim of this scheme is to create an atmosphere in which the pupils are encouraged to develop a sense of self-esteem and an awareness of the needs of others. At the end of each behaviour theme period a pupil from Primary 1 to Primary 7 will receive a behaviour certificate which will be displayed on the Harding Hero Noticeboard. The theme for the current Harding Hero Scheme is **Honesty** which we can be demonstrated by **Being truthful to others, Returning things that belong to other people, Being someone people can trust & Showing honesty with your work.** We hope that all parents will assist us in the project by reinforcing the importance of children demonstrating **Honesty** both inside and outside of Harding Memorial Integrated Primary School.

Extra-Curricular Activities and After School Clubs

In Harding Memorial Integrated Primary School we aim to give our pupils the opportunity to further and widen their interests and once again in Term 2 we have offered our children 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. In endeavouring to ensure the safety of our children it is important that Parent/Guardians are 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.

- **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.**
- We have noticed that there have been a number of occasions during Term 2 when there has been a significant delay by a Parent/Guardian prior to their collection of a child/children who has previously attended the 2.00pm – 3.00pm After School Club Session.
- Please note that the After School Club Coaches have another club commitment from 3.00pm – 4.00pm and it is very important that children are collected promptly especially at 3.00pm

Pupil Attendance and Lateness

It is very important that each child arrives in school on time. When pupils arrive late it can make things difficult for everyone. The teacher has to stop and wait for the latecomer to settle down and the rest of the class is disrupted. The latecomer who misses the first part of the day often feels uncomfortable and embarrassed. Perhaps even more importantly, they miss the opportunity to play and socialise with their friends in the playground prior to the commencement of school. We understand that all families will occasionally face situations which make it difficult for their children to arrive on time (eg sleeping in or getting caught in traffic due to unfavourable weather conditions). This is not a problem and in such situations we would certainly prefer that your child arrives late, rather than being kept off school for the entire day. Any pupils arriving after 9.05am should access the Front School Entrance where they will be able to gain access to school.

School has been monitoring individual pupil attendance for all our Primary 1 to Primary 7 Pupils and the **Principal will be making telephone contact with all those Parent/Guardians who have child/children who have had attendance below 85%** for the period since the start of the 2024/2025 School Year to February 2024 Half Term. **We have copied below Department of Education Information about School Percentage Attendance below: Every School Day Counts**



EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS –

Every single day a child is absent from school equates to a day of lost learning.

Attendance percentages can be misleading.

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed	Excellent
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Satisfactory
90% Attendance	19 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Poor
85% Attendance	28 Days of Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Very Poor
80% Attendance	38 Days of Absence 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Unacceptable
75% Attendance	46 Days of Absence 9 Weeks and 1 Day of Learning Missed	Unacceptable

For some parents, 90% may seem like an acceptable level of attendance, but the reality is that 90% attendance means that your child will miss half a school day each week or 19 days of school during the school year – that's nearly 4 school weeks.

School Staffing Update

From Monday 17th February 2025, Mrs Sloan will be the new Executive Officer in the school office.

New School Dinner Menu

Please turn over to see a copy of the new school dinner menu (Feb-June 2025).

EAT SMART WITH THE LUNCH BUNCH

Week beginning	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
17 February 17 March 14 April 12 May 9 June	Homemade Beef Bolognaise Halal Bolognaise, Quorn Bolognaise Green Beans & Diced Carrots Penne Pasta or Baby Potatoes with Herbs Iced Lemon Sponge Finger	Baked Breaded Whitefish Halal Breaded Fish, Quorn Fish Fingers & Tartare Sauce Garden Peas & Sweetcorn Chipped Potatoes or Baked Jacket Potato Fruit Fries Flavoured Jelly with Mandarin Oranges	Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry Halal Chicken Curry, Quorn Curry & Mini Naan Bread Broccoli & Roasted Butternut Squash Rice or Oven-Baked Herb Wedges Cheesecake with Strawberry Sauce	Cook's Gammone with Stuffing & Gravy Halal Chicken and Gravy Quorn Fillets with Gravy Seasonal Vegetables Oven Baked Roast Potatoes & Mashed Potatoes Belgian Waffle with Fruit Salad & Chocolate Sauce	Oven Baked Chicken Goujons Halal Goujons, Quorn Dippers Dip of Choice Baked Beans & Colelaw Chipped Potatoes or Baked Jacket Potato Aric Roll with Summer Berry Sauce
24 February 24 March 21 April 19 May 16 June	Golden Crumbed Fish Fingers Halal Fish Fingers, Quorn Fish Fingers & Mayo Dip Garden Peas & Baked Beans Mashed Potatoes or Pasta Salad Homemade Chocolate & Raspberry Biscuits	Homemade Beef Lasagne, Beef, Halal or Quorn Bolognaise Garlic Bread Bacon Carrots & Broccoli Chipped Potato & Baby Potato Salad Assorted Yogurt Pots & Fresh Fruit Salad	Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry Halal Chicken Curry, Quorn Curry Mini Naan Bread Sweetcorn, & Spagetti Hoops Steamed Baby Rice or Mashed Potato Caramel Apple Crumble & Custard	Cook's Roast Turkey with Stuffing & Gravy Halal Chicken and Gravy Quorn Fillets with Gravy Seasonal Vegetables Oven Baked Roast Potatoes & Mashed Potatoes Ice Cream with Two Fruits	Cheeseburger with Bap Halal Burger, Vegetable Burger with Burger Sauce Mini Corn on the Cob & Colelaw Chipped Potatoes or Baked Jacket Potato Homemade Oaty Biscuit with Fresh Fruit
3 March 31 March 28 April 26 May 23 June	Oven Baked Cod Goujons Halal Goujons, Quorn Dippers With Mayo Dip Garden Peas & Potato Salad Chipped Potatoes or Baked Jacket Potato Ice-Cream Slider & Orange Wedges	Homemade Spagetti Bolognaise Halal Bolognaise, Quorn Bolognaise Bacon Carrots & Broccoli Spagetti & Parsley Baby Potatoes Homemade Iam & Coconut Sponge & Custard	Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry Halal Chicken Curry, Quorn Curry Mini Naan Bread Mini Corn on the Cob & Butternut Squash Steamed Rice or Oven Roasted Caked Potatoes Summer Fruit Salad & Yogurt	Cook's Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding Halal Chicken and Gravy Quorn Fillets with Gravy Fresh Selection of Vegetables in Season Oven Baked Roast Potatoes & Mashed Potatoes Strawberry Jelly & Stead Peas	Oven Baked Chicken Nuggies Halal Nuggies, Quorn Dippers Choice of Dips Sweetcorn & Baked Beans Chipped Potatoes or Baked Jacket Potato Homemade Shortbread & Watermelon Wedge
10 March 7 April 5 May 2 June 30 June	Baked Cod Bites Halal Fish, Quorn Dippers With Mayo Dip Malty Peas & Colelaw Chipped Potatoes or Baked Jacket Potato Chocolate Krings Square & Orange Wedges	Home Baked Margherita or Tex-Mex Spicy Beef Pizza Halal & Vegetarian Margherita Pizza Bacon Carrots & Broccoli Oven Baked Potatoes Wedges & Baby Potato Salad Cola Jelly & Chopped Fruit	Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry Halal Chicken Curry, Quorn Curry Mini Naan Bread Sweetcorn & Roasted Butternut Squash Steamed Finley Rice & Pasta Salad Angel Cake & Custard	Cook's Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding Halal Chicken and Gravy Quorn Fillets with Gravy Fresh Selection of Vegetables in Season Oven Baked Roast Potatoes & Mashed Potatoes Ice-Cream Stead Peas & Caramel Sauce	Hot Dog Halal Nuggies, Vegetable Hotdogs With Ketchup Mini Corn on the Cob & Baked Beans Skippy "French Fries" or Baked Jacket Potato Chocolate Cookie & Milkshake

MILK, WATER, BREAD & FRESH
FRUIT AVAILABLE
DAILY

IF YOU NEED ANY INFORMATION ON ALLERGENS, OR HAVE SPECIAL DIETARY
REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE NOTIFY YOUR SCHOOL
ACCORDINGLY

MENU SUBJECT TO
PRODUCT
AVAILABILITY