

**BALLYMACRICKETT PRIMARY SCHOOL
AND NURSERY UNIT**

Principal: Mr D. Mulholland B.Ed., D.A.S.E., M.Ed., P.Q.H

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7th August 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

I hope you and your family are well and have had an enjoyable summer to date. Following the minister's announcement on 6th August 2020, our nursery and primary classes will all be starting back on a full time basis.

Start dates

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| Nursery | Please see induction letter issued in June. Following induction, all children will attend on a full time basis. P.S. Information regarding uniform will be posted on our school website on the week beginning 24 th August 2020. |
| P1 | Please see induction letter issued in June. Following induction, all children will attend on a full time basis. |
| P2 – P6 | All classes begin on Tuesday 1 st September on a full time basis. |
| P7 | All children attend full time from Monday 24 th August. Please note that there will not be school meals available until 1 st September. There will be a 2:00pm finish from 24 th – 28 th August. |

Extended Schools: Breakfast Club and After School Club

Unfortunately, we are not able to operate these clubs at this stage.

Please see important safety information overleaf. Please also keep an eye on our school website for further possible updates and/or additional guidance.

Important Safety Information

- Drop off time will be between 8:45am – 9:15am. This is a temporary change to their usual arrival time. Given our spacious drop off zones, we expect this to be sufficient time to reduce congestion and address social distancing guidelines.
- Parents of Nursery and Foundation Stage children may walk their child to the external door – they will not be permitted to enter. Ground markings will indicate acceptable social distance. We would encourage only one parent per family to do the drop off.
- P3 – P7 children are asked to walk from their cars/bus to their external door independently and maintain social distance when walking to their classroom, where they will be greeted by their teacher. Should queues form, ground markings will indicate acceptable social distance.
N.B. Children will use external doors at all times throughout the day.
- Children should bring a coat, school bag and a pencil case with the following items:
 - ☐ 2 HB Pencils
 - ☐ Sharpener
 - ☐ Rubber
 - ☐ Pritt Stick
 - ☐ Colouring pencils
 - ☐ 30cm Ruler (P4-P7)
 - ☐ Tissues
- Children should bring a healthy snack and a packed lunch. Children entitled to free school meals may order a packed lunch from the school canteen, which will be delivered to their classroom. Should you realise your child has forgotten their snack/lunch, please phone the office and we will ensure a school snack/lunch is provided. Please do not visit the office with a forgotten lunchbox.
- Please be assured that procedures are in place to help ensure children sanitize and wash their hands regularly throughout the day.
- Break and lunch times will be staggered and each class will have their own play-zone.
- Pick up times for P1 –P3:
Please pick your child up anytime between 1:30 and 2:00pm Mon.-Thurs. and 1:00 – 1:30pm Fri.
Pick up times for P4 –P7:
Please pick your child up anytime between 2:30 and 3:00pm Mon.-Thurs. and 1:30 – 2:00pm Fri.
- While picking up your child, please walk to his/her external door and queue using the social distancing markers. The children will remain in their seats and be dismissed one at a time.
- If your child is unwell, please do not send them to school.
- If your child becomes unwell during the school day, we will contact you to collect them.
- If a child is behaving in a way that is putting another child at risk, parents will be contacted.

I hope that this goes some way to helping you plan for the start of the school year. Please be assured of our commitment to your child's safety and education. As already mentioned, any further updates will be communicated via our school website.

Take care and enjoy the rest of the holidays.

Yours faithfully

