ST FRANCIS' PRIMARY SCHOOL 24 DONARD VIEW ROAD LOUGHBRICKLAND BANBRIDGE CO. DOWN BT32 3LN

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5<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents,

I hope that you and your family have enjoyed a pleasant summer and that your child is looking forward to the new academic year. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new Primary 1 children and wish them and their parents an enjoyable and rewarding experience in St Francis' Primary School.

**Morning Club** Our new Morning Club, which operates from 8:00am until 8:45am, started this week. The Morning Club, costs £1 per pupil per day and is open to all pupils for single days or the full week. See the school website or contact the school for further details.

**Morning Supervision** Only children who are attending the Morning Club (or who travel to school by EA funded bus) should be in school before 8.45am. **No** supervision is provided for other children in school until 8.45am.

**School Mass** Parents and family members are invited to attend a Mass to celebrate the new academic year on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October at 10.00am in St Patrick's Church, Loughbrickland.

**St Francis' PTA** The Annual General Meeting of the PTA will be on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September starting at 7.30pm. Involvement in the PTA will offer all parents, especially parents of Primary 1 children, the opportunity to meet and become involved in the school community.

**Bus Club** The Bus Club operates primarily for children who live more than 2 miles from the school. The charge for the Bus Club is £7.50 per family per week, irrespective of the number of days your child attends. Please contact the school if you believe the Bus Club applies to your child.

**Spanish Classes** Spanish lessons will continue to be offered to Primary 2-5 classes with our tutor, Patricia. Parents of children receiving the Spanish lessons are asked to make a voluntary contribution of £5 per child per term.

**Curriculum night:** This year's Curriculum night will be on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September from 7.00pm. You will receive more details in a separate letter.

**Mobile Library:** The mobile library will visit the school every second Monday starting from Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September. All pupils who have a library card can use the library. Application forms for a library card are available from the school office.



**Flu Vaccination:** The Flu vaccination will be administered on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November. Forms will be issued later.

**Break/Dinners:** School meals should be ordered and paid for at the beginning of each week; the cost of a school dinner remains £2.60. Children taking lunch, but wishing to take a dessert (fruit, biscuit/cookie/cupcake, custard, etc.) can now do so, stand-alone desserts cost 30p which is payable to Pauline. Morning break/snack is available from the kitchen at a cost of 30p. Options include: scones, cheese & crackers, fruit, yoghurt each day; toast is also available from Monday to Thursday with pancakes on Fridays. Break or dinner money should be put in a purse, wallet or clearly marked envelope.

**After-Schools Clubs** The school has operated a range of afterschool clubs; this year we are extending drama to Key Stage 2 and adding yoga. After-Schools activities are:

	2.00 - 3.00pm	3.00 - 4.00pm
	<u>P1 - P3</u>	(P4 - P7)
Monday	Drama	Drama
Tuesday	<b>EVOS</b> soccer	EVOS soccer
Wednesday	Feeney GAA	Feeney GAA
Thursday	Yoga	Yoga
		Ukelele (P4-P7; 3.00 – 3.45pm)

Finally, you will receive, or already have received, a number of letters and data collection sheets including a request for updated contacts. **Please ensure that the school has up to date contact, medical and transport details.** If you have any queries over these please contact the school for more information.

Yours sincerely

Donal McNally (Principal)