



SEPTEMBER 2023

WWW.MILLQUARTERPS.COM

Dates for your Diary

Term 1 Begins

1st September

P1 8:40-12:00 for two weeks.

P2: 8:40-1:40

P3-7 8:40- 2:40

Late Class

Late class for P2 ONLY begins 4th September

CS Moments Photographer

8th September

Gaelic Coach: Paul Law

Every Friday from 8th September for all classes.

Curriculum Meetings

11th September

Book Fair

21st - 27th September.

Homework Club

Every Tuesday from 12th September- 21st November

School Closed

Closed to pupils on 25th September for staff training with Autism NI.

Late Class

Late class for P1 begins 2nd October

M&M Productions

12th October: Jack and the Beanstalk
Pantomime in school.

P7 Parent Teacher Meetings

16th October

Flu Vaccine

17th October

School Closed

School closes at 11:30 on Friday
27th October for Halloween.
School will reopen on Monday 6th November.

Welcome Back

Together with our Governors, teachers, staff and Senior Teacher, Mrs O'Neill, I want to welcome our pupils and school community back to Millquarter. A special word of welcome to our new Parish Administrator Fr James O'Reilly, our new staff members Mrs McFall and Miss A Cassidy, Primary One pupils, our new pupil Aoife, and all the families who are new to our school. We wish Mrs McNamee, our Principal, health and happiness in her career break. I hope all of our families had a fun summer where great experiences were had and lasting memories made. Millquarter is ready to welcome our pupils back to engage in meaningful learning experiences. Our enthusiastic and committed teachers have been working during the summer in planning sessions, attending professional development, and getting our classrooms ready. I am confident that together we will have a productive and enriching 2023-2024 school year!

Mrs D. Storey (Acting Principal)

School Mission Statement

Millquarter Primary School is an inclusive maintained school that aims to provide a warm, caring and stimulating atmosphere underpinned by core Christian values, where individual talents are nurtured, developed, and celebrated. We are firmly committed to providing an effective education for our children by offering a broad and balanced curriculum and engaging in partnership with the church, our parents and the local community, to inspire everyone in our school family to realise their full potential.

Reminders

We have routines and procedures in place to ensure the happiness and safety of the children whilst at school. These reminders will also help with the smooth running of our school and your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

- Please give the bus priority at drop off and pick up times.
- P1 and P2 children should go directly to their classroom in the morning via the playground gate closest to the school building.
- P3-7 children remain in the playground in the morning until the bell sounds. In the event of bad weather, all children should go directly to their classroom via the external door their class normally uses.
- Please ensure children know how they are getting home and whether they are going to dinners or having lunch.
- All parents/visitors to school must enter the school via the main front entrance and report to the office. P1 and P2 parents may take their child into the P1/2 cloakroom in the mornings.

Summer Clean

A huge thank you to Mr McCann and Mrs Neeson for completing the summer clean and getting the classrooms ready for our return. A special word of thanks to Mr McCann for taking care of our school garden and grounds. I'm sure you will agree our grounds look fantastic.

Staffing

Acting Principal	Mrs Dympna Storey
Senior Teacher	Mrs Claire O'Neill

Class	Teacher	Support Staff
1	Mrs Orlagh Devlin (Mon-Tues) Miss Sarah Cassidy (Wed-Fri)	
P2	Mrs Claire O'Neill	Miss Aimee Quinn
P3/4	Mrs Kate McElhinney	Mrs Maria Madden Mrs Liz O'Donnell Mrs Carla McFall
P4/5	Mrs Clara McNamee	Miss Anna Cassidy
P6	Mrs Shareen Bujwid	Mrs Kathy McErlain
P7	Mr Ger McPeake	Mrs Aileen McWilliams Mrs McCoy-Thompson

Communication

WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

Our website is a great way of keeping up to date with current school activities and information e.g. the dinner menu, calendar of events. Please have a look at

www.millquarterps.com

If you are a facebook user, please like and follow our page.

SEESAW

We will continue to use the Seesaw app as a platform for engagement with families and to share learning experiences. All members of our school community should already be connected but if you are not, please contact the school office.

CONTACT DETAILS

Mrs Close, our secretary, is updating our computer records and asks that anyone who has changed address or telephone/mobile number recently contacts the office and completes a new data form. This is very important in case we need to contact you urgently due to illness or in the event of an emergency.



028 796 50130

info@millquarterps.antrim.ni.sch.uk

Friends of Millquarter PTA

We are extremely grateful to our Friends of Millquarter PTA organisation for all their fundraising and support last year. FoM provides the opportunity for everyone to work together towards a common goal, support our school and make a difference for our children. All parents and families with children enrolled in Millquarter are members of the FoM. If you have any spare time to offer and would like to be a member of the committee, please speak to Mrs Maria Madden, staff member and Chairperson of the PTA. You would be most welcome.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please remember to label all items of uniform. Throughout the year there are many items lost and not recovered. Labelling helps us return lost belongings.

DINNERS

Dinners cost £2.60 per day and can be paid via school money. If you think that your child may be eligible for Free School Meals please apply by completing the form from the EA website <http://www.eani.org.uk/i-want-to/fsm/>

Our budget is influenced by the number of children registered for free school meals so it is vitally important that you register (even if your child does not wish to avail of dinners).

HEALTHY EATING

We are a health promoting school and operate a Healthy Break Policy in Millquarter. Please support us in this by ensuring that the children have a healthy snack e.g. fruit, vegetables or bread-based products, and a drink of either milk or water for break at 10.15 am. **No Nut based products please!**

MEDICAL CONDITIONS/ALLERGIES

It is important that we are made aware of any medical conditions your child may have. Please inform us in writing of any such circumstances. Also if your child has an allergy please ensure we are made aware of this. Mindful of allergies and medical conditions, **we would ask that you do not send in nuts or foods containing nuts.**

DEFIBRILLATOR

We now have a defibrillator installed on the wall outside the entrance to the school. Thanks to the many kind donations from our school community. Thank you to Mrs Kathy McErlain for agreeing to be the Registered Guardian. We intend to offer training in the use of the defibrillator for the whole community. More details will follow in due course.

PRIMARY ONE

P1 finish at 12 noon until Friday 15th September and 1.40pm thereafter. Late class for P1 will start on 2nd October.

LATE CLASS

Late Class is a service whereby the younger children are supervised in school for an additional hour and go home at 2.40pm with the older pupils. There is a charge for this service and it must be paid for in advance. Late class for P2 children will start on Monday 4th September. The cost for September is £38 to be paid via school money.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

An expression of interest form has been posted on seesaw. Please complete by Tuesday 5th September to help us plan. Further details will follow.

P7 TRANSFER PROCEDURE

SEAG Entrance Exam Key Dates:
Closing date to apply: 22nd September.
1st paper: 11th Nov
2nd paper: 25th Nov

CURRICULUM MEETINGS

We welcome the support of parents in ensuring high quality learning for our children. With this in mind, we would like to invite you to our curriculum information sessions. During this meeting you will have the opportunity to learn about the key themes and topics that your child will engage in; the class timetable; important events that will happen throughout the year; the format of homework and areas unique to your child's year group. These are an invaluable opportunity to discover what the year ahead holds for your children and how you as parents can support and extend learning at home.

Date: Monday 11th September
Times

P1: 12:00

P2: 1:45

P3-5 2:15

P6-7 2:45

The presentation will be posted on seesaw for those who are unable to attend.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

WEDNESDAYS: P1,2,3,4,5,7

THURSDAYS: P6 SWIMMING

FRIDAYS: P1-7

P.E. Uniform P3-7 only:

White t-shirt.

Black jogging bottoms or leggings.

This has previously been agreed by Governors to avoid parents having to buy an expensive branded P.E. kit.

Children should also wear suitable footwear on P.E. days.

SWIMMING

Primary Six will go swimming during term one on a Thursday morning commencing Thursday 14th September. Please pay via school money. The children will need £1 for their locker. Children should wear their full school uniform.

PUPIL PARTICIPATION

We will be issuing applications forms to pupils to apply to be members of our School Council and Eco Committee. Pupils will also have opportunities to apply to be Digital Leaders, Road Safety Officers, Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and Well Being Champions.

PHOTOGRAPHER

School photographs will be taken on Friday 8th September. Full school uniform please! This is also the day our GAA coach begins so P3-7 please bring your school P.E. uniform to change into on that day.

WHOLE SCHOOL MASS

We hope to have a whole school mass to begin our school year in Term one. More details will follow.

