Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to our new school year in P6/7! I am very much looking forward to working with you and your child as we embark on school life again after a very strange end to our last school term. I will be supported in this role by assistants, Louise and Emma. Many of your children will have had me as their class teacher and Louise as their classroom assistant before and we hope they are as excited as us to be working with them again. We will spend the next few weeks getting to know everyone and are hopeful for a great year ahead. We would like to share the following information with you and will keep you updated if there are any changes.

Teaching schedule:

**Mon/Tue/Thurs/Fri: Mrs McGrath**

**Wed: Miss Judge**

(There may be some flexibility with teacher days throughout the year, however this will be the normal pattern.)

Both teachers will work very closely together in all aspects of planning, teaching and assessment and will communicate regularly throughout each week to ensure a smooth and consistent approach. Should you need to contact me, you can e mail me at **bmcgrath851@c2kni.net**

Some of the P6’s are in Mr Mc Kenna’s P5/6 class. We work closely together, communicate and plan regularly to ensure consistency.

Procedures:

We have spaced pupils in seating arrangements all facing forward. Adults will remain the safe distance as recommended, but if children need support, we will be sensitive with this. Our aim is that our pupils feel comfortable and safe in our care.

All P6/7 pupils will enter and exit the school via the fire door of the hall. If collecting a sibling from another class too, please follow the one-way system around the exterior of the school building. Parents are asked to maintain social distancing at all times.

Pupils will use the hand sanitiser as they enter the classroom and are also encouraged to wash their hands in the P6/7 wash basins before class begins.

Schoolbags can be placed on the back of pupil’s chairs or under their desks. Lunchboxes, snack and a non-spill water bottle should be kept in their school bags. Coats can be hung up on the unit provided, just inside the door of the room.

Pupils will wash their hands regularly throughout the day, including before and after eating. Staff will encourage and monitor this.

All pupils will have their own tray or basket on their desk. The tray will be kept at their table and contains stationery, books and other resources needed for that day.

**PE day is Wednesday. Your child can come to school in their PE gear on this day. They do not need to bring a change of clothes with them.**

Money for dinners etc should be in a sealed envelope with your child’s name on it. These will be collected in a container by the teacher at the beginning of each day.

P6/7 staff will be responsible for cleaning tables, chairs and other high contact touch points regularly throughout the day.

If your child is unwell, please keep them at home. If a child feels unwell in school, we will phone the first contact. A child who is unwell will be moved to the designated area (the mobile) and accompanied by an adult. When a parent arrives, they phone the school office and the child will be brought to the gate. If the symptoms are Covid related, we will also send siblings home and we ask that parents have their child tested as soon as possible. If Covid is confirmed, all pupils in the affected classes will self-isolate for 10 days.

Homework:

**Homework will begin on Monday 7th September. Reading will begin on Monday 14th September.** Each pupil will have their own homework books sent home each night, to be returned the next morning. We will mark and go through the homework together each morning. Their books will be looked at and stamped, to show that I have seen their work and how they have got on with it. Reading for the week will be written into their Homework diary/Reading Record book on a Monday. When reading books are ready to be changed, books will be left in a holding box for several days prior to being shared with any other child.

Monday- Spelling, mental maths, reading & comprehension

Tuesday- Spelling, mental maths, reading and Numeracy

Wednesday- Spelling, mental maths, reading and grammar/punctuation

Thursday- Spelling, mental maths, reading and Numeracy

We will endeavour to introduce some online homework activities throughout the year, so that in the event of another lock-down, children are familiar with accessing work online.

Positive Behaviour

Positive behaviour will be promoted through the use of our ‘trampoline’ behaviour system. Pupils will bounce on reward for following whole school rules, which are displayed in our classroom and will be talked through with your child. Pupils will earn Golden Time each day (30 mins per week) based on remaining on reward. Pupils may ‘bounce’ onto choice if they aren’t following school rules, however we will always give pupils a verbal reminder before this. The ‘choice’ trampoline will act as ‘thinking time’. They will be encouraged to bounce back to reward by making better choices. ‘Consequence’ is the third trampoline. Pupils will land here if they continue to ignore the rules and the opportunity to make a better choice. Golden time minutes for that day will not be earned for a pupil who lands here. If a child lands on consequence three times in a week Mrs Daly will be informed. We will also keep you as the parent informed in that instance.

Pupils have also the opportunity to earn house points which will earn them in class and whole house team rewards.

You will receive information about how we hope to use Microsoft Teams in the coming weeks and months.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to getting to know your child, making our class a fun, safe, learning environment and to working in partnership with you to the best of our ability.

Many thanks,

Mrs McGrath and Miss Judge