

**Class Times**

Class times for Primary 4 (initially in September 2020 in light of Covid-19) are as follows:

**Arrival** 8.55 - 9am

**Departure** 3pm

Please arrive at the time specified in the morning & promptly collect your child in the afternoon from your preferred gate. Please ensure your child knows which gate they are being collected from. **Please ensure social distancing of 2m between adults. If this is not possible, you must wear a face covering.**

On dry days, the children will line up in the lower playground in their class lines. On wet days, the children will go straight to their classrooms via their assigned doors.

Mr McLaughlin’s class enter and leave school via side stairs & front side door.

Miss O’ Doherty’s class enter and leave school via back door on ground floor.

If you would like to speak to your child’s class teacher, you must make an appointment via the office and a phone call will be arranged. This is essential practice due to Covid-19.

**Covid-19 & Reporting Absences**

Please do not send your child to school if they are displaying any of the following Covid-19 symptoms:

* High temperature
* Continuous cough
* Loss of smell or taste

Absences can be reported via School App or website.

**Healthy Eating & Nut Awareness**

A reminder that Steelstown Primary School is a health promoting school and has a healthy breaks policy. We also currently have pupils in the school with a nut allergy. Please ensure that your child has **no nut products** in their lunchboxes, this includes Nutella and some chocolate spreads.

**Return to School**

Every child will have had a different experience of lockdown, some will be excited about being back to school while some will be feeling anxious. Talk to them openly about how they feel and reassure them that it is normal to feel a mix of emotions. The children are completing daily mindfulness & wellbeing activities in class in conjunction with continuation of the PATHs (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) Programme to help them cope with the back to school transition. Ask your child about what they enjoyed about their day or what they found difficult. This can encourage them to open up and share their feelings.

**September 2020**

**Year 4 Newsletter**

**School App & Parent Pay**

It is highly important in these unique circumstances that all parents have both a ParentPay Account activated, and the Schools NI App downloaded and linked to your child this academic year.

ParentPay will be used to book your child in for school meals and make payments for trips and other items. Even if your child is on free school meals you must mark them in for their meals via the ParentPay app. If your child goes to lunch you still need to register for other payments that may arise during the school year.

Schools NI App is our main source of communication with parents. All important correspondence will be sent via this app including private messages, public messages and permission slips etc.

If any parents have issues with the app or ParentPay they can email info@steelstown.derry.ni.sch.uk

**Safe and Sound**Our first World Around Us topic is **Safe and Sound**. The children will be learning about road safety, how to keep safe at home and at school and practising good hygiene. They will also learn about Florence Nightingale as an important figure in history & how children kept safe during WW2. They are encouraged to discuss these themes at home, practise good handwashing and look out for road signs and crossings when they are out and about.