



Mitchell House School Newsletter

From school to home, keeping you informed.
February 2022



Half Term

Pupils will finish school (normal time) on Friday 11 February and return to school on Monday 21 February (also normal time).

When we return we will be on **Week 4** of the dinner menu. (Please note that the menu is subject to change). Have a lovely week off and keep safe!

Important Dates

- **Wear red** for Children's Heart Beat Trust – 11 February – Voluntary contribution of £1 via IRIS ParentMail
- Half term finish – Friday 11 February (normal time)
- Back to school – Monday 21 February (normal day)

Annual Reviews

Annual Review meetings will be held next month **virtually**. All appointment letters have been sent home. If you have not received one please contact the office immediately.

Please make sure to write the date and time of your child's meeting in your diary. We look forward to seeing all of you at your scheduled appointment.

A copy of the report, for you to keep, will be sent home closer to the time for your consideration prior to the meeting.

Please return the completed parental contribution form by **Thursday 24 February**.



Testing

We are continuing with our programme of Lateral Flow testing for pupils and staff. The recommended testing is twice weekly, Sunday and Wednesday evening.

Thank you to everyone who is taking part, remember to report your testing weekly (even if you don't request a new box of kit). New tests and reporting of testing can be done using this link: <https://forms.gle/9WoxnvLQsLgs9Cq79>

If you haven't consented to the programme and would like to please contact Miss Donnan for more information.

Contact us:

Marmont, Holywood Road, Belfast, BT4 2GT

Telephone: 028 9076 0292

Email: mdonnan748@c2kni.net

Website: www.mitchellhouseschool.com

Facebook: @mitchellhouseschool

Staffing

We are continuing to monitor the levels of staffing in school on a daily basis. Unfortunately, there is a very short supply of substitute teachers and assistants to cover absent staff. As a result, there are days when we cannot guarantee a safe level of staffing for the pupils in school and have to take the difficult decision to close a class.

We will endeavour to give you as much notice as possible of a class closure, however you will appreciate that it is often a very fluid situation and last minute decisions may need to be made.

Class closures will be communicated via ParentMail, please ensure that you are receiving notifications for these messages. The easiest way to do that is to download the ParentMail app to your smart phone.

Sickness

Please remember that if your son/daughter is ill not to send them into school, particularly in the current climate.

Please phone school on the first day of absence.

If your son/daughter tests positive for COVID please inform us immediately. During the school day please phone the office. Outside of school times you can report to the school mobile on 07735 573827 and someone will get back to you.

Area Plan

The Education Authority have published a consultation on the Draft Strategic Area Plan which includes their plan for Special Schools. There will be an information session (via Zoom) for all interested parties on Wednesday 9 February 2022 – 7.00pm [Link to Zoom - Parents and Stakeholders, 9 February 2022, 7pm](#)

The documents relating to the Area Plan can be found at this link:
<https://www.eani.org.uk/publications/consultations/public-consultation-on-the-draft-strategic-area-plan-2022-27>

Thank you

A massive thank you to Robert Neill who came to visit school before Christmas and gave all the pupils and staff an ice cream treat.

He also brought a selection box for all of the pupils as a surprise.

Robert is a former parent of our school and we all really appreciate his generosity.

Thank you

Massive thank you to Mr Turkington and his Amazon drivers who raised an **amazing £2580.50** for school! We really appreciate the very generous donation.

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