



"Great Oaks from Little Acorns Grow."

Derryhale Primary School
116 Derryhale Road,
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Co. Armagh
BT62 3SR

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Derryhale P.S.

August 2026 Newsletter

September's "Value of the Month": Be determined

Our Safeguarding Team

Designated Teacher: Mrs M. McCallen

Deputy Designated Teacher & Principal: Mr A. Glenny

Designated Governor for Child Protection: Rev C. Baxter

Children are made aware that there is always an adult in the school who will listen to any worries they may have. Please remind your child of this.

Wednesday 26th August 2026

Dear parent / carer,

It has been wonderful to welcome our P2 to P7 pupils back to Derryhale for a new school year. We particularly welcome our new P1 pupils who have entered the Derryhale School family to begin their learning journey with us!

Building and Construction Work

As you may have noticed, the school site has been a hive of activity over the summer holidays. We are grateful to Greystone Construction for their continued work in constructing our new toilet block and landscaping. We are looking forward to seeing the completion of the building work within the next number of days.

As a result of construction work, all pupils (P1-7) will enter the school building through the main entrance door at Reception until instructed to resume entering through the side gate to the left of the building.

Parent Information Evening

At Derryhale Primary School, we value developing positive home-school links and promoting consistency. A Parent Information Evening will be held in the school Assembly Hall on **Wednesday 2nd September at 7:00pm** for all parents. The purpose of this meeting is to inform parents about a number of new initiatives and procedures for the new school year. This includes:

- New Nelson Spelling and Handwriting Scheme
- Homework expectations
- School website information
- Zones of Regulation

This meeting will last approximately 45 minutes. We would strongly recommend parents to attend this meeting as important information for the year ahead will be discussed and explained. Parents will also have the opportunity to ask questions and clarify information at the meeting.

8 O'clock (Breakfast) Club

8 O'clock Club (Breakfast) resumes on **Wednesday 26th August**, continuing every morning at 8:00am. Pupils enter through the door at Reception and will be provided with breakfast consisting of cereal, toast (pancake or waffles) and a drink of juice. 8 O'clock Club costs £1.50 per day which can be paid using the school app.



Swimming

Swimming will resume for P5, P6 and P7 pupils on **Tuesday 1st September**. Please ensure timely payment is made for swimming lessons. The school continues to significantly subsidise the cost of swimming lessons by covering the cost of transport in its entirety and subsidising the cost of each lesson. Pupils will require the necessary swimming kit (e.g. costume / shorts, goggles, swimming cap etc.) for Tuesday 1st September.

School Uniform

School uniform is provided and stocked by C&G Embroidery (134 Dobbin Road, Craigavon, BT62 4EZ) in their on-site shop. We would like to remind parents and carers that for P3-7, full school uniform (shirt and tie) should be worn on non-PE days **without exception**. Additionally, all school shoes and trainers should be **black**. P1-2 pupils should wear their Derryhale sweatshirt each day with black jogging bottoms and black trainers or shoes.



I would like to thank parents and carers for making a special and conscious effort to ensure that children are wearing the appropriate uniform. Our school uniform showcases and represents our school in the wider community and a tidy, neat and well-presented uniform represents the values of Derryhale Primary School.

After-School Clubs

2 O'clock Club will resume on **Tuesday 1st September** at the cost of £2.00 per day (payable using the school app). P1 pupils can avail of 2 O'clock Club from Monday 8th September when they begin full days (staying until 1:40pm).

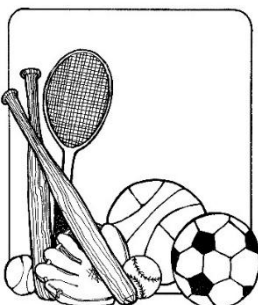


High-5 Club will resume on **Tuesday 1st September**. High-5 Club runs from the end of the school day until 5:15pm on Monday to Thursday and 4:15pm on Friday. Please continue to ensure that children know if they are staying for clubs (especially 2 O'clock Club and High 5.) To cover staffing costs, a minimal increase in cost of 25p per half-hour of High-5 Club has been introduced from 1st September.

Payment can be made on the school app by selecting the finishing time.



After-school football will resume on **Tuesday 8th September**. A letter with further details will be sent home before the end of the week.



PE Days

On two days a week, P3-7 pupils can wear their red sweatshirt and white polo shirt to school for PE days. Pupils should be prepared with the appropriate equipment and kit for swimming.

P3 – Tuesday and Friday

P4G/W – Tuesday and Thursday

P4V/McB – Tuesday and Thursday

P5 – Tuesday (swimming) and Thursday

P6/7 – Tuesday (swimming) and Friday

In P3-7, full school uniform (shirt and tie) must be worn on non-PE days.

School Finishing Times

From Tuesday 25th to Friday 28th August, school will close at **12:00 noon** each day for all pupils (P1-7). There will be no school canteen, so all pupils should bring a packed break from home. 8 O'clock Breakfast Club will run from **Wednesday 26th August**.

On Tuesday 1st September, normal school finishing times will resume for P2 to P7 pupils (see below). From Tuesday 1st to Friday 4th September, P1 pupils will continue to finish at 12:00 noon, with their first 1:40 finishing time being Monday 7th September.

School finishing times for pupils are as follows:

P1/2 – 1:40pm every day

P3 – 1:40pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays / 2:40pm on Wednesdays and Fridays

P4-7 – 2:40pm every day.

2 O'Clock Club is held every day (from Tuesday 1st September) for P1/2 pupils and for P3 pupils (Mon, Tue and Thu) from 1:40pm to 2:40pm.

Diary Dates

- Tuesday 25th – Friday 28th August – 12:00 noon finish for all pupils (P1-7).
- Wednesday 26th August – 8 O'clock (Breakfast) Club begins.
- Monday 31st August – School Closed for Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 1st September – P2-P7 pupils resume normal finishing times.
- Tuesday 1st September – School dinners, snack and milk begin.
- Tuesday 1st September – 2 O'clock Club begins.
- Tuesday 1st September – Swimming starts (Term 1)
- Wednesday 2nd September – Parent Information Evening @ 7:00pm
- Monday 7th September – P1 pupils resume normal finishing time (1:40pm).
- Monday 7th September – Piano lessons begin.
- Tuesday 8th September – After-school football begins.
- Friday 25th September – School closed for TransformED Staff Development Day 1.
- Monday 19th – Thursday 22nd October – Parent-Teacher Consultations – 1:00pm finish for all pupils (P1-7)
- Monday 26th – Friday 30th October – Half-term holiday.
- Wednesday 11th November – Flu Vaccine
- Monday 16th – 20th November – Anti-Bullying Week 2026 – “Break the Silence”

Yours faithfully,

A.T.J. Glenny



PARENT INFORMATION EVENING



At Derryhale Primary School, we value developing positive home-school links and promoting consistency.



WEDNESDAY
2ND SEPTEMBER



7:00PM



IN THE SCHOOL
ASSEMBLY HALL

The purpose of this meeting is to inform parents about a number of new initiatives and procedures for the new school year. This includes:



NEW NELSON
SPELLING AND
HANDWRITING
SCHEME



HOMEWORK
EXPECTATIONS



SCHOOL
WEBSITE
INFORMATION



ZONES OF
REGULATION



We would **strongly recommend** parents to attend this meeting as important information for the year ahead will be discussed and explained.



Parents will also have the opportunity to ask questions and clarify information at the meeting.



Great Oaks from Little Acorns Grow ❤️

