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together  
for our future.

## ***Braidside Integrated Primary and Nursery School***

**89 Fry's Road, Ballymena Co. Antrim BT43 7EN**

**1989- 2019: 30 Years of Integration**

**028 25647899**



**Principal: J McAuley**

**[www.braidside.co.uk](http://www.braidside.co.uk)**

**28/08/20**

Dear Parent/ Guardian,

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation throughout this week, as we navigate our return to school. It has been wonderful to have our P7 classes in during this week and to see them settle in. We have also enjoyed bringing back the P2-P6 classes for their induction sessions and hope the children have enjoyed meeting their teachers and seeing the new school. The transition ahead of us in the coming weeks is considerable but if we all approach this with patience, flexibility and a willingness to adapt; hopefully this will benefit the whole school community.

Next week will see P2-P7 classes return to school on a full-time basis and I would ask parents to familiarise themselves with key arrangements contained within the Restart Plan, in particular the staggered start and finish times for the new school day.

### Start Times:

A-F: 8:50am

G-J: 9:00am

K- McL: 9:10am

McN- R: 9:20am

S-W: 9:30am

### Finish Times:

2:40pm

2:45pm

2:50pm

2:55pm

3:00pm

At the moment, Nursery and P1 have individual start dates allocated and P1 should arrive using their staggered start time. P1 children finish school at 12noon and P2-P3 children finish at 2pm. Mrs Turner will continue to keep Nursery parents informed of their finish times, as these increase gradually over the weeks ahead.

In terms of traffic arrangements, the school grounds will be much busier next week so we ask that parents assist us with the new directions. **We encourage active travel to school as far as possible; scooting, cycling and walking have obvious health benefits for the children; while making sure our grounds are safe for all pedestrians. Please use the footpaths for walking.** Parents may use the drop-off spaces around the turning area and children only should walk to their entrance independently. Please do not double park in this area. Stanley, myself and some other volunteers will be visible next week to assist with arrivals and departures. School buses will be operating next week and children who travel by bus will be able to come into school when they arrive. This will not be before 8:50am. Please note as we are unable to provide morning supervision, we ask that children arrive at their allocated time to avoid waiting outside in large numbers or in the event of poor

weather. Hopefully, this will run smoothly with your cooperation but will be kept under review.

For the next 3 weeks, children will be having a packed lunch in their classroom at lunchtime. Those children in receipt of Free School Meals will have a packed lunch provided. The menu for the packed lunches is now on the school website for your information.

At this time, when we are unable to have parents in the school premises, if you have a query you may contact the school office or send an email ([info@braidsideintegratedps.ballymena.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@braidsideintegratedps.ballymena.ni.sch.uk)). To help reduce the risk of transmission of Covid-19, we would ask all parents to make an appointment with the class teacher in advance of accessing the school. All visitors to the school are required to wear a face covering on the premises.

I would continue to encourage parents to visit the website and Facebook page regularly to ensure you are up to date with all relevant information. A large number of families have now downloaded the SchoolsNI app and this allows us to send alerts to parents when information is placed on the website.

Finally, we look forward to seeing all the children on their return to school and are delighted to welcome all our families; returning or new; to the new academic year. Thank you once again for all your support!

Yours faithfully,

*J McAuley*

Principal.