



## Buick Memorial Primary School Newsletter

### Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2026



Hello Parents/Carers,

That's all of our Primary 1 pupils now settled into their new learning environments and they have completed their baseline assessments. This seamless transition highlights the positive experiences of Nursery. We look forward to seeing how their educational journey progresses throughout this academic session with Miss Stirling, Mrs Shirlow, Miss Greer, Mrs Steele and Mrs Francey.



### Child Protection

If you have any concerns about your child's safety in school, you can speak to Mrs Shirlow, (Designated Teacher for Child Protection), or to Miss Stirling, (Deputy Designated Teacher). If you are still concerned, you may contact the Principal, Miss R Peters, who oversees the Safeguarding Team within Buick Memorial Primary School. Additionally, you may contact the Board of Governors. Our Child Protection Governor is Rev. Philip Moffett.

If you have any concerns about a child or community activity out of school hours, you can talk to a Social Worker at the Social Services Gateway Team on 0300 1234 333 or PSNI on 101. Like all primary schools, Buick links with PSNI Officers to engage in Operation Encompass. This is a legal requirement which ensures appropriate information is shared accordingly.

As professionals, we have a legal duty of care for children. As part of this, 'Notes of Concern' are completed inhouse if staff have any worries regarding a child's presentation. This presentation includes their attendance, personal hygiene, nutritional provision, growth and development, uncharacteristic behaviours and comments/worries they share about home life. If appropriate, these records may be shared with Social Services.

If your individual circumstances or family composition has changed over the summer, please contact the school to inform us. These open lines of communication will ensure each child's needs are met.

### Online Safety Hub

The Online Safety Hub brings together the latest advice for young people, families and professionals to help promote child safety online. Content is developed and curated through the Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland (SBNI) members and partners, with the platform and technical infrastructure supported by INEQE Safeguarding Group.

The Hub is free to access and it provides information and signposting to support services if help is needed. It has advice on a range of online safety topics including gaming, screen time, online bullying, privacy and safety setting, online blackmail and much more!



<https://onlinesafetyhub.safeguardingni.org/>

### Citizenship

Our Citizenship programme is designed to encourage all children to play an active role in their school environment and local community. It provides an opportunity to celebrate wider achievements and to share successes with the wider Buick family. This week, Olly, James, Evie and Elijah shared their success in football and music. It was lovely to hear about their productive summer - well done!

We love to see our children excel in clubs, societies and develop their skills beyond our academic input. We actively encourage parents to enrol their child in activities after school, in the evenings and/or at weekends. This is a wonderful chance to build social skills, confidence and talents.



### Dining Centre and Lunches

Monday 7th September is Week 2 of our new Lunch Bunch Menu. School dinners remain at a cost of £3.10 per day. Any pupil with a food allergy **must** complete the relevant Special Diet form (on our website) before availing of food from our Dining Centre.

We would like to remind parents that they should clearly name packed lunch bags too as they can easily get misplaced or swapped in a school environment! Also, please do not send food to school which your child cannot open or does not like! It is important that children have enough food and drink to sustain them for the full day.

Parents are encouraged to be mindful about sending in big bags of sweets as lunch. Nutrition is essential for growth and brain development, please carefully consider the content of your child's packed lunch.

### Behaviour

Buick Memorial prides itself on having kind, polite and well-mannered children who are fulfilling their academic potential by giving of their best each day in school and with their homeworks.

During Citizenship this week, Miss Peters reminded children about the importance of being kind and treating others with respect. This led to a discussion about behaviour and school expectations.

If school rules are not adhered to, sanctions must be put in place to deal with any inappropriate conduct. These sanctions are part of our school Behaviour Policy and we will be strictly enforcing the steps outlined. Parental support in these matters is greatly appreciated.

The expectation of good behaviour continues whilst travelling to and from school on the bus. Pupils who are not complying with the seatbelt and travel rules, are putting others in danger by distracting the driver. Children who do not behave in an acceptable manner **will not be allowed** to travel as they jeopardise the safety of others.

### 2-3 Club

Our After-School wraparound care will recommence on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. Places on this must be booked in advance via ParentMail to allow staffing to be planned accordingly. Our 2-3 Club cost is now £4 per pupil, per day and is open to all P1s (w/c 14<sup>th</sup> September) , P2s and P3s in Term One. This Club is operated by Mrs Francey, Mrs Steele and Miss Lorimer.

### Free School Meals

We have a number of children enrolled within the school who would be entitled to free school meals but are not registered as such. If your child is not currently on the 'Free Meals Register' and you feel that they could/should be, please visit [www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals](http://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals) to make an application. It is in the school's best interest to have all children who are eligible registered, as this impacts on the budget allocated for this academic year.

Parents who have applied should not presume their child will receive a free school meal immediately. Only parents who have completed the registration process and who have received written confirmation from EA will be on our list. The Education Authority has stated that pupils who are awaiting processing should pay £3.10 per day, if availing of a school meal, until the registration process has been completed.

### Nursery

Our Nursery children have staggered entry dates and times as they embark on their new learning experiences. We will update you on their engagement when they have all completed registration. Our Nursery Staff, Mrs Gault, Miss Morgan, Mrs Downey and Miss Lorimer have lots of exciting activities planned throughout the year ahead!

### Partnerships with Parents

**NEW WORKSHOP**

**Parent Line NI**  
0808 8020 400

**PARENTING UNDER PRESSURE?**

**Find your parenting power and release the pressure valve**

**AMAZING!** **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September**  
**7-8.30pm on Zoom**

**Call 0808 8020 400 for more information or to book a place.**

**POWER**

## Term 1A

|                                        |                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> September       | Primary 1 - 1pm Finish<br>2-3 Club starts - please book via ParentMail each week                                                          |
| Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> September    | Coaching For Christ in Buick 1/12                                                                                                         |
| Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> September      | 1:15pm - 2:15pm - Primary 1 Information Session for all P1 Parents                                                                        |
|                                        | 2pm - 3pm = P3 After School Club (2/3)                                                                                                    |
| Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> September      | Primary 1 - 2pm Finish<br>Board of Governors' Meeting at 6:30pm                                                                           |
| Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> September     | 3pm - 3:45pm - P6 & P7 Scripture Union with Rev. Moffett and Mrs McQuiston (1/4)                                                          |
| Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> September    | Coaching For Christ in Buick 2/12<br>3pm - 4:15pm - Football Training for P5-P7 Boys 1/12                                                 |
| Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> September      | 2pm - 3pm = P3 After School Club (2/3)                                                                                                    |
| Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> September      | Mr Beattie holding Parent Interviews (over the next 2 weeks) for those pupils completing SEAG Transfer                                    |
| Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> September     | 3pm - 3:45pm - P6 & P7 Scripture Union with Rev. Moffett and Mrs McQuiston (2/4)                                                          |
| Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> September    | Coaching For Christ in Buick 3/12<br>P6 Swimming 1/10<br>3pm - 4:15pm - Football Training for P5-P7 Boys 2/12                             |
| Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> September      | Buick Closed - TransformEd. Staff Development Day                                                                                         |
| Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> September      | P7 Transfer Interview with Mr Beattie - times TBC                                                                                         |
| Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> September     | 3pm - 3:45pm - P6 & P7 Scripture Union with Rev. Moffett and Mrs McQuiston (3/4)                                                          |
| Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> September   | CS Moments Photographer in School for Individual and Family Pictures                                                                      |
| Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> October       | Coaching For Christ in Buick 4/12<br>P6 Swimming 2/10<br>3pm - 4pm - Eco Club 1/2<br>3pm - 4:15pm - Football Training for P5-P7 Boys 3/12 |
| Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October         | Learn With Lauren's Sensory Stories with Primary 1 pupils 1/3<br>2pm - 3pm = P2 After School Club (1/3)                                   |
| Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> October        | 3pm - 3:45pm - P6 & P7 Scripture Union with Rev. Moffett and Mrs McQuiston (4/4)                                                          |
| Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> October       | Coaching For Christ in Buick 5/12<br>P6 Swimming 3/10<br>3pm - 4pm - Eco Club 2/2<br>3pm - 4:15pm - Football Training for P5-P7 Boys 4/12 |
| Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> September       | 2pm - 3pm = P2 After School Club (2/3)                                                                                                    |
| Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> October      | Coaching For Christ in Buick 6/12<br>P6 Swimming 4/10<br>3pm - 4:15pm - Football Training for P5-P7 Boys 5/12                             |
| Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> October        | Learn With Lauren's Sensory Stories with Primary 1 pupils 2/3                                                                             |
| 2pm - 3pm = P2 After School Club (1/3) | 2pm - 3pm = P2 After School Club (3/3)                                                                                                    |
| Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> October        | School Nurses in Buick for Nasal Flu Spray                                                                                                |
| Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> October     | Pupils Finishing at 1pm for Parent Interviews Face-to-Face                                                                                |
| Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October      | Coaching For Christ in Buick 7/12<br>P6 Swimming 5/10<br>Pupils Finishing at 1pm for Parent Interviews by telephone                       |
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October        | Learn With Lauren's Sensory Stories with Primary 1 pupils 3/3<br>Pupils Finishing at 1pm for Parent Interviews by telephone               |

Our peripatetic Music teachers will continue this session. Mr McCubbin (woodwind) will be visiting each Thursday and Miss Nevin (strings) will be visiting each Tuesday. Please ensure children have their instruments with them at the correct times.

We are delighted to confirm that Coaching for Christ will be back with us this academic session to deliver football coaching alongside a religious and moral message each week. This additional complement to our teaching aligns with Buick's Ethos and we look forward to another fruitful year with their fantastic coaches.

Buick will also continue to have weekly Assemblies. These are conducted by the clergy within the village: Rev Moffett, Rev. Mulholland, Rev Clements and Pastor Gillanders. We actively encourage children to join with local Sunday School, Girls Brigade, Boys Brigade, Scouts and Beavers etc.

Finally, please ensure every child has a coat and appropriate footwear for outdoor play and learning each day. The unpredictable weather in Cullybackey may mean we have dry mornings and rainy afternoons! At Buick, we promote outdoor play in all weathers, please ensure your child is prepared accordingly. Thank you for your support in this matter.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend as the autumnal weather approaches.

Kind regards,  
R. Peters,  
Principal