

KING'S PARK PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

Information Bulletin No 2025/26/292 30 January 2026



Parents

****CLOSING TIMES DURING PARENT/TEACHER MEETING WEEK ****

2nd – 6th FEBRUARY 2026

School will finish at the following times Monday-Friday during Interview Week to facilitate parent/teacher meetings.

Nursery: 12.30-12.45pm

P1-P7 Pupils

Pupils with surnames from A-H will finish at 1.25pm

Pupils with surnames from I-O will finish at 1.30pm

Pupils with surnames from P-Z will finish at 1.35pm

Please make arrangements to have your child/ren collected at the appropriate time each day.

Meetings will take place from 1.45pm-3.30pm during the week.

Please note: school dinners will be available as usual each day.

MID TERM BREAK

School will be closed on 9th, 10th, 11th 12th & 13th February.

Nursery & Primary 1 Enrolment for September 2026

Applications for both Nursery Admissions and Primary 1 Admissions for September 2026 closed on Wednesday 21st January at 12.00 noon.

On Monday 23rd March 2026 you will receive notification of the outcome of your application.

NEXT LCU SAVINGS DATE: TUESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY

*****P7 PARENTS*****

POST PRIMARY ENROLMENT FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

The on-line application process will be open between 12 noon on Tuesday 27th January 2026 and 12.00pm on Thursday 19th February 2026. Please note this is not on a first come first served basis and Post-Primary schools will only begin to make decisions on which children will be selected for admission after the closing date for applications has passed.

SAFEGUARDING & CHILD PROTECTION - IMPORTANT

During our many events and concerts in school it is very important that photos or videos of other pupils are not posted on social media without their parental permission.

Please remember this for all events still to come this school year.

Thank you

If you have any concerns regarding your/another child's safety, please follow the guidance on the attached leaflet for parents.

Our Safeguarding Team is as follows:

Designated Teacher: Mr D Kirkland

Deputy Designated Teachers: Mrs E Quinn, Mrs K Woods, Mr A Shields, Mrs N Thompson and Mrs J Matchett

SCHOOL CLUBS

Club Dates: Weeks beginning 26th January, 16th, 23rd February and 2nd and 9th March.

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD IS COLLECTED AT 4PM SHARP EACH DAY. FOR REASONS OF HEALTH & SAFETY CARS CANNOT BE ALLOWED INTO THE SCHOOL GROUNDS AT 4.00 PM.

Punctuality

There are a number of children coming into school after 9.00am on a regular basis. It is very important that all pupils are in school and ready to learn when the 9.00am bell rings.

PARKING

PARKING – Parents/friends are **NOT permitted** to drive into or park in the school grounds. **Exceptions will be made only for those drivers with disabled blue badges who are collecting pupils themselves, or for Day Care providers.**

Disabled badges must be displayed. All parents are asked to follow this guidance for the health and safety of our pupils. Please ensure all adults collecting pupils are aware of this information.

We are aware that at peak times parking can be difficult in particular areas and parents are asked not to block driveways. A suggestion would be that you park on the old pool site which can be accessed via Robert Street. You can then walk into school by the nearby path or directly into the grounds via the gate in the Park.

Coming Up



We are celebrating 90 years of our wonderful school this year and plan to hold a special event in March to mark the occasion!

As part of this event, we would like to gather some memories from anyone who has been connected to the school during any part of its history.

If you would be willing to share your memories, either as a short video clip of yourself speaking, or in written form, with or without photos of yourself then/now, please send them to kpmemories90@gmail.com by FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2026.

Please pass this information on to those who don't have access to social media, and stay tuned for information about our celebration event in a few weeks' time!

Children's Mental Health Week 9th - 15th February 2026

This year's theme is 'This is My Place'.



Goal: To help children and young people feel a sense of belonging in their friendships, schools and communities, recognising its importance for mental health.

There will be a range of activities planned for the week to help children know they are valued and accepted for who they are.

Safer Internet Day 2026 will take place on 10th February 2026, with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'.

This is the UK's biggest event promoting online safety, where children learn about current online issues. This year, the focus will be on scams and how young people can protect themselves and others, as well as the support available.

All children will take part in activities and discussions to raise awareness about staying safe online, an important skill for their digital lives.



What's Been Happening

A Fond Farewell to Mr Hollywood

Thank you Mr Hollywood! Happy Retirement!

After 19 incredible years, on Wednesday we celebrated and said thank you to our school Caretaker, Mr Hollywood.

Mr Hollywood has done much more than keep the building running – he looked after our school like it was his own! Mr Hollywood has served many an early morning/late night in all weather conditions, attended call outs when needed, fixed and repaired where possible and has done it all with care and a smile on his face.

As he heads into a very well-deserved retirement, we know he will be enjoying some time on his motorbike and spending plenty of special moments looking after his grandchildren.

Thank you for 19 years dedicated service and for the lasting mark you've left on our school. Wishing you happiness, health, and many adventures in the next chapter!



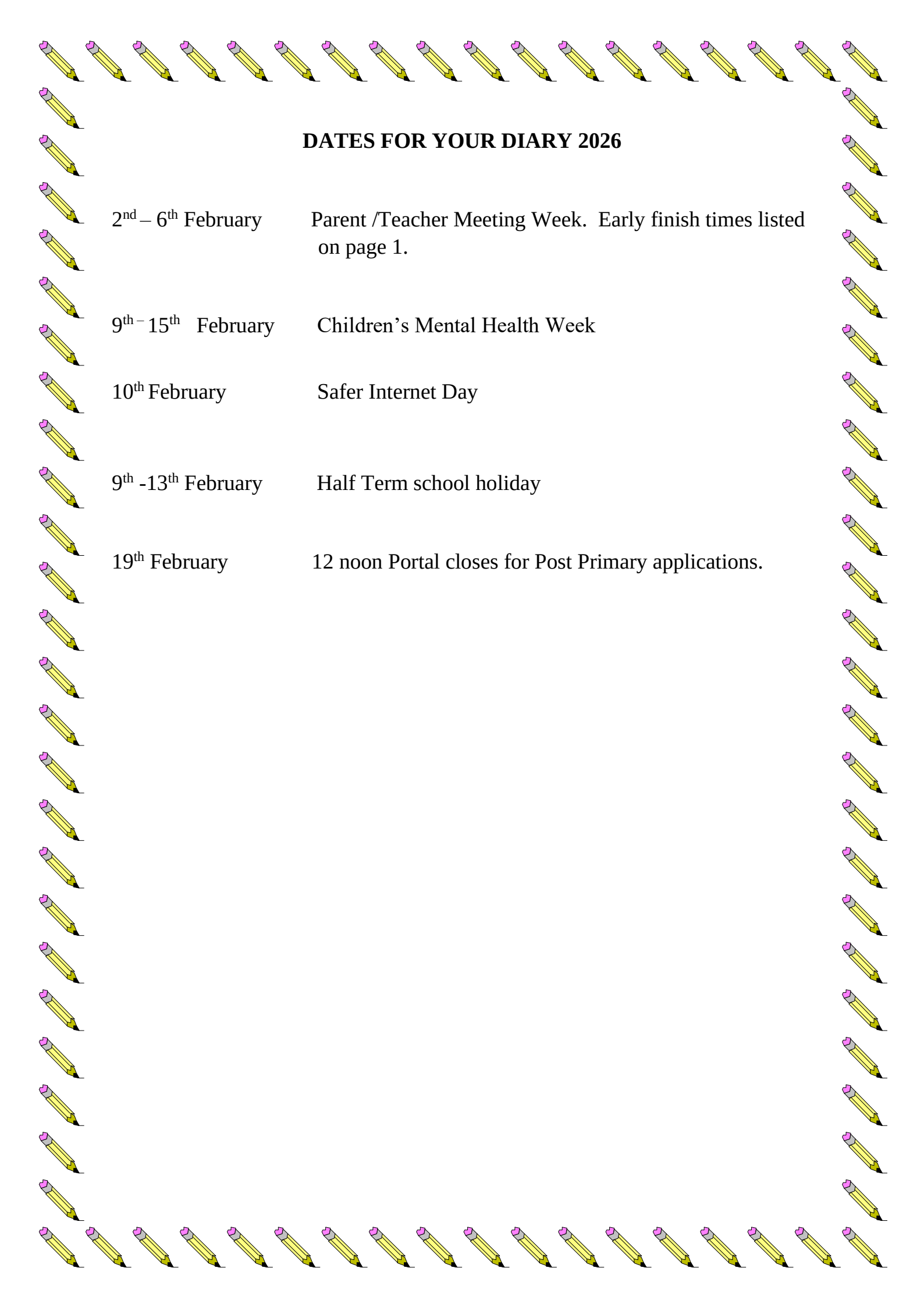
Welcome to Mr Uprichard

As we bid a fond farewell to Mr Hollywood, we welcome Mr Uprichard to the role of caretaker in King's Park. We wish him every success as he begins his role.



Attachments:

- Dates for your Diary
- Child Protection leaflet
- Leaflet from Freedom Foods Pantry
- YMCA Junior Drop In leaflet
- Parent Line (NI) parenting workshop flyer – Worry to Wonder



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2026

2nd – 6th February

Parent /Teacher Meeting Week. Early finish times listed on page 1.

9th – 15th February

Children's Mental Health Week

10th February

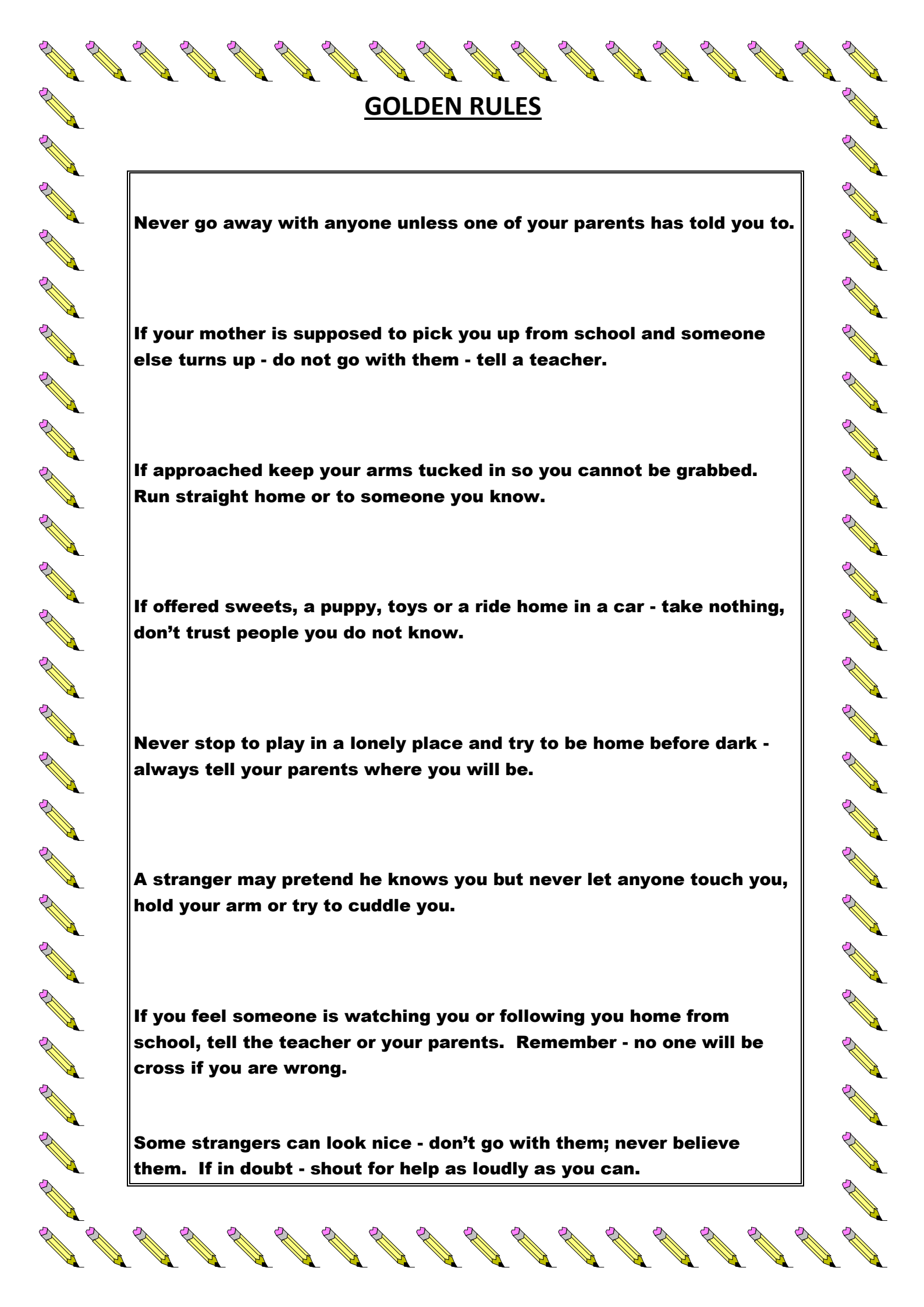
Safer Internet Day

9th -13th February

Half Term school holiday

19th February

12 noon Portal closes for Post Primary applications.



GOLDEN RULES

Never go away with anyone unless one of your parents has told you to.

If your mother is supposed to pick you up from school and someone else turns up - do not go with them - tell a teacher.

**If approached keep your arms tucked in so you cannot be grabbed.
Run straight home or to someone you know.**

**If offered sweets, a puppy, toys or a ride home in a car - take nothing,
don't trust people you do not know.**

**Never stop to play in a lonely place and try to be home before dark -
always tell your parents where you will be.**

**A stranger may pretend he knows you but never let anyone touch you,
hold your arm or try to cuddle you.**

**If you feel someone is watching you or following you home from
school, tell the teacher or your parents. Remember - no one will be
cross if you are wrong.**

**Some strangers can look nice - don't go with them; never believe
them. If in doubt - shout for help as loudly as you can.**

Definition of Child Abuse

Child Abuse occurs when a child is neglected, harmed or not provided with proper care. They can be abused by those known to them or more rarely, by a stranger.

There are different types of Child Abuse:

Neglect:

The persistent failure to meet a child's physical, emotional and/or psychological needs, likely to cause significant harm, eg inadequate food, shelter, clothing and supervision.

Emotional:

The persistent emotional ill treatment of a child eg conveying to a child that he/she is worthless, unloved or inadequate. Exposing a child to domestic violence, parental substance misuse or adult mental health problems.

Physical:

The deliberate physical injury to a child, or the wilful or neglectful failure to prevent physical injury or suffering eg hitting, shaking, confinement to a room or inappropriately giving drugs to control behaviour.

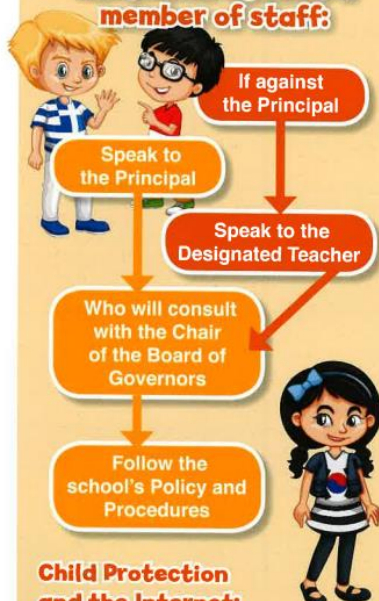
Sexual:

Involves forcing or enticing a child to take part in sexual activities eg physical contact or non contact activities such as looking at inappropriate material, watching sexual activities or encouraging children to behave in sexually inappropriate ways. Sexual abuse also occurs when others use and exploit children for their own gain or for the gratification of others.

Exploitation:

The intentional ill-treatment, manipulation or abuse of power and control over a child to take selfish or unfair advantage for personal gain. It may manifest itself in many forms eg child labour, child trafficking or engagement in criminal activity.

Procedure if I have a Child Protection Allegation against a member of staff:



Child Protection and the Internet:

It is important for children to remember that online friends may not be who they say they are.

Inappropriate material is available for children online. Consider using filtering software and agreeing rules about what services you are happy for your children to use.

KING'S PARK PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL



Child Protection Information for Parents

The School's Safeguarding Team:

Designated Teacher: Mr D Kirkland

Deputy Designated Teachers: Mr Mawhinney, Mrs Quinn, Mrs Woods, Mr A Shields and Mrs Thompson

Principal: Miss H Brown

Designated Governor: Mr J Henry
Chair of Governors: Mrs H Cunningham

tel: 028 3832 2450

Child Protection:

It is our policy in King's Park to safeguard the welfare of the children in our care by endeavouring to protect them from all types of abuse.

The following principles form the basis of our Child Protection Policy:

- It is a child's right to feel safe at all times, to be heard, listened to and taken seriously.
- We have a pastoral responsibility towards the children in our care and will take all reasonable steps to ensure their welfare is safeguarded and their safety is preserved.
- In any incident the child's welfare must be paramount, this overrides all other considerations.
- A proper balance must be struck between protecting children and respecting the rights and needs of parents and families; but where there is conflict the child's interest must always come first.



Child Protection:

In all our dealings and relationships with pupils it is vital to affirm the self-worth of the individual and to nurture good relationships between home and school.

All staff, teaching and non-teaching, have been given Child Protection Awareness training which is updated annually.

In all instances the welfare of the child will be paramount and where there is a conflict of interest the rights of the child will take priority.

The School's Child Protection Policy is based upon the guidelines and recommendations issued in 'Safeguarding and Child Protection in Schools' (DENI Circular 2019), the Safeguarding Board of NI Core Child Protection Policy and Procedures (2017) and 'Co-operating to Safeguard Children and Young People in Northern Ireland' (DOH 2017) and kept updated with new recommendations and legislation.

Our Code of Practice is designed to:

- Protect children
- Respect the rights and feelings of families
- Safeguard those who work in the school from the consequences of unfounded allegations.

Information given to staff about suspected abuse or neglect cannot be held in confidence. Staff are legally bound to share such concerns with the Designated Teachers who may need to consult with external agencies and pass on information. However such information is only disclosed on a "need to know" basis.

A copy of the school's Child Protection Policy is available on request from the office.



If you are Concerned about your / another child's safety TALK TO THE CLASS TEACHER

If still concerned
TALK TO THE DESIGNATED TEACHER
Mr D Kirkland or
Deputy Designated Teachers
Mr Mawhinney, Mrs Quinn, Mrs Woods,
Mrs Thompson or Mr A Shields

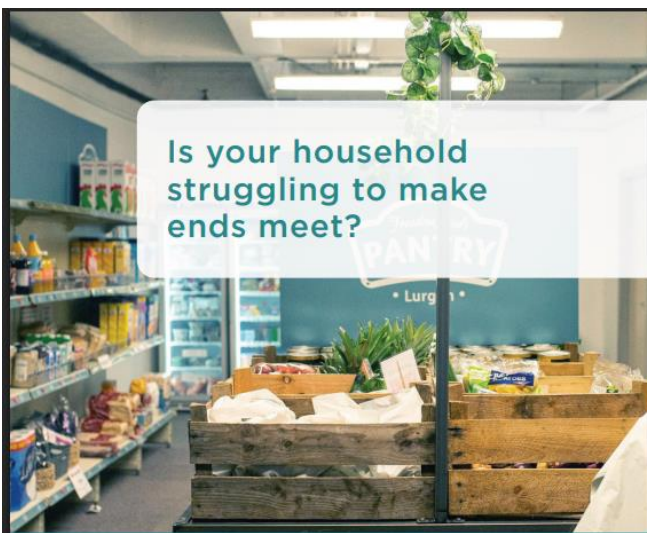
If still concerned
TALK TO THE PRINCIPAL

If still concerned
TALK OR WRITE TO THE CHAIRPERSON
OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

At any time you can talk to:
GATEWAY SERVICE FOR CHILDREN'S
SOCIAL WORK SERVICES
(Tel: 028 3756 7100)

NI PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN
(Tel: 0800343424)

In all cases of suspected child abuse, the Designated Teacher will seek guidance from Social Services and the Designated Officer for Child Protection in the EA which may result in a referral going to Social Services. School staff will not investigate the suspected abuse in accordance with the advice, guidelines and procedures currently given to schools.



Is your household struggling to make ends meet?

Whatever your circumstances, if you are struggling to make choices between household bills and food, please get in touch to discuss our memberships.

Please contact Amy at:
amy@emmanuel-church.co.uk
www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk

EMMANUEL
 Emmanuel Church, 23A Castle Lane
 Lurgan, 02838316998

Freedom Foods PANTRY
 • Lurgan •



WHAT IS PANTRY?

Pantry is a membership scheme where you pay a weekly fee of £5 for a single shop or £7 for a family shop and receive between 10-15 items that would normally cost £20 or more.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Pantry is for people who need to bring down their food shopping bills, and access good food, whilst freeing up money for other essentials and enabling tight budgets to stretch a little further. It allows people to stay afloat in tough times, rather than being swept into debt.

HOW DO I JOIN?

Go to www.yourlocalpantry.co.uk and choose Northern Ireland, Freedom Foods Pantry Lurgan from the sign up menu, email amy@emmanuel-church.co.uk or give us a call on 02838316998.

WHAT KIND OF FOOD IS THERE?

You will be able to choose from a selection of fresh, chilled, frozen and cupboard food. From fresh fruit and veg to tins, cereals, biscuits and bread you will have lots to choose from. We also offer a small range of cleaning materials, hygiene and sanitary products. You will have the choice of 3-5 higher priced items and 7-10 lower priced items as well as a choice of 3 fresh fruit or veg.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

Freedom Foods Pantry is open on a Tuesday evening from 7-8.30pm and a Wednesday morning from 11am-12.30pm. We operate on a cash only basis so having change would be much appreciated. Please bring your own bags as we are trying to reduce and reuse as much as possible. Due to the nature of our deliveries sometimes our food may have short dates so please check this when unpacking your shop.





PARENT
WORKSHOP



Worry to Wonder

Monday 2nd February, 10am-11.30am

Online via ZOOM

A workshop for parents of primary school aged children exploring why our children worry and ways we can support them.



CALL NOW TO BOOK

YOUR PLACE

0808 8020 400

