

Please ensure any child requiring inhalers or other medication that this is available to them in school. This may be left with the teacher for safekeeping or elsewhere with permission from the class teacher and completion of the relevant medical forms. Remember if your child is unwell, you should keep them at home. If your child presents as unwell in school, you will be contacted and asked to collect them.

\*As you may know, Mrs McKenna is still undergoing treatment for Leukaemia. As September is Blood Cancer Awareness Month, we intend to have a fun day of team games (Thurs 28th) for the children. This will take place in school, children can wear any sportswear of their choice and we will be asking for a minimum £2 donation to support the work of Leukaemia & Lymphoma NI. To help raise awareness, information leaflets will be sent home for the adults.

Later in the year, the PTA will be organising a fundraising event to support Friends of the Cancer Centre. Mrs McKenna selected this charity as they have been so helpful and supportive to her and her family.

All parents should check they have the Schools NI app on their phone and complete a test message to check you are receiving texts. If not, let us know so we can check details are accurate.

As you know school budgets are being cut. Schools are therefore becoming increasingly dependent on fundraising to purchase ‘luxury’ items or to subsidise buses, trips and external support or activities.

Last year the PTA paid for the buses for our end of year trips, Relax Kids and additional Accelerated Reader books. It also paid for ice-cream treats for the children during the sunny weather, Sports Day medals and P7 leavers awards and trophies.

This year we have already purchased Reading Eggs, which is an online reading program that helps children learn to read. Hundreds of online reading lessons, phonics games and books are available for our P2-P4 children. This program can be used both in school and at home. Teachers have been very busy engaging with the training to get the best use out of this program.

We continue to use the Accelerated Reader (AR) Programme with P5-P7 and intend to add to our range of titles and levels available. Children can also access levelled AR books from the local library.

Both programmes, which have proven results in supporting children’s literacy development, whilst also challenging every user at their personal level, requires the use of multiple devices in school. Unfortunately, an increasing number of our iPads can no longer support the new versions of these programmes and apps. Therefore, we need to update and add to the number of devices we currently hold. This will cost a considerable amount of money and we would be very thankful to everyone for their fundraising efforts.

So please do plan to attend the PTA AGM – many hands make light work and the benefits will be seen for all pupils with immediate effect and for many years to come.

