

Crawfordsburn Primary School

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**Acting Principal – Mr I A Sullivan
BA(Hons); PGCE; MEd; PQH(NI); FCMI**

Communication Development - via Seesaw and ParentMail

Dear Parents

September 2018

At Crawfordsburn we are continually trying to develop better ways of communicating with our whole school community. To this end, from 19 September 2018 we will be introducing the use of ParentMail, a service used by over 6,000 schools, nurseries and children's clubs to communicate to parents. ParentMail will be beneficial to you because you can:

- Use a mobile app on Android and iOS to pick up school messages instantly.
- Have an account simply for school messages (away from your busy email inbox!)
- Connect to other schools, nurseries or clubs that use ParentMail.
- Notify school electronically of any absence and the reason
- Highlight important messages, newsletters or archive old messages to make life easier.
- Messages can be sent directly to mums, dads and carers - even grandparents!

Registering with ParentMail is very easy! Over the next few days you will be sent either an email and/or text message from ParentMail. When you receive this, please just follow the instructions in the message.

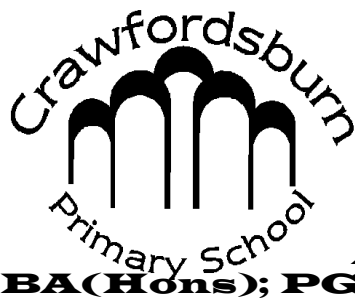
Please be assured that ParentMail is registered with the Information Commissioner and guarantees that all information you provide will be kept private and will not be passed on to any other organisation.

Once registered, if you have an Android or Apple smartphone, we would highly recommend you download the ParentMail App for the best user experience. To do this, simply search for "ParentMail" in your App store.

If you need any additional information or assistance, please visit the help site: www.parentmail.co.uk/help/parenthelp/ or if you have not received any contact from ParentMail within 7 days please contact Mrs Chivers in the school office.

In conjunction with ParentMail, we will again provide the Seesaw learning platform to all families, building on the very positive feedback we have received to date. For new parents, Seesaw is a class driven digital portfolio tool that allows teachers to capture and share pupil work, learning, photos and messages with parents. You will have the opportunity to comment or "like" items on your child's journal. This will help answer the age old question, "What did you do today in school?"

Nurturing potential...growing together.



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Please be aware of the following points, arising from our experiences to date.

*Our aim is to encourage, support and provide pupils with an opportunity to take pride in their work. Comments posted are solely for praising your child's efforts. Any concerns or queries should be addressed through the usual channels directly to the class teacher.

*Your child may appear on other children's Seesaw accounts, for example if they are photographed in a group activity. However, only the class teacher and yourself will have access to your child's account. You will have completed a permission form relating to the use of photographs etc in school and on the internet. **Signing on for the Seesaw account will be taken as agreement to, and acceptance of these conditions.**

*As with all photographs of children, other than your own, do not share these on the internet or on any form of social media.

See-saw download information, sign up details and QR codes will be made available at the Parent Year Group Meetings in early September. Seesaw will run on smart phone, tablet and PC.

A limited text messaging service will be available, but this is more of a backup, and mainly for emergency use, for example in the case of an enforced school closure etc. All circulars, dinner menus, clubs information, newsletters etc will be sent home using ParentMail.

We trust that these developments will prove a positive and rewarding experience, further strengthening the excellent links between home and school. Thank you in anticipation for your support and involvement.

Mr I Sullivan

Acting Principal