



**Principal: Dr Anne Cassidy**

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1<sup>st</sup> June 2023

Dear Parents

### **First Holy Communion**

Well done to all the P4 children who made their First Holy Communion on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The children were a credit to themselves, to their families and to their school. Thanks also to the choir who sang so well at the ceremonies.

### **Sports Day**

Our school's Sports Day will take place on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023 (weather permitting) over at the club. The classes will walk over to the pitch and races will begin about 9.30am and conclude about 11.30am for the P1-P3 classes and about 12.00 noon for the P4-P7 classes. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

### **Special Function to mark the Retirement of Mrs Roisin Gibney**

On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023 Carrick Primary School will hold a special event to mark the retirement of Mrs Roisin Gibney. The P1-7 children will be finishing school at 12.30pm on this day. Mrs Gibney worked for 22 years in Carrick Primary School and has given superb service to the school, its pupils, the staff, the parents and the community and has contributed so much to life in Carrick. We would like to make a presentation to Mrs Gibney on behalf of the pupils and parents to thank her for the excellent care and attention she gave to the children. We will also be making presentations on behalf of staff and Governors. If parents would like to contribute to the pupils'/parents' retirement gift for Mrs Gibney please send it in to Mrs O'Brien or Mrs Cassidy on or before Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

### **Visit by the Author- Ms Gemma Keir**



On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2023, Ms Gemma Keir visited Carrick Primary School. Ms Keir is the author of the renowned "The Abilities in Me" series of books. She spoke to the Primary 4 and Primary 5 children about inclusion and diversity and answered lots of questions about becoming an author and about the writing process. The children really enjoyed the occasion. Thanks to Ms Reid for including Carrick PS as part of her tour. Thanks also to Mrs Reilly and Eoghan (P4) for organising this event.

### **Online Payments**

In recent months the Education Authority were scoping an online payment solution for schools. However, this scheme has been halted indefinitely. Consequently, the school is working with external agents to try to source an online payment solution for September 2023.

### **Pentecost Sunday**

Well done to our Primary 7 pupils who attended Mass on Pentecost Sunday on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and received their Confirmation certificates. Thanks to the choir for singing so beautifully at this Mass.

### **Sponsored Skip Fundraising Day 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

The Friends of Carrick Committee members have organised a Sponsored Skip Fundraising Day on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023. The School Councillors will be selling skipping ropes each morning (£2.50 each) from 8.45-9.00am. There are plenty of skipping resources for the children to use in school for PE lessons and to use on 16/6/23, so there is no need to buy a skipping rope unless parents/children wish to buy one. The children can bring in their own resources if they wish (with their name on everything please) to use for practice sessions and to use on the Skipathon Day (16/06/23) or can use the school's resources.

Thanks to Mr Kevin McManus and the members of St Patrick's Boxing Club who came in recently and gave a brilliant skipping display at both assemblies. Each child has received a Sponsor Card. When they are returning their card and sponsorship money, please ask the children to call at the office for their reward. Thanks also to all the children (including Primary 2 children!) who volunteered to demonstrate some of their skipping skills at the assemblies.

Thanks to the Friends of Carrick for all their fundraising efforts. The money raised last year has been used to buy beautiful new play resources and art resources. The children are really benefitting from these especially the new Easy Read books, art resources and PE resources. Thanks to all the parents for supporting the events organised by Friends of Carrick. The Annual General Meeting is due to take place in September 2023 at 7pm. New members are very welcome. More details will follow.

### **Warrenpoint Library**

Many of our pupils participated in the Library's Summer Reading Challenge last year and enjoyed reading some fantastic books. We would encourage all parents to enrol their children in Warrenpoint Library and to access a super selection of quality books. Children can borrow up to 9 books at a time and the service is completely free. For more information, please call into Warrenpoint Library or visit [www.librariesni.org.uk](http://www.librariesni.org.uk).

This year the Summer Reading Challenge is targeted at Primary 4 children but we would encourage all children to complete the challenge and everyone who participated will receive their school certificate and an award at assembly in September 2023.

### **Sustrans Active School Travel Programme**

Our Big Walk and Wheel Challenge took place between Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May and Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023. Lots of the children completed 10 Active Sessions and the winners of the draw were: Méabh Nugent, James Hughes, Daithí Rowntree, Shauna Byrne, Noah Thompson, Kaiden Heath, Áine McAteer, Jack Toner, Cillian Moore, Estelle Woods, Oran Byrne, Heidi Fegan, Faye Gaffney and Isla Dunbar. Well done to these winners and to all participants.

### **Music Concert**

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00pm we will be having our Annual Music Concert. All our string, woodwind and brass musicians will be performing, and we will also be welcoming back some of our past pupils who are still making music! Good luck to the boys and girls who are working hard in preparation for this event.

### **P7 Pupils – Programme of Events**

As the Primary 7 children are in their last term in Carrick Primary School, they will be busy with a whole range of activities and events including:

Transition Programme: Moving On, Moving Up

Townlands Walk (12/06/23)

Movie Day

Games at St Mary's Club, Burren (19/06/23)

Football Competitions

Leavers' Mass (Tuesday 20/06/23 at 1.30pm in school)

Castlewellan Outdoor Pursuits Trip (22/06/23)

P7 Children Finish (27/06/23 at 12.30pm)

### **Visit by New Primary One Children to Carrick**

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2023 the new Primary One children, who will be starting school in September 2023, will be visiting Carrick in the afternoon. Our current Primary 1 children will be finishing school at 12.00noon on this day and will be getting their lunch/dinner at 11.45am.

### **ICT Coding Workshop**

On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023 some of our Primary 7 pupils participated in an ICT Coding Workshop in Our Lady's Grammar School. The children learned about coding and programming and heard about the career opportunities within this field. Thanks to Mr Gartland from Our Lady's for the invitation.

### **The Livestock and Meat Commission Cookery Demonstration**

On Friday 12/05/23 some of the Primary Seven pupils participated in a Cookery Class, which was provided by the Livestock and Meat Commission. The children enjoyed preparing and sampling the food!

### **Rights Respecting Week**

Rights Respecting Week took place from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and the children participated in a wide range of activities which promoted their awareness of children's rights and the role of the United Nations. The winners of the Rights Respecting competition were: Charlie Thompson, Ella McQuaid, Theo McDonnell, Rosie Walsh, Nina Farrell, Niall Devlin, Rebecca Rooney, Tom Cunningham, Tilly McLoughlin, Sophie McDevitt, Lottie Hughes, Ellie Laverty, Turlough Rowntree, Rosa McManus, Lauren Begley, Phillip Ward, Joe Toman, Emma Egan, Scarlett Kenny, Cillian Moore, Grace McGovern, Dara Grant, Daniel Coulter, Gemma McStay, Éabha Duffy, Molly Doherty and Eva O'Prey.

### **Maths and English Club**

The P6 Maths and English Club will run until November 2023. The children will be revising topics in Maths and English in these classes. All the P6 children are welcome to attend. Please send in a healthy snack for your child to eat prior to these classes and encourage the children to complete as much of the homework as possible. Please remind the children that they can use a dictionary and can ask for help when completing the homework for this club.

### **The Danny Murphy Cup Comes to Carrick Primary School**

On Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023, nine of the U20 Down/Burren players, who recently won the Danny Murphy Cup, when they beat Derry in the Ulster Final, came into Carrick for a special assembly. The players participated in a question-and-answer session and talked to the boys and girls about the importance of training hard and doing your very best. They also thanked Jim, Dan, David and Sean for all the advice, encouragement and hard work with the boys and girls. Mr Jim McGivern, Mr Seamus Murphy (Danny's brother) and Mrs Bernie Downey (Danny's sister) came in for the assembly and Mrs Downey told the boys and girls about the history of the Danny Murphy Cup. Thanks to the U20 players for bringing the Cup into Carrick and for inspiring the next generation of footballers.

### **Burren Football Gear**

Football gear for St Mary's Club, Burren is available from the club shop which is open each Thursday evening.

### **Hurling and Camogie Training/ Football Training**

Camogie/Hurling training sessions take place every Monday from 3.00-4.00pm for P4-7 pupils. Football training sessions take place every Friday (weather permitting) for P4-7 pupils. P4-5 football training takes place from 2.00-3.00pm at the school, while P6-7 football training takes place from 3.00-4.00pm at the club. Please encourage the children to avail of these great opportunities.

### **St Louis GAA Tournament**

Well done to the P6 boys from Carrick Primary School who participated in the St Louis Tournament on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The boys played some nice football but unfortunately were knocked out at the semi-final stage by St Joseph's Carnacaville who went on to win the Shield.

#### Match 1

Carrick Primary School 1 – 0

St Colman's Kilkeel 4 - 1

#### Match 2

Carrick Primary School 1 – 0

Grange 2 - 0

#### Match 3

Carrick Primary School 8 – 3

Killowen 0 - 0

#### Match 4

Carrick Primary School 2 – 1

Holy Cross Attical 0 - 0

#### Match 5 (Semi-Final of Shield)

Carrick Primary School 1 – 0

St Colman's Kilkeel 4 – 1

#### League Match Number 1

Well done to the boys and girls from Carrick Primary School who participated in the first League Match on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The children played St Ronan's Primary School, Newry and the results were as follows:

#### Boys' Match

Carrick Primary School 3 – 3

St Ronan's Primary School 2 - 5

#### Girls' Match

Carrick Primary School 9 – 4

St Ronan's Primary School 0 – 2

#### League Match Number 2

Thanks to Dan, Jim, David and Sean for all the coaching and encouragement. Good luck to the boys and girls in the forthcoming matches and tournaments.

### **Representative Matches**

Congratulations to Carla Cunningham, Darragh Murney and Caolan McBride who represented Carrick Primary School at the half time mini games on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023. Carla played in Pairc Esler at half time in the Down V Derry Ladies Match, while Darragh and Caolan played at half time in the Down v Carlow Senior Hurling Match. Well done to the three children who represented themselves, their families and their school so well!

### **Hurling and Camogie South Down Blitz**

Well done to the hurlers and camogs from Carrick Primary School who participated in the South Down Blitz on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2023.

The hurlers played against Hilltown, St Ronan's and Saval and won this South Down Blitz and qualified for the All-County Competition.

The panel included: - Mairtín McMahon, Aidan O'Hare, Caolan McBride, Darragh Murney, Conor Day, Conor McManus, Charlie Downey, James McKernan, Padraig McMahon, Thomas Rohrs, Daniel Doran, Fionn O'Loughlin, Daniel McCartan, Odhran McConville, Harrison Threlfall, Oran McBride and Aaron Mohan.

The camogs played against Bridge, Castlewellan and Ballyholland and were unlucky not to win this blitz.

The panel included: -Roise Moore, Elsie McClorey, Ellie Franklin, Aoife Farrell, Niamh Farrell, Saorla Rowntree and Niamh McManus.

Well done to all the boys and girls and thanks to Mrs A O'Hare, Mrs B O'Grady, Mr D McConville, Mr O Murney and Mr M Keohane for all the coaching and encouragement.

### **Primary 5 Readathon**

The Primary 5 participated in a Readathon on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2023. The children read the ten books listed below and competed in a quiz based on the books they had read.

The P5 Readathon books include: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, The Twits, Big Boots the Spider, The Dancing Bear, The Iron Man, The Flick of a Switch, The Hodgeheg, The Champion Storyteller, Floods and Ancient Egypt. Good luck to the Primary 5 children with their preparations for the Readathon. The winners were: **Joint 1<sup>st</sup> Place: The Fantastic Fantasy Readers:** Tommy Armstrong, Erin Harris, Mia Bottell, Tiarnan Stuart, Molly Rafferty, Leia Creaney and Darragh Dickson. **Joint 1<sup>st</sup> Place: The Chubby Chocolate Eaters:** James Gallagher, Isla Mohan, Selina Leddy, Leah White, Joe Toman, Fionn Magee, Leo Byrne and Aaron Strigockis. **Joint 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: The Super Storytellers:** Sadie McFerran, Cillian Moore, Anna Dunbar, Dara Cunningham, Elena Doran, Nadia Abouda, Tiernan Maguire and Megan Brown. **Joint 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: The Chunky Chumpers:** Harrison Threlfall, Cillian O'Connor, Oran McBride, Darragh Murtagh, Molly McDevitt, Noel McPolin, Charlie Smyth and Amelia Mooney.

### **Awards**

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2023 we will be holding our annual Awards Day. These awards complement our Awards Programme which runs throughout the school year and includes weekly and monthly awards, including Student of the Month Awards, ICT Awards, Easy Read Awards, Star Awards and Head Teacher's Awards.

### **School Dinners**

The cost of a school dinner is £2.60 per day or £13 per week. Please send in dinner money each Monday and please make cheques payable to Carrick Primary School. Prompt payment is very much appreciated.

### **Free School Meals/ Uniform/PE Uniform Assistance Application Forms**

Please see the Education Authority's website for information about free school meals/uniform allowances/PE uniform assistance. Additional information and help are available from the office for parents who wish to apply for meals and/or uniform assistance. Please apply even if there is only a small chance of success, as the school budget increases significantly if more children are receiving free school meals.

### **Health Needs**

**Children in many of the groups have severe nut allergies. Reactions can be fatal.** Consequently, we would ask you to avoid sending in nuts or nut products and would appreciate your co-operation with regard to this matter. If your child develops any allergies and/or any medical complaints during the course of the year, please let us know as soon as possible, so that we can take any necessary action.

### **Parking Spaces for Disabled Drivers**

We would like to ask all drivers to remember to always leave at least 1 disabled parking space free, at the front of the school, for disabled drivers. We would really appreciate your cooperation with this matter.

### **Child Protection/NSPCC**

The school's Designated Teacher for Child Protection is Mrs Kelly, while Mrs McPolin and Mr Keenan are the Deputy Designated Teachers for Child Protection. Mr G Murdock, Mrs P Sheehan and Mrs A Cassidy are the

Designated Governors for Child Protection. Please contact the Designated Teacher, Deputy Designated Teachers or any of Designated Governors if you have any Child Protection or Safeguarding concerns.

### **Books**

Thank you to those parents who have returned school textbooks, library books, easy reads or reading books and to those who have donated their own books which they no longer need. They are all very useful and are used to supplement our existing resources and make a huge difference to our class libraries.

### **Lego**

There has been a great resurgence in the children's interest in Lego. If any family has Lego which they no longer want, the school would certainly be able to put it to good use. Any donations of Lego would be very much appreciated.

### **McAnulty's Bus**

McAnulty's bus runs from the bottom of the Bridal Loanan, Warrenpoint (Leaving at 8.30am) and travels along the Upper Dromore Rd and up Milltown Street to Carrick Primary School each morning. In the afternoon, the bus leaves the school at 2.40pm and goes as far as St. Mark's High School. If you would like more information about this bus service, please contact McAnulty's on 028 417 52228.

### **Road Safety**

We are asking parents to reinforce road and vehicle safety messages at home, particularly in relation to wearing seatbelts on the bus and in the car and crossing roads safely.

### **Easy Fundraising**

Thank you for all those who have helped to raise funds for Carrick Primary School since October 2017 through the Easy Fundraising Scheme. We currently have over 100 supporters. Remember you can book hotels, flights, holiday tickets and can buy from many retailers including Tesco, Sainsbury, Amazon and make money for Carrick Primary School.

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3....

1. Go to [Easy Fund Raising Page](#) and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first, to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you have checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

Another option is to:

1. Go into your App Store;
2. Search Easy Fundraising;
3. Download;
4. Create an Account/Log in;
5. Click "Support a good cause";
6. Search Carrick Primary School; and
7. Click Support

There are no catches or hidden charges and Carrick Primary School would be really grateful for your donations. If you experience any difficulty registering with easyfundraising, please contact the school and we will be happy to assist.

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

During Term 3 the following extra-curricular activities will be available:

Monday	P4-7	Camogie/ Hurling Training	3.00-4.00pm
Tuesday	P6	Maths and English Club	3.00-4.15pm
Tuesday	P4-7	Art	3.00-4.00pm
Wednesday	P4-7	Soccer	3.00-4.00pm
Wednesday	P5-7	Choir	3.00-3.30pm
Fridays	P4/5	P6/7 Gaelic Football Training	2.00-3.00pm/ 3.00-4.00pm

### **Contact Numbers**

**We are currently updating our contact numbers on the school's computer system and would ask parents to inform the school of any changes throughout the year in relation to addresses, home telephone numbers, work telephone numbers and/or mobile numbers.**

### **Early Exits**

If a child is taken out of school early, could parents please: send in a note to inform the teacher or ring the school secretary; call at the office to collect your child; and also sign the exit book.

Many thanks for your continued support and cooperation.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Amanda Duffin

Mrs Mary McCann

Dr Anne Cassidy (Leadership Team)