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21<sup>st</sup> January 2019

Dear Parents

### **Applications for Primary One places in September 2019**

The online application process for places in Primary One in September 2019 is now open via [www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk) and will remain open until Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019. **Hard copies of the application form are also available from the office.** If you need any assistance with this process, please contact the school on 028 417 52448 or by email on [acassidy452@c2kni.net](mailto:acassidy452@c2kni.net)

### **Parents' Evening: Helping your Child with Handling Data Homework**

A Parents' Evening has been organised for Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2019 from 7.00-8.00pm. We would therefore invite all parents to attend this "Handling Data" Parents' Night as it promises to be an informative event, which will equip parents with many of the skills and resources which are needed to help children with their Handling Data homework.

**Tea/coffee will be served from 6.45pm onwards in the Assembly Hall. We are looking forward to seeing you there!**

### **Grandparents' Assembly**

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019 the P3 children will be presenting a special Grandparents' assembly at 1.30pm in the Assembly Hall. Grandparents, parents, friends and members of the community are invited to attend this special event. We thank God for the time and care Grandparents give to their grandchildren.

### **Christmas Play DVD**

A few copies of the P1/5/7 Christmas Plays 2018 are available from the school office at a cost of £6.

### **Complaints**

Despite our best efforts, sometimes parents have complaints. However, we would ask parents to bring any complaints that they may have to the attention of the Principal, Leadership Team or any other member of staff so that we can deal with your complaint. This would be very much appreciated.

### **School Fees**

Thank you to all the parents who have sent in school fees so far (69% of families). It has been the tradition for parents to make an annual voluntary contribution to the school, to help to supplement the school budget, which has decreased by £71000 over the past 3 years. The fee for one pupil is £25, two pupils £40 and more than two pupils £45 and this is used to buy essential school resources. Thank you so much for all your support, it is very much appreciated. If you haven't yet sent in your school fees, could you send them in as soon as possible please.

### **Maths and English Club**

The P6 Maths and English Club began on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2019 from 3.00-4.15pm. Please send in a healthy snack for your child to eat before the club starts.

### **P6 Parents' Meeting re. GL Assessments**

A meeting for the P6 parents has been organised for Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019 from 2.15-2.45pm in relation to the GL Assessments which will take place in November 2019.

### **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.

### **Join the Library**

Many of our pupils participated in Warrenpoint Library's Summer Reading Challenge 2018 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)

### **Child Protection Safeguarding Team**

Mrs Claire Kelly is the Designated Teacher for Child Protection/Safeguarding while Mrs Patricia McPolin and Mr David Keenan are the Deputy Designated Teachers for Child Protection/Safeguarding. Please contact the Designated Teachers or any member of staff if you have any concerns re Child Protection/ Safeguarding.

### **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 in addresses, home telephone numbers, work telephone numbers and/or mobile numbers.**

### **Healthy Schools**

Carrick Primary School is involved in the Healthy Schools initiative. Could parents please send in healthy snacks for break time. The children are also encouraged to bring in a bottle of water to school each day. Fruit Fridays will take place on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

### **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.

### **Burren Football Gear**

Football gear for St Mary's Club, Burren is available from Mr James McGrath (07720812991).

### **Archived Videos**

We have archived videos of over 33 school plays and events from 1994 onwards. These are available via the internet. Please google Carrick Primary School Vimeo to access these lovely memories!

### **Traffic at Hometime**

Can we ask all those dropping off or collecting children at the school, to be extra careful and to observe the normal rules of a roundabout. Children must not disembark or climb into cars until cars have parked. We appreciate that it can be frustrating having to wait in the queue until the traffic moves on but we would ask everyone to exercise caution so as to try and avoid accidents. **Could we also ask drivers to ensure that parking spaces are always available at the front of the school for disabled drivers.**

### **St Vincent de Paul**

St Vincent de Paul has asked us to let parents know that they can provide assistance to any family in need. Please contact St Vincent de Paul on 028 302 67590 or on 07562069337 if you would like any further information.

### **Blood Donation Event**

**The next Blood Donation Event is scheduled for Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019 from 1.15-4.15pm and 5.00-8.00pm. Please come along to this event and make it even more successful than our previous sessions.**

### **GAA**

If anyone has football boots at home which their sons or daughters have outgrown please leave them into school as we have some pupils who occasionally forget their boots and need to borrow some from the store. We would appreciate this.

### **Pyjamas Day**

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019, the school will be having a Pyjamas Day and will be enjoying a disco, cookies and milk/juice. Many thanks to Friends of Carrick for organising this event which the children always enjoy.

### **Rights Respecting Schools (RRS): January 2019**

Carrick Primary School aims to be a school where every child is developed holistically and children's wellbeing is a primary concern. As part of our school's aims to promote a happy and successful school, we are working towards a "**Rights Respecting School Award**" which is given to schools on behalf of UNICEF. We have attached the School Council's Newsletter, which provides lots of information about the RRS Project.

**UNICEF** is the world's leading organisation working for children and their rights. In 1989, governments worldwide promised all children the same rights by adopting **the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)**. These rights are based on what a child needs to survive, grow, participate and fulfil their potential.

The 'Rights Respecting School' award (RRSA) will help the children of our community to grow into confident, caring and responsible young citizens both in school and within the wider community. While learning about their rights, our pupils also learn about the importance of respecting the rights of others and also consider their responsibilities.

In Carrick Primary School, pupils are encouraged to reflect on how their behaviour and actions affect those around them, which allows us to build and maintain a positive and safe learning environment for all, both in the classroom and around the school site. As part of our RRS work, in consultation with our school, charters which outline expectations in the classroom, around the school and beyond the school, have been rewritten in consultation with pupils and staff. Pupils have also worked with their classmates to create their own class charters and have started developing an understanding of their rights and responsibilities in school.

There is also a dedicated area on our school website [www.carrickprimaryschool.com](http://www.carrickprimaryschool.com), which houses lots of information about our Rights Respecting School Project.

We really hope that you will feel able to support us in working towards our goal of being a 'Rights Respecting School'.

**If you would like more information about the work of UNICEF or a Rights Respecting School then please visit: [www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa](http://www.unicef.org.uk/rrsa).**

### **Holidays in Term 2 and 3**

Arrangements for Mid-Term break are as follows:

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019 - Holiday

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2019 - School Development Day 3 (Children on Holiday)

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019 - School Development Day 4 (Children on Holiday)

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019 - Holiday

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019 - School Development Day 5 (Children on Holiday)

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2019 – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019 (Inclusive) Easter Holidays

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019 - Baker Day 3 (Children on Holiday)

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019 -Term 3 starts for children

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019 - Baker Day 4 (Children on Holiday)

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2019 - Holiday

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2019 - Baker Day 5 (Children on Holiday)

### **Preparation for Confirmation 2019**

The Primary Seven children are preparing for their Confirmation. We will be including these young people in a special way in a number of our weekend Masses. By doing this we hope to show them our support and encouragement as they approach this important, religious moment in their lives. The details are as follows:

#### **Mass 1: Moved by the Spirit**

**Church:** St Mary's Church, Burren

**Date and Time:** Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 10.00am

#### **Mass 2: Called by Name**

**Church:** St Mary's Church, Burren

**Date and Time:** Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 7.30pm

### **Confirmation Ceremony**

**Church:** St Mary's Church, Burren

**Date and Time:** Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 6.00pm

### **Preparation for First Holy Communion 2019**

The Primary Four children are preparing for their First Holy communion and as part of their preparation, will be participating in two special masses as detailed below:

#### **Mass 1: Enrolment**

**Church:** St Mary's Church, Burren

**Date and Time:** Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2019 at 7.30pm

#### **Mass 2: We Celebrate Jesus' Love For Us**

**Church:** St Mary's Church, Burren

**Date and Time:** Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 10.00am

### **First Holy Communion Ceremony**

**Church:** St Mary's Church, Burren

**Date and Time:** Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2019 at 11.00am

Everyone is welcome to attend.

### **First Holy Communion**

A number of parents have approached the school to say that they have Communion dresses which could be lent out to any family who wanted to borrow a dress for First Holy Communion. Please feel free to contact the Principal's office, and this can be arranged confidentially.

### **Extra-Curricular Activities**

During Term 1 the following extra-curricular activities will be available:

Mondays	P4-7	Soccer	3.00-4.00pm
Mondays	P4/5	ICT	3.00-4.00pm
Tuesdays	P6	Maths and English Club	3.00-4.15pm
Tuesdays	P4-7	Art	3.00-4.00pm
Tuesdays	P4-7	Tennis	3.00-4.00pm
Wednesdays	P5-7	Choir	3.00-3.30pm
Thursdays	P4-7	Gymnastics Class	3.00-4.00pm
Fridays	P4-7	Camogie/ Hurling Training	3.00-4.00pm
Fridays	P4/5	P6/7 Gaelic Football Training	(Indoor) 3.00-4.00pm

Notes will be circulated to the pupils, which will provide more details about the activities on offer.

Many thanks for your continued support and cooperation.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Amanda Duffin

Mrs Mary McCann

Mrs Anne Cassidy

(Leadership Team)