



Principal: Dr Anne Cassidy

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31st March 2023

Dear Parents

Confirmation

Well done to all the Primary 7 children who made their Confirmation on Thursday 30th March 2023. The children worked really hard in preparation for this Sacrament and were a credit to themselves, their families and the school. Thank you to the choir who sang beautifully and really enhanced the Confirmation Ceremony.

First Holy Communion

The First Holy Communion Ceremonies will take place as follows:

Saturday 6th May 2023 at 11.00am (Mrs O'Hare's Class)

Saturday 6th May 2023 at 1.00pm (Mrs O'Grady's Class)

We wish the Primary 4 classes the best of luck with their preparations for First Holy Communion in May.

St Patrick's Day Concert

Well done to all those who participated in our Annual St Patrick's Day Concert. The P2 classes performed a lovely assembly which told the story of St Patrick's life and his work in Ireland, spreading Christianity. There was also Irish Dancing, singing and music. The children and staff really enjoyed the concert. Thanks to Mrs Duffin for coordinating the concert and to all the staff and pupils for their hard work preparing for the event.

Healthy Me Week/Healthy Schools Initiative

Healthy Me Week took place from Monday 6th March - Friday 10th March 2023. The children participated in a wide range of activities which promoted good physical and mental health. Thanks to Tesco for sponsoring this event by providing some water, bananas, oranges and apples for the children and to Lucy Magee (Primary 7) for writing to Tesco to request this sponsorship.

The winners of the Healthy Me Art Competition were: Bran Lennon, Ella McQuaid, Clara McCartan, Chloe Farrell, Daíthi Rowntree, Isla Murtagh, Niamh McCaul, Aoife McGovern, Darragh McCartan, James Murney, Sorcha Ruddy, Leah White, Tiernan Maguire, Grace McGovern, Caitlin Byrne, Conor McManus, Aidan O'Hare, Beibhinn Rocks and Ardan O'Loughlin. Well done!

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.

Good Manners Week

Good Manners Week took place from Monday 27th March - Friday 31st March 2023. The children were busy completing a variety of activities celebrating good manners and highlighting the importance of good manners. The winners of the Good Manners Art

Competition were: Thomas Rohrs, Isla Dunbar, Aaron Mohan, Gemma McStay, Aileen Trainor, Dara Grant, James Gallagher, Leah White, Anna Dunbar, Thomas Short, Fionn Heaney, Eva McKernan, Polly McCoy, Caleb Rafferty, Erin McGivern-Markey, Daniel Magee, Ava Matthews, Kayla Doherty, Keeva McBride, Joe Murtagh, Oisín Downey, Moya Ennis, Mattie McGreevy, Evie Walsh, Olivia Curran and Charlie Thompson.

The children who were rewarded for consistently showing good manners were: Casey Campbell, Anna McGivern, Harry Rafferty, Saoirse Morgan, Erin Kelly, Abbey Cunningham, Cillian O'Connor, Erin Harris, Rhys O'Rourke, Ciara Kelly, Arthur McGovern, Flynn Connolly, Arthur Kelly, Molly Murney, Michael McGovern, Charlie Thompson, Amira Abouda, Daniel Coulter, Frankie O'Hare, Siofra Trainor, Eimear McCaul, Annie McMahan, Logan Burns, Dara Cunningham, Nadia Abouda, Sadie McFerran, Darragh McCartan, Georgia McManus, Saoirse Murtagh, Jack McConville, Caleb White, Mya Mulholland, Polly McCoy, Sophie Knox, Daithi Nagle, Shannon Doyle, Evelyn Berger Dynes, Tommy O'Hare, Arthur Brien, Conor Taggart and Danny Clerkin.

Sports Day

Sports Day has been scheduled for Friday 9th June 2023 (weather permitting), at St Mary's GAC, Burren. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

Bring 'n' Buy Sale

On Tuesday 4th April 2023 there will be a Bring 'n' Buy Sale and there will be books, toys, bric-a-brac and buns/biscuits for sale. Please send in any books, ornaments, packets of biscuits, toys or bric-a-brac which the P7 pupils and the School Councillors can sell.

Easter Raffle

The Friends of Carrick Committee Members have organised the Annual Easter Raffle and it will take place on Wednesday 5th April 2023. Raffle tickets are 50p each. Each class will have Easter Eggs as prizes for the class raffles. There will be a large Smarties Easter Egg for each Key Stage Raffle and there will be a Lindt Gold Bunny Easter Egg and lots of other prizes for the whole school raffle.

The money raised from these events (Raffles and Bring 'n' Buy Sale) will go towards Trocaire and school funds and it will also be used to pay for the Down GAA football coach who is in school each week. There will be no Down GAA Schools' Draw this year.

Easter Egg Hunt

The School Councillors have organised an Easter Egg Hunt for Wednesday 5th April 2023, immediately after the Class Raffles, the Key Stage Raffles and the Whole School Raffle. The children have to hunt high and low, for cardboard Easter Eggs and when they have found all the eggs, they can exchange them for a basket of chocolate eggs.

Boys' Indoor Football

On Wednesday 22nd March 2023 the boys participated in Round 2 of the Indoor Football Competition, which was played in Burren Hub.

The results were as follows:

Carrick Primary School	5 – 4	Saul	0 – 1
Carrick Primary School	0 – 2	Saval	0 – 2
Carrick Primary School	1 – 2	Loughinisland	0 – 4
Carrick Primary School	1 – 3	Hilltown	1 – 2

Semi-Final: Carrick Primary School 2 – 3 Maghermayo 2 – 5

The panel included: Pádraig McMahon, Charlie Downey, Darragh Murney, Máirtín McMahon, James McKernan, Mattie O'Hare, Conor Murtagh and Daniel Byrne. Good luck to Maghermayo who won

the County Down Indoor title and represented Down in the Ulster Indoor Competition on Tuesday 28th March 2023.

Boys' Football

On Monday 27th March the boys played against Clonduff in the semi-final of the Canon Esler Football Championship. The boys played well and won their match with a scoreline of Carrick Primary School 5 – 8 v Hilltown 1 – 4. The boys now play Kilcoo in the Canon Esler Final.

Burren Football Gear

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

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.

Primary 5 Readathon

The Primary 5 children are preparing for their Readathon event in May 2023. The children are reading the ten books listed below and will compete in a quiz based on the books they have 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.

School Dinners

The cost of a school dinner is £2.60 per day or £13 per week. 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.

Sustrans Active School Travel Programme

On Friday 10th February 2023 we had a Feet First Event and 88% of the children participated in this event. Well done! Our next Feet First Event is scheduled for Friday 21st April 2023 and everyone is invited to walk/cycle/scoot to school or part of their journey. While we are encouraging children to walk/cycle/scoot to school, we are mindful that many of our roads, including Milltown Street, do not have continuous footpaths. Mr Declan McAteer (School Governor) is currently working with Roads Service, trying to secure funding for footpaths along Milltown Street. It would be very much appreciated if parents would write to or email the school to highlight the need for these footpaths, as these letters/emails will be used to strengthen the case being made for this project. Thank you to those parents who have already sent in letters/emails to highlight their concerns.

Road Safety

We are asking parents to continue 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. Please be patient when there is congestion at the school, especially at busy pick up/drop off times and consider (where possible) asking the children to walk up to/down from school to ease congestion at the roundabout.

St Vincent de Paul

St Vincent de Paul can provide assistance for any family in need. Please contact St Vincent de Paul on 028 302 67590 or on 07562069337 if you would like any further information. We recently received a donation of £1500 from St Vincent de Paul. This money will be used to reduce the cost of each child's end of year school trip by £4. This will be a great help to families. We would like to thank St Vincent de Paul for this donation and all those who support their fundraising efforts.

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.

Online Payments

The Education Authority is currently scoping an online payment solution for school. It is hoped that a contract will be in place shortly and schools will not have to pay for this service. We will keep you updated about this much anticipated development.

School Fees

Thank you to all the parents who have sent in school fees so far. It has been a tradition for parents to make an annual voluntary contribution to the school, to help supplement the school budget, which has decreased significantly over the past few 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. Please send in any remaining school fees.

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.

Extra-Curricular Activities

During Term 2 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

Holidays

The school will close for Easter at 12.00 noon on Thursday 06/04/23. McAnulty's Bus will be leaving at 11.45am. Thursday 06/04/23 is a non-uniform Day.

April -	Friday 07/04/23 –	Easter Holidays (Inclusive)
	Monday 17//04/23	
	Monday 17/04/23	School Development Day 3 (Children on Holiday)
	Tuesday 18/04/23	Term 3 starts for Children

May -	Monday 01/05/23	Holiday
	Monday 08/05/23	Holiday (Coronation)
	Thursday 18/05/23	Holiday (Local Elections)
	Monday 29/05/23	School Development Day 4 (Children on Holiday)
	Tuesday 30/05/23	School Development Day 5 (Children on Holiday)

- Carrick Primary School is due to close for the Summer Holidays at 12 noon on Friday 30th June 2023.

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 Road and up Milltown Street to Carrick Primary School each morning and completes the reverse of this journey each evening, leaving the school at 2.40pm. If you would like more information about this bus service, please contact McAnulty's on 028 417 52228.

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.

Easy Fundraising

Thank you for all those who have helped to raise funds for Carrick Primary School through the Easy Fundraising Scheme. You can buy presents, book hotels, flights, holiday tickets and can buy from many retailers including Tesco, Sainsburys, Amazon and many others and make money for Carrick Primary School.

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

1. Go to [Easy Fundraising 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 easy fundraising, please contact the school and we will be happy to assist.

Join the Library

Many of our pupils participated in Warrenpoint 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.

Many thanks for your continued support and cooperation.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Amanda Duffin

Mrs Mary McCann

Dr Anne Cassidy (Leadership Team)