



Principal: Dr Anne Cassidy

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4th March 2025

Dear Parents

Meeting for P6 Parents re. SEAG Entrance Assessments

On Wednesday 12th March 2025 there will be a meeting for P6 parents from 2.15-2.45pm in the Assembly Hall. The purpose of this meeting is to provide information for P6 parents in relation to the SEAG/GL Entrance Assessments, which are due to take place in November 2025. Attendance at this meeting is optional.

Technology Week

Monday 24th February 2025-Friday 28th February 2025 was Technology Week in Carrick and the children in each class enjoyed many technological challenges! Well done to everyone for participating so fully in the technology challenges. The winners of the technology competition were: David Zanfir, Ted Murtagh, Cliodhna McMahon, Luka Rooney, James Toman, Shay Egan, James Hughes, Georgia McManus, Mav McCartan, Ailbe McGovern, Roise Evers, Molly Murney, Rose McKernan, Noah McMahon, Cillian McStay, Cushla Kelly, Zac Bottell, Finn Murtagh, Annie McKinney, Darcey Cousins, Mia Bottell, Tommy Armstrong and Ellie McPolin.

Complaints

Despite our best efforts, parents sometimes have complaints. However, we would ask parents to bring any complaints which 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. The Parental Complaints Policy is available on the school's website and from the office.

Bring 'n' Buy Sale

On Tuesday 15th April 2025 there will be a Bring 'n' Buy Sale in the Assembly Hall and there will be books, toys, bric-a-brac and buns/biscuits for sale. Please send in any books, packets of biscuits, toys or bric-a-brac which the P7 pupils and the School Councillors can sell. Please send in any buns or perishable items for the Bring 'n' Buy Sale on Monday 14th April or Tuesday 15th April 2025.

Easter Raffle

The Friends of Carrick Committee Members have organised the Annual Easter Raffle and it will take place on Wednesday 16th April 2025. Raffle tickets are 50p each. Each class will have Easter Eggs as prizes for the class raffles. There will be a large Maltesers 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.

Easter Egg Hunt

The School Councillors have organised an Easter Egg Hunt for Wednesday 16th April 2025, 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. Thank you to Friends of Carrick and staff for sponsoring this event and also for donating prizes for the raffle.

Credit Union Quiz

On Friday 7th February 2025, sixteen of our P6/P7 pupils participated in the Annual Credit Union Quiz and performed extremely well. Good luck to all the boys and girls (P6 Team 2 and P7 Team 2) who will be representing our school in Round 2 of the Credit Union Quiz in Armagh on Saturday 8th March 2025.

The quiz teams were as follows:

P6 Team 1 – 3rd Place in P6 Section	P6 Team 2– 1st Place in P6 Section	P7 Team 1– 2nd Place in P7 Section	P7 Team - 1st Place in P7 Section
Alfie Friel	Ollie Laverty	Anna Dunbar	Darragh McMeel
Áine McAteer	Sean Gribben	Oran McBride	Roise Moore
Phillip Ward	Ryan Matthews	Freya Rohrs	Harrison Threlfall
Ben Heaney	Eimear McCaul	Cillian O’Connor	Selina Leddy

Road Safety NI Quiz 2025

On Friday 21st February 2025 three of our Primary 7 children participated in the Road Safety NI Quiz. Our Quiz Team consisted of Cliona McStay, Mollie McDevitt and Erin Harris. The girls performed very well and enjoyed the experience very much.

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.

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.

Boys’ Indoor Football

Round 1 of boys’ Indoor Football Competition took place on Friday 28th February 2025 in Burren Hub. The boys played some great football and qualified for Round 2 which will take place on Friday 7th March 2025. The results were as follows:

Match 1	Carrick Primary School 1-5	V	St Mary’s, Rathfriland	1-1
Match 2	Carrick Primary School 3-3	V	St Colman’s, Saval	1-1
Match 3	Carrick Primary School 4-3	V	St Patrick’s Mayobridge	1-0
Match 4	Carrick Primary School 5-2	V	St Ronan’s, Newry	0-2
Match 5	Carrick Primary School 4-4	V	St Patrick’s Drumgreenagh	1-2
Match 6	Carrick Primary School 6-1	V	St Patrick’s Hilltown	3-2

The panel included: Thomas Short, Cillian O’Connor, Connor O’Hare, Leo Byrne, James Murney, Darragh Murtagh, Harrison Threlfall and Darragh McMeel.

Well done to the boys and thanks to Mr Murdock, Mr Keenan, Mr McGivern and Mr McCartan for all the coaching and encouragement.

Cumann na mBunscol Indoor Hurling

Well done to our panel of girls who took part in the Cumann na mBunscol Indoor Camogie Competition on Thursday 20th February 2025.

The results were as follows:

Match 1	Carrick Primary School 1	V	St Patrick's, Mayobridge	4
Match 2	Carrick Primary School 0	V	St Patrick's, Meadow	0
Match 3	Carrick Primary School 2	V	Ballyholland	1
<u>Semi-Final</u>				
Match 4	Carrick Primary School 0	V	St Patrick's, Meadow	1
	(After extra time)			

The girls played some great camogie and really enjoyed their matches.

The panel included: Róise Moore, Elena Doran, Molly Rafferty, Grace McManus, Kate McGovern, Polly McCoy, Cara Doyle and Niamh McManus.

Well done to all the girls and many thanks to Mrs A O'Hare, Mrs B O'Grady, Miss N McGuigan, Mr D McConville and Mr Darragh Murney for all the coaching and encouragement.

Football Boots

We have lots of football boots of all sizes in the ball store in school. If anyone needs a pair, please call at the office or send in a note detailing the size required.

Burren Football Gear

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

Healthy Me Week/Healthy Schools Initiative

Healthy Me Week takes place from Monday 10th March-Friday 14th March 2025. The children will be participating in a wide range of activities which promote good physical and mental health. Thanks to Tesco for sponsoring this event by providing some water, bananas, oranges and apples for the children. Thanks also to Freya Röhrs (P7) for writing to Tesco to request this sponsorship.

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.

Primary 7 Readathon

The Primary 7 children enjoyed their Readathon event on Monday 24th February 2025. The children read ten books and competed in a quiz based on the books they had read. The P7 Readathon book list included: Goodnight Mister Tom, The Sheep Pig, My Guineapig is Innocent, Race Against Time, Let's go to the Planets, Animals and Us, Cup Winners, The Spirit of the Titanic, Under the Hawthorn Tree and Fables from Africa.

The winning teams were:

1st Place (Mr Murdock's Class): Cara Doyle, Oran McBride, Harrison Threlfall, Niamh McManus and Joe Toman

1st Place (Mrs Doran's Class): Harry McCormick, Evie Connolly, Tommy Armstrong, Anna Dunbar, Elena Doran and Tiernan Maguire

2nd Place (Mr Murdock's Class): Isla Mohan, Emma Fegan, Cliona McStay, James Gallagher and Charlie Smyth

2nd Place (Mrs Doran's Class): Grace Magee, Scarlett Kenny, Megan Brown, Freya Röhrs and Summer Leddy

Good luck to our Primary 5 children who will be participating in a Readathon on Thursday 10th April 2025.

Concussion Awareness – Who Needs to Know

The Department of Education has requested that all schools should contact parents/guardians to highlight the dangers of a concussion injury. Concussion is a brain injury which is usually caused by hitting one's head or by a fall. It can happen at any time, anywhere: for example, during sports, in the school playground, or at home. Concussion must always be taken seriously and it is vitally important that any child/young person suspected of having concussion should **immediately** be stopped from continuing whatever activity they are doing and be assessed. A second injury, when a child has

concussion, can be extremely serious and may even be fatal. Children should not resume physical activities such as Physical Education (PE), sports or games if they have concussion. Concussion may also affect your child's ability to learn at school. Medical clearance should be sought before the child returns to school. Symptoms vary from child to child and a graduated return to school may be needed. The **'Recognise and Remove'** leaflet produced by the Department of Education and the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure is available on the Department of Education's website www.education-ni.gov.uk and provides guidance on the signs to look out for. Keeping everyone informed about concussion is in your child's best interests and parents/guardians have a key role in making sure that information is passed on to their child's teacher, sports coach, youth leader or other care provider.

Child Protection

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. Through our safeguarding programme, children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or to Childline. If you would like to know more about our safeguarding programme, please contact the school.

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.

Dates for Confirmation and First Holy Communion

Confirmation	First Holy Communion
Thursday 20 th March 2025 at 6pm	Saturday 3 rd May 2025 at 11.00am

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.

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.

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/P7 Maths and English Club	3.00-4.15pm
Wednesday	P4-7 Soccer	3.00-4.00pm
Wednesday	P5-7 Choir	3.00-3.45pm
Fridays	P4/5 P6/7 Gaelic Football Training	2.00-3.00pm/ 3.00-4.00pm

Calendar 2024-2025 (March-June)

March	Monday 17/03/25	Holiday
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April	Friday 18/04/25 – Monday 28/04/25	Easter Holidays (Inclusive)
	Monday 28/04/25	School Development Day 2 (Children on Holiday)
	Tuesday 29/04/25	Term 3 starts for Children
May	Monday 05/05/25	Holiday
	Monday 26/05/25	School Development Day 3 (Children on Holiday)
	Tuesday 27/05/25	School Development Day 4 (Children on Holiday)
June	Monday 30/06/25	School Development Day 5 (Children on Holiday)

- Carrick Primary School is due to close for pupils for the Summer Holidays at 12 noon on Friday 27th June 2025

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.

Many thanks for your continued support and cooperation.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Amanda Duffin

Mrs Mary McCann

Dr Anne Cassidy (Leadership Team)