



Principal: Dr A Cassidy

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4th November 2022

Dear Parents

New School Council

Congratulations to our new School Councillors who were recently elected, including:

Class	Name
P4 Mrs O'Grady	Olivia Devlin
P4 Mrs O'Hare	Lottie Benson
P5 Mrs Doyle	Tommy Armstrong
P5 Mr Mullin	Aimee Murtagh
P6 Mr Keenan	Emma Day
P6 Mrs Harkin	Aideen Trainor
P7 Mrs Doran	Padraig McMahon (Headboy) Casey Campbell (Chairperson) Annie McMahon (Secretary) Sarah Byrne Eabha Duffy Maírtín McMahon Fionn O'Loughlin Beibhinn Rocks Sarah McGovern
P7 Mr Murdock	Lucy Gribben (Headgirl) Daniel Byrne (Vice Chairperson) Shane McGovern (Vice Chairperson) Noah Gray

	Connor Woods (Treasurer)
	Eva O'Prey
	Lucy Magee
	Sophie Short
	Darcey O'Leary

Altar Severs

On Sunday 23rd October, twelve of our P5-P7 pupils were enrolled as Altar Servers in St Mary's Church, Burren. The children had previously attended training on Friday 14th October 2022. Please let us know if any other P5-P7 pupils would like to become an Altar Server.

Mission Sunday

On Mission Sunday (23rd Oct 2022) a number of the children participated in the Prayers of the Faithful and the Offertory. They also put up a display about Missionaries from the parish of Burren and from the surrounding parishes.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Parent Teacher meetings will take place in Oct/Nov 2022-2023. In the meantime, if parents have any issues or concerns, please contact your child's class teacher or the principal on acassidy452@c2kni.net

Preparations for GL Assessments

Best of luck to the P7's who have applied for the GL Assessments on Saturday 12th November 2022.

Panto – Visit to the Grand Opera House

On Thursday 12th January 2023 (P3/4) and Friday 13th January 2023 (P5-7) the pupils will be visiting the Grand Opera House to see the Pantomime Cinderella. Thank you to St Vincent de Paul who have made a significant donation to the school to help parents with the cost of trips. Many thanks!

Football Boots / New Cul Camp School Bags

We have lots of football boots of all sizes in the ball store in school, if anyone needs a pair. We also have some new Cul Camp school bags (also in the ball store) which have been donated to the school. Please help yourselves.

Hallowe'en Fancy Dress Parade and Disco

On Friday 28th October the children enjoyed a Fancy Dress Parade and Hallowe'en disco. **The children were asked to bring in a minimum donation of £1 to participate in the Hallowe'en Parade and disco and raised a fantastic £541, so far, for the Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust. Many thanks for your generosity!**

Board of Governors' Annual Report

The Board of Governors' Annual Report for 2021-2022 has been completed and has been uploaded onto the school's website. Hard copies are also available from Mrs Cassidy, upon request.

Dates for First Confession, Confirmation and First Holy Communion

First Confession	Confirmation	First Holy Communion
Wednesday 16 th November 2022 at 7.00pm (Mrs O'Hare's Class)	Thursday 30 th March 2023 at 6pm (Both P7 classes)	Saturday 6 th May 2023 at 11.00am (Mrs O'Hare's Class)
Thursday 17 th November 2022 at 7.00pm (Mrs O'Grady's Class)		Saturday 6 th May 2023 at 1.00pm (Mrs O'Grady's Class)

Open Day and Christmas Fayre: Saturday 10th December 2022

Carrick Primary School is holding an Open Day and Christmas Fayre on Saturday 10th December 2022 from 10.00am-2.00pm. Everyone is very welcome to attend. This is a great opportunity for prospective pupils and their families and friends to view the school and meet pupils and staff members. Please feel free to come along to this event. It promises to be most enjoyable.

The application process for children who have reached or will reach their fourth birthday on or before 1st July 2023 is online and will be open from Tuesday 10th January until Friday 27th January 2023 (12 noon). If you need any assistance with this process, please contact the Principal on 028 417 52448. For more information about Carrick Primary School please visit our website www.carrickprimaryschool.com.

Friends of Carrick's Christmas Fayre

Friends of Carrick Committee members have organised a Christmas Fayre on Saturday 10th December 2022 from 10am-2pm in the assembly hall. If you would like to find out more about Friends of Carrick, ask at the office or contact the Principal by email on acassidy452@c2kni.net or by phone on 02841752448.

Anti-Bullying Week: Monday 7th November - Friday 11th November 2022

During Anti-Bullying week the children will be discussing the issue of bullying and will be exploring, through Circle Time and other class activities, how to recognise bullying. There will also be activities which are designed to help the children develop the skills which are needed to deal appropriately with bullying behaviour. Please talk to your children about this issue and feel free to contact the Principal via email if you have any concerns.

Friday 11th November 2022 is Odd Socks Day. The children (and staff) are asked to wear odd socks on this day to highlight the importance of individuality and to promote acceptance and tolerance.

Action Mental Health

The Primary 5 and Primary 6 pupils attended "Healthy Me" workshops on Monday 24th October and Tuesday 25th October as part of the school's strategy to promote good mental and physical health. The children really enjoyed the activities on offer and benefitted significantly from them. In January 2023 the Primary 2 and Primary 3 pupils will also be participating in "Healthy Me" workshops as part of our Wellbeing Project. Thanks to Mr C Loughran and the Menssana Team for providing these workshops!

School Fees

Thank you to all the parents who have sent in school fees so far. It has been the tradition for parents to make an annual voluntary contribution to the school, to help to supplement the school budget. These donations are very much appreciated and are used to buy essential classroom and play resources. Please send in any remaining school fees by Friday 11th November 2022.

Calendar 2022-2023 (December-June)

December /January-	Monday 05/12/22	Holiday
	Friday 23/12/22 - Thursday 05/01/23	Christmas Holidays for Children (Inclusive)
January -	Thursday 05/01/23	Baker Day 5 (Children on Holiday)
	Friday 06/01/23	Term 2 starts for Children
February -	Wednesday 15/02/23 - Monday 20/02/23	Mid-Term Holidays for Children (Inclusive)
	Monday 20/02/23	School Development Day 1 (Children on Holiday)
March -	Friday 17/03/23	Holiday
	Monday 20/03/23	Holiday
	Tuesday 21/03/23	School Development Day 2 (Children on Holiday)
April -	Friday 07/04/23 – Monday 17//04/23	Easter Holidays (Inclusive)
	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 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.

Road Safety Week: Monday 14th November – Friday 18th November 2022

Congratulations to Kelsey Mulvenna and Matthew Rooney who have been appointed as Junior Road Safety Officers in Carrick Primary School. The children will be working alongside Mrs Kelly who is the Road Safety Coordinator and will be planning activities and events for Road Safety Week, which takes place between Monday 14th November 2022 and Friday 18th November 2022. We are asking all the parents of the children who travel to and from school by bus, to emphasise to their children the importance of safely boarding the bus, going to a seat, remaining seated, wearing a seatbelt for the duration of the journey and behaving appropriately at all times. We appreciate your support in ensuring that these road safety messages are conveyed to our pupils, for their own safety and for the safety of others on the bus. **Ditch the Dark Day will take place on Friday 18th November and the children are asked to wear bright coats and hats/scarves which are easily seen by drivers.**

Books

Thank you to those parents who have returned school textbooks, library books, easy reads or reading books from last year 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.

Easy Read Project

The Easy Read Project is in operation in all P2-P7 classes. The children choose books from the Easy Read boxes for home reading and they can change the books as often as they like. Last year some children read in excess of 150 of these extra readers and this made a huge difference to their progress in reading. We would appreciate it if parents would encourage the children to read the Easy Read Books as often as possible, so as to get maximum benefit from the Easy Read resources which are available in each class.

Some of the money raised by Friends of Carrick during 2021-2022 has been spent on beautiful new Easy Read resources. These lovely new books have been distributed to every class in the school for the children to enjoy! Thanks to the committee members and to all the parents and grandparents for supporting the Friends of Carrick events.

Gaelic Football News

In October 2022, the boys from Carrick Primary School played in the first and second round of the Boys' Canon Esler Championship. The boys played against Rostrevor, St Dallan's, Mayobridge, Mourne, St Colman's, St Columban's and Hilltown. Well done to all the boys who played well and now play Hilltown to try to qualify for a place in the final against Kilcoo.

On Friday 14th October 2022, the girls from Carrick Primary School played in the first round of the Girls' Canon Esler Competition. The girls played against Rostrevor, Mayobridge, St Dallan's, Ballyholland, Saval and St Colman's Kilkeel. Well done to all the girls who played well and who have also qualified for Round 2 of the competition which will take place in November 2022.

Many thanks to Jim, David, Sean and Dan for all their coaching and encouragement.

Sustrans Active School Travel Programme

Carrick Primary School is participating in the Sustrans Active School Travel Programme, which is an initiative which encourages pupils to choose an active and healthy journey to school. The aim of the programme is to increase the number of pupils walking, cycling and scooting to school. The children will be working with Mr Dave Wiggans, who is the Sustrans Active Travel Officer and they will be busy planning various events for the year ahead. We are delighted that so many of the boys and girls participated in our Feet First event on the 21st October 2022. **We would encourage as many families as possible to walk/cycle/scoot to school as often as possible as it is the healthiest option and reduces congestion around the school. We would really appreciate this.**

Free School Meals/ Uniform/PE Uniform Assistance Application Forms

Please remember to apply for free school meals/uniform allowances/PE uniform assistance, via the Education Authority's website. Additional information and help are available from the office for parents who wish to apply for meals, transport 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.

Home to School Transport

The Education Authority has a new online application process for parents applying for home to school transport. Information on eligibility for transport assistance and how to apply online can be found at <https://www.eani.org.uk/home-to-school-transport-new/transport-online-applications/primary-school-transport-applications>

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.** Could we also ask everyone to ensure that there is always at least one disabled parking space available. We appreciate that it can be very 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. **Please pass on this request to other family members and to others who may be collecting the children.**

Football Training/Hurling and Camogie Training

Camogie and Hurling Training sessions take place every Monday (weather permitting) for P4-7 pupils from 3-4pm at the school. Each Friday 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.

Many thanks for your continued support and cooperation.

Yours faithfully

A Duffin

M McCann

A Cassidy

(Leadership Team)