



Principal: Dr Anne Cassidy

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6th January 2025

Dear Parents

Welcome back to Term 2!

Christmas 2024

On behalf of the staff members of Carrick PS, we would like to say thank you to the pupils and parents for all the Christmas cards, gifts and good wishes received in December 2024. Your kindness is really appreciated.

Christmas Bingo and Art Day

Many thanks to Friends of Carrick who organised a Christmas Bingo and Art Day for the children on Thursday 19th December 2024. The event raised a fantastic £714 for Friends of Carrick. Thank you to all the parents, pupils and staff members who donated prizes for the Bingo. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Journey to Santa

We are delighted that our “Journey to Santa” event went so well. The winners of the Journey to Santa draw were: Aidan Cunningham, Cillian Hurson, Aaron Morgan, Lola Rooney, Darragh McGreevy, Niamh McGovern, Saoirse McMahan, Sophie Hurson, Niamh McCaul, Freya Rohrs, Cara Doyle, Enda McGovern, Caolan McConville and Nicole Fensom. We would encourage as many families as possible to walk/cycle/scoot to school as it is the healthiest option and it reduces congestion around the school. Thank you for all your cooperation in relation to our Sustrans project.

Applications for P1 Places in September 2025

The application process for the new Primary 1 children who have reached or will reach their fourth birthday on or before 1st July 2025 is online and will be open from Friday 10th January until Friday 24th January 2025 (12 noon). If you need any assistance with this process or if you would like to view the school, please contact the Principal on 028 417 52448. For more information about Carrick Primary School, please visit our website www.carrickprimaryschool.com.

St Louis' Technology Challenge

Well done to Kerri McAteer and Mollie McDevitt who participated in the St Louis' Technology Challenge on Friday 13/12/24. The children's design received high praise from the judges and the vehicle they designed and constructed was of a very high standard. Well done!

Christmas Plays and Christmas Mass

Well done to all our Primary 1 and Primary 7 pupils who performed Christmas Plays and to our Primary 6 pupils who worked so hard in preparation for their Christmas Mass on Saturday 14th December 2024. Congratulations also to our Primary 7 String Group who performed at Mass on Sunday 15th December 2024. The children were brilliant and were a real credit to themselves, their families and our school.

Friends of Carrick's Christmas Fayre

Thanks to everyone who supported the Friends of Carrick Christmas Fayre on Saturday 7th December 2024 which raised £1500 for Friends of Carrick. Thanks also to the children who brought in Jazzy Jars which were sold at the Christmas Fayre. Hospice Christmas Cards and gifts were sold by the School Councillors and this raised £173 for the Hospice. The councillors also raised £110 for the Benedictine Monks by selling candles on behalf of the Monks. Well done also to Roise, Muireann and Annie Evers who raised almost £100 for the Cancer Fund for Children, by selling bracelets at the Fayre. Thank you to the Friends of Carrick Committee for organising this event and thanks to those who made donations to this fundraising event. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Primary 6 Maths and English Club

The Primary 6 Maths and English Club will begin on Tuesday 14th January 2025 from 3.00-4.15pm in preparation for the GL Assessments in November 2025. These extra classes will continue each Tuesday until November 2025. These classes are completely optional.

Primary 7 Readathon

The Primary 7 children will be participating in a Readathon Quiz on Monday 24th February 2025. The children will be reading ten books and will then be competing in a quiz based on the books they have read. We wish the Primary 7 children good luck with their preparations for the Readathon Quiz.

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 money 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.

Easy Fundraising

Thank you for all those who have helped to raise funds for Carrick Primary School through the Easy Fundraising Scheme. Remember you can book hotels, flights, holiday tickets and can buy gifts 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....

Go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/carrickprimary/> and join for free. Every time you shop online, go to Easyfundraising first, to find the site you want and start shopping.

After you have checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause (Carrick Primary School) for no extra cost whatsoever!

Another option is to:

Go into your App Store;
Search Easy Fundraising;
Download;
Create an Account/Log in;
Click “Support a good cause”;
Search Carrick Primary School; and
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.

Calendar January-June 2025

January	Monday 06/01/25	Term 2 starts for Children
February	Monday 10/02/25-	Baker Day 5 (Children on
Holiday)	Tuesday 11/02/25	School
Development Day 1 (Children on Holiday)		
Monday 10/02/25-Friday 14/02/25	Mid-Term Holidays for children (Inclusive)	
March	Monday 17/03/25	Holiday
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

Pantomime: Visits to the Grand Opera House

On Thursday 9th January 2025 (P3/4) and Friday 10th January 2025 (P5-7) the pupils will be visiting the Grand Opera House in Belfast to see the Pantomime. The Primary 4 children will be going home at 2pm on Friday 10th January 2025.

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. Mrs P Sheehan is the

Designated Governor for Child Protection. Please contact the Designated Teacher, Deputy Designated Teachers or the Principal if you have any Child Protection or safeguarding concerns.

Books and Lego

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 and Lego which they no longer need. These items are all very useful and are used to supplement our existing resources and make a huge difference to our class resources.

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 for 2024-2025. 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 introduced 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/financial-help/home-to-school-transport>.

Many thanks for your continued support and cooperation.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Amanda Duffin

Mrs Mary McCann

Dr Anne Cassidy

(Leadership Team)