



Principal: Dr A Cassidy

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28th November 2022

Dear Parents

Parent Teacher Meetings

Thank you to all the parents for attending the Parent Teacher meetings in October/November. If parents have any issues or concerns, please contact your child's class teacher or the principal on acassidy452@c2kni.net

First Confessions

Congratulations to the boys and girls in P4 who made their First Confessions in November 2022. The children worked extremely hard and were a credit to themselves, their families and the school. Thank you to Fr Kearns and Fr Powell and to our school choir, whose lovely singing enhanced the First Confession ceremonies.

Dates for Confirmation and First Holy Communion

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

Sustrans Active School Travel Programme

Our "Journey to Santa" event will run from Monday 14th November 2022-Friday 16th December 2022 and the children are asked to complete 20 Active Journeys. **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.** All those who complete the Journey to Santa Challenge will be entered into a Christmas Draw on Friday 16th December 2022.

Fr William Stuart Syrian Refugee Appeal

Fr William Stuart is a Rosminian Priest from Clontarf in Dublin. He is currently working with Syrian refugee children, in one of the poorest parts of south Lebanon. Fr William has asked for donations of children's clothes (aged 3-16), toothbrushes, toothpaste and toiletries. Please leave any donations into Carrick Primary School or into Burren Heritage Centre by Thursday 01/12/22. Thank you for all the donations which have been sent in already.

Christmas Events 2022



- **The Children's Christmas Dinner ("Christmas Happy Meal") will be on Friday 2nd December 2022.** The meal costs £2.60 and will include chips, chicken nuggets, cocktail sausages, orange juice and an ice lolly, yoghurt or fruit for dessert. **The children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers on this day. This is a non-uniform day.**
- P1 Christmas Play – Tuesday 13th December 2022 at 7pm
- Our Christmas Bingo/Christmas Art Day (Art resources sponsored by Friends of Carrick) is on Friday 16th December 2022. The Bingo Books cost £2 and the money raised will go to Friends of Carrick. This is a non-uniform day and the children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers on this day. Juice and cookies will be provided for all the pupils. If any parent would like to donate a prize for the Bingo games, please send it in to the class teacher.
- P6 Christmas Mass – Saturday 17th December 2022 at 7.30pm
- P7 Christmas Play – Tuesday 20th December 2022 at 7pm
- Thursday 22nd December 2022 is a non-uniform day.
- **The school will close for Christmas on Thursday 22nd December 2022 at 12 noon (Bus leaving at 11.45am). There will be no dinners on this day and it is a non- uniform day.**
- The children will return to school on Friday 6th January 2023.

Friends of Carrick's Christmas Fayre

The Friends of Carrick Committee members have organised a Christmas Fayre on Saturday 10th December 2022 from 10am-2pm in the school's assembly hall. There will be lots of different stalls, selling a wide variety of gifts, including some lovely Christmas gifts. The Bell Ringers are returning to the fayre and will be performing at 12.00 noon. We are looking forward to welcoming them back to the Fayre. The Friends of Carrick Committee members have invited the Primary 3, 4 and 5 pupils to bring in a Jazzy Jar each. These will be sold for either £1 or £2 at the Christmas Fayre. Thank you to those who have already donated Jazzy Jars. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Altar Servers

Welcome to our New Altar Servers who were commissioned on Mission Sunday, 23rd October 2022. We wish them the best of luck in their new role!



Football Training/Hurling and Camogie Training

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. Camogie/hurling training sessions take place every Monday from 3.00-4.00pm for P4-7 pupils. Please encourage the children to avail of these great opportunities.

Indoor Hurling Competition

Well done to our hurlers who travelled to An Ríocht on Thursday 17th November 2022 to play in Round 1 of the Indoor Hurling competition. The boys played very well and won all but one of their matches. The boys qualified for Round 2 which will take place in Burren Community Hub on Thursday 1st December 2022.

Open Day Saturday 10th December 2022

Carrick Primary School is having an Open Day 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 to meet pupils and staff members. Please feel free to come along to this event. It promises to be most enjoyable.

The application process for new Primary 1 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 Fundraising Efforts

A wide range of art resources have recently been requisitioned for each class using the money raised by Friends of Carrick. These resources will be used for our Christmas Art Day on Friday 16th December 2022 and throughout the year. The money raised last year has also been used to purchase eight new cooperative play trikes for P1/P2 pupils and a huge selection of beautiful Easy Read books, which have been distributed to the P1-7 classes.



Children from Carrick Primary School in Burren with the lovely new cooperative play trikes which Friends of Carrick purchased recently.



Thanks to Friends of Carrick who recently purchased many beautiful new books for the boys and girls in Carrick Primary School to enjoy as part of their "Easy Read Project". Happy Reading!!!



Christmas Art Materials for P1-7 Pupils in Carrick Primary School - Purchased by Friends of Carrick.

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

Road Safety Week took place from 14th November 2022 – 18th November 2022. Kelsey Mulvenna and Matthew Rooney worked hard as our Junior Road Safety Officers and have updated our Road Safety Charter. The pupils were invited to participate in a Ditch the Dark Day on Friday 18th November 2022 to highlight the importance of the Road Safety messages and in particular, good visibility.

Congratulations to the winners of the Road Safety Poster Competition including: Patrick McConville, Méabh Nugent, Lola Rooney, James Hughes, Caleb White, Olivia McHale, Amalia Zafir, Arthur Kelly, Conor McGivern, Ava Matthews, Enya McGovern, Shannon Doyle, Maeve McGovern, Sean Gribben, Alfie Friel, Kate McGovern, Roise Moore, Tommy Armstrong, Mollie McDevitt, Aaron Strigockis, Aideen Trainor, Oran Byrne, Emma Day, Daire Gillespie, Hollie Benson, Lucy Gribben, Beibhinn Rocks and Kelsey Mulvenna.

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.**

Anti-Bullying Week: Monday 17th November - Friday 11th November 2022

During Anti-Bullying week the children discussed the issue of bullying and explored, through Circle Time and other class activities, how to recognise bullying. There were also activities which were designed to help the children to 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 was Odd Socks Day. Thanks to all those who wore odd socks on this day to highlight the importance of individuality and to promote acceptance and tolerance. Well done to the winners of the Anti-Bullying Week Competition including: Megan Bottell, Pdraig McMahon, Matthew Rooney, Sophie Short, Eimear Drummond, Shay McLoughlin, Daíthi Nagle, Anna McGivern, Anna Dunbar, Jacob Rafferty, Noel McPolin, Leah White, Aidan McGovern, Áine McAteer, Rhys O'Rourke, Ava Mackin, Aston Aguero, Ava Strigockis, Eve Murtagh, Méabh Doran, Lucy Hurson, Aoife Cunningham, Tara Byrne, Aaron Raudins, Erin Collins, Charlie McGivern, Erin Donnan and Ronan Doran.

Online Payments

The Education Authority is currently scoping an online payment solution for school. It is hoped that a contract will be in place by January/February 2023 and schools will not have to pay for this service. We will keep you updated about this much anticipated development.

Burren Townlands Run

The Burren Townlands Run and family walk is taking place on 26th December 2022. The Burren Townlands Run Committee would like to encourage as many as possible in the community to get involved with this family event. The main charity this year is "Cancer Fund for Children/Daisy Lodge". On this day there will be a walk or run to suit all abilities. More information is available from the Burren Townlands Run Facebook page.

Healthy Eating

As you know for many years now, we have had a healthy eating policy here in Carrick Primary School. Children are asked to bring in water or milk and a piece of fruit, yoghurt or a sandwich for their break time snack. Carrick Primary School is

working to help keep children's teeth free from decay. We would like to encourage children to only eat healthy food at break times.

There are many more advantages to eating a healthy balanced diet and recent research suggests that a good diet can positively affect children's behaviour and their ability to learn. In the light of this, we would like to encourage children to bring in a healthy break and lunch each day. You may wish to read the 'Healthy Eating' information via the links below.

Are you packing a healthy lunch?

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/publications/are-you-packing-healthy-lunch-english-and-irish-translation>

Healthy breaks for schools

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/publications/healthy-breaks-schools-leaflet-english-and-irish-translation>

Healthy Choices – Choose wisely: advice for parents on nutrition and activity for primary school children

<https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/publications/healthy-choices-choose-wisely-advice-parents>

Calendar 2022-2023 (December-June)

December /January-	Monday 05/12/22	Holiday
	Friday 23/12/22 -	Christmas Holidays for Children (Inclusive)
	Thursday 05/01/23	
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 -	Mid-Term Holidays for Children (Inclusive)
	Monday 20/02/23	
	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 –	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 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.

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 other school fees before Christmas.

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 the school trips.

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.

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 the Principal if you have any Child Protection or safeguarding concerns

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.

Yours faithfully

A Duffin

M McCann

A Cassidy

(Leadership Team)