



# Carniny Primary School

## Parents' Newsletter



No:02 17 18

[www.carninyprimary.co.uk](http://www.carninyprimary.co.uk)

Date: 29/09/2017

### High Flyers



Congratulations to the most recent winners of our High Flyer award:

P1: Tom Coulter, Kacie Hunter, Rachel Alexander  
P1/2: Jack Christie, Isaac Harvey, Sophie Cumming  
P2: Ethan Scott, Lucas Mairs, Callie Gregg  
P3: Zara Cumming, Luci Lee Lamont, Matyas Noss  
P3/4: Grace Dickson, Ronan Carr, Alex Moon

### Schools NI App



Our school is now listed in the Schools NI app which allows you to view school updates and receive messages via your phone or tablet. The app is available on both Apple and Android devices and will give you access to our school news,

calendar events and letters (including newsletters and dinner menu).

To install the app, open Carniny Primary School website on your phone or tablet and click the "Download App" button that appears at the top of the screen.

Next time you open the School NI App our school will be listed at the top of the list. You don't need to have the app open to receive messages.

If you wish to receive an email of any new letter saved on the website please insert your email address in the box on the front page of the website and press subscribe.

### Parent Interviews



The dates of our first Parent Teacher Consultations have been scheduled for the following dates:

Tuesday 17 October (3.00-4.30)

Wednesday 18 October (1-4.30pm)

Thursday 19 October (1.00-4.30pm)

The purpose of these meetings is to inform you of your child's progress and any areas for development.

These meetings are a crucial aspect of the Teacher/Parent relationship and we would value your attendance.

Parents will be given 15 minute appointments.

This year we are introducing a new method for making appointments on line through our communication app - Parentmail PMX.

Information regarding this process will be issued to all parents by email at the beginning of October. We plan to make this booking process available from Monday 9 October (8.30am)

The school day will finish at 1pm on 18th and 19th October for all P1-7 pupils. The School Meals Kitchen will provide meals as usual.



Please complete and return to school the pro forma sent home with your child indicating you are aware of these arrangements.

### Walking to School

Thank you to all parents who are allowing their children to walk into school independently from the school gates in the mornings. Having fewer adults on the grounds is creating a safer environment for children to play. We appreciate your help in continuing to support this new routine and encourage all parents to refrain from coming onto the grounds with their children unless visiting the school office or attending other appointments.

### Walk to School Week

Our Walk to School Week was another great success. Thank you to all parents who facilitated their children walking to school.

### School Driveway



Pupils and parents should not walk into school along the vehicular road to the school car park. This is a road and not a footpath.

Pupils must enter the school grounds via the pedestrian gates/pathways. If childminders or grandparents collect your children from school please inform them of this safety instruction.

### The Blythswood Shoebox Christmas Appeal



Carniny Primary School plans to support the Blythswood Shoebox Christmas Appeal again this year.

It would be greatly appreciated if all pupils could bring to school an appropriately filled shoebox.

Details of this Shoebox Appeal can be read in the leaflet sent home with your child.

Filled shoeboxes should be placed in the school corridor outside the school office by Monday 6 November.

### Child Protection / Volunteers



We greatly appreciate the involvement of parents in assisting voluntarily with

various aspects of school life (eg FOCPS, Transport, Library, School Visits).

In accordance with the school's Child Protection Policy I would ask all parents who would be interested in assisting voluntarily during 2017/2018 academic year to complete the Volunteers Application form and the online Access NI form. Before beginning the online application you will require an instruction form including a PIN number. This can be obtained from the office. On completion of the online form you will receive a Unique Access NI Number which should be brought into school with ID documents for verification. This procedure must be repeated annually.

### Uniform

I wish to remind parents it is expected all pupils wear the School Uniform. Black school shoes must be worn (trainers are not permitted). A uniform list is available in the School Handbook and has also been attached with this Newsletter.



## Contact Details



Please remember to inform the school of any changes to personal contact details. In the event of the school needing to contact parents in an emergency it is vital all details are up to date. Please give any new contact details to Mrs Shevlin or Mrs Anderson in the school office. We are unable to update parent details on Parentmail PMX. When contact details change please log in to Parentmail PMX and make the necessary changes.

## Peanut / Tree Nut Allergies



There are a number of children in school with peanut allergies. In some extreme instances very serious allergic reactions can be triggered by even the slightest trace of a nut related substance. Since the safety and well-being of all our pupils is extremely important to us,

we would ask for the cooperation and consideration of all of our parents as break time snacks and packed lunches are prepared. (Labelling on foods generally indicates nut or trace nut content, and there is much information available online.)

We would be most appreciative if you would support us in our endeavours to create a nut-free environment. Please try to avoid sending into school, or a school-linked activity any peanut / tree nut products or by-products for example peanut sandwiches.

## Data Keys

Data Keys are available from the school office and currently cost £6.50.

## Healthy Break Policy



As a school we believe strongly in the benefits of our children being provided with a healthy break. This discipline can help to establish good eating and drinking habits for your child's future health, enabling them to make healthier choices for themselves. A healthy break

can also help pupils sustain good concentration and behaviour for longer periods in the classroom. Healthy break options which are recommended include: unflavoured water or milk fresh fruit and/or vegetables bread-based products, for example white or wholemeal bread, rolls or baguettes, toast, plain bagels, wheaten, soda, pitta bread, plain bread sticks or crackers. Please provide fresh sugar-free fillings, avoiding sugary spreads.

We would be very grateful for your support in this important area. It can become very difficult for children who have been provided with a healthy snack to observe other children in their class having a less healthy option (e.g. chocolate bars, biscuits or crisps).

## Personal Belongings



We ask all parents to ensure that all pupils' belongings (items of uniform, games kit, pencil cases etc) are properly named. If you discover your child has accidentally brought home something belonging to



another child please ensure it is returned to school the next day. Your assistance with this matter would be greatly appreciated.

### Friends of Carniny PS - Annual General Meeting

The FOCPS' Annual General Meeting will be held in school on the 4<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm. We hope you will be able to attend and find out about the work of the FOCPS. There is a special welcome to the parents of our new pupils.

The school is always indebted to the members of the FOCPS for their invaluable fund raising efforts.

Please write this date in your diary!

### Carniny Carers at Carniny Primary (Wraparound Childcare Facility)



The school's wraparound child care facility is proving to be very popular and continues to be available in the mornings (7.45-8.30am) and afternoons (2.00-6.00pm and 5 pm on Fridays). If you are interested in your child availing of this facility please speak to Miss

McCartney. She can be contacted on the following mobile number - 07936454949 or through the school office (normal working hours). The current pricing structure is as follows:-

Activity	Price
Breakfast Club	£2.50
Waiting Club (2-3pm)	£2.50
After School Club Up to 1 hr	£6.00
After School Club Up to 2 hrs	£10.00
After School Club Up to 3 hrs (Part Time)	£13.50
After School Club Up to 3 hrs (Full Time)	£12.50
2 <sup>nd</sup> Child Full Time Rate	£11.50
3 <sup>rd</sup> Child Full Time Rate	£11.00
Early Closure (to 3pm)	£5.00

If the children remain with us for even a small part of the next hour, you will be charged for a full hour.

### Child Protection



Any concerns regarding Child Protection matters should be reported to Mr I Somerville (Designated teacher for Child Protection) or Mr D Calwell (Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection).

The Designated Governor for Child Protection is Mrs C McKay.

A copy of the Child Protection Policy can be viewed on the school website or obtained from the school office.

### Spellings



All children from P2-7 will be learning spellings in a different format from the beginning of October. Each evening (Mon-Wed) children will have a list of spellings to learn. On the spelling sheet provided they will be required to write the spelling, then cover the word and write the spelling again from memory. This process can be repeated until the spelling of the word is fully mastered. A parent/guardian signature is required to verify this process has been carried out and the spellings are known by the child/ren.

The spellings will continue to be formally assessed on a daily and weekly basis to ensure each child is progressing. Friday Test books will be sent home for parents' perusal and signature.

We ask for your support in this new procedure.



## End of School Arrangements - Back Entrance



Following consultation with the Education Authority and to ensure the school grounds is secured during the school day it has been decided by the staff and Governors to amend the opening times of the back pedestrian gate. The gate will remain closed between 1.00 and 2.55pm. P1-3 children who leave the school through the back entrance at 2pm will be brought to the gate by our Classroom Assistant Mrs Fletcher. Please remember to inform your child's teacher if your collection arrangements change.

## School Keep Clear Zone



Please remember the School Keep Clear Zone on the Old Cullybackey Road has been created to provide a safe route for pedestrians and children crossing the road. I am aware that a number of cars continue to park in this zone making it difficult and extremely dangerous for children crossing the road.

On one occasion a child narrowly missed being hit by a passing car. Transport NI has been informed of this incident and as a result traffic wardens will be visiting the school on a regular basis.

## School Funding Still in Crisis



School budgets have been severely hit this year with a cut of £61 per pupil in primary schools.

NAHT (NI) is undertaking a series of Information Meetings to ensure politicians and senior civil servants are aware of the full implications of these cuts.

A meeting has been scheduled for 5 October (19.30-20.30) in Castle Tower School, Ballymena. All staff, governors and parents are invited to attend.

## Christmas Carol Service



Our Christmas Carol Service has been rescheduled to 6.30pm on Monday 18

December at Wellington Church.

More details will follow regarding specific arrangements for the day. At this stage we wish to make everyone aware of the event and hope you will be able to put this date in your diary.

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Raymond Ross  
(Principal)



