



# *Carniny Primary School*

## *Parents' Newsletter*



**No:01 15 16**

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

**Date: 22/09/2015**

### **Welcome**

I hope you all had a very enjoyable Summer vacation and are ready to begin a new school year at Carniny Primary. A special welcome to parents of our new pupils. We hope you will spend many happy years with us.

### **The School Premises**

Special thanks to Mr Peacock, Mrs Davison and Mrs Hueston for working so hard to ensure the school is ready for the new academic year.

### **Parent Information**

#### **Meetings**

Teachers in each year group have scheduled short information meetings (3.10 - 3.25pm) for parents in early September. The purpose of the meeting is to inform parents of the routines and procedures in their child's new class/year. We hope you will be able to attend what should be an informative meeting. The dates of the meetings are as follows:

P1 - 10 Sept (3.10pm)  
P2 - 8 Sept (3.10pm)  
P3 - 2 Sept (3.10pm)  
P4 - 3 Sept (3.10pm)  
P5 - 7 Sept (3.10pm)  
P6 - 9 Sept (3.10pm)  
P7-1 Sept (3.10pm)

### **Uniform**

It is encouraging to see all children looking so smart in their school uniform.

Please remember that children are expected to wear black shoes to school (not trainers).

All items of clothing should be appropriately labelled.

### **Uniform Recycling**

Please bring in any school uniform you no longer require for re-sale by FOCPS. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

### **Swimming Programme**

This year's swimming programme commences for Primary 6 pupils on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September. Primary 7 and Primary 5 will be participating in the School's Swimming Programme in the Spring and Summer terms respectively.

### **New Pupils for Tuition on String Instruments (P4) Wind Instruments (P4&5) and Percussion (P5-7)**



Any parent wishing their child to be considered for music tuition (Strings - P4 Woodwind & Brass - P4 & P5 & Percussion P4-P7) should make their request in writing to Mrs McCombe by Friday 4th September 2015. Peripatetic staff will assess the children's suitability to receive tuition. As the availability of woodwind and brass instruments is limited we may not be able to accommodate all requests. Please note there is a charge for tuition (payable in September) and also for hire of musical instruments. The school offers a bursary for our new start P4 pupils.

### **Music Exams**

The following children were successful in Associated Board Exams in June 2015.

Sarah Stirling	Flute Grade 2
Kate Wylie	Flute Grade 2
Emma Weir	Flute Grade 1
Louisa Shaw	Flute Grade 2
Jared Russell	Cello Grade 2

Congratulations to all.

### **School Stationery**

It would be helpful if each child could bring his/her



own pencils, colouring pens/pencils, eraser, ruler and glue stick.

### **P7 E&M Club**

Children in Primary 7 have the opportunity of attending a weekly English and Maths after school Club commencing Thursday 3<sup>th</sup> September (3.00-4.00pm). The club will be taken by Mr Church. Further details to follow.

### **Child Protection – Consent Forms**

As part of our Child Protection Policy we ask you to read the attached document regarding Consent Forms and complete and return to school the relevant pro formas by Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Policy for Use of Computers / Internet**

Parents and children must all be aware of our policy concerning Responsible Computer/ Internet Use. Please read the attached policy and return completed pro forma to school by Friday 4 September.

### **Child Protection / Volunteers**

In accordance with the school's Child Protection Policy I would ask all parents who would be interested in assisting voluntarily in any aspect of school life during 2015/2016 academic year (PTA, Transport, Library, School Visits etc.) to

complete 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.

### **Calendar 2015 2016**

A calendar for the school year has been attached and updated on the website.

### **School Hours**

Classes begin at 8.45am with Roll Call. In the interest of safety pupils should not arrive in school before 8.30am

Primary 1 and Primary 2 remain in school until 2pm (Monday-Thursday and 1.45pm on Friday).

Primary 3 children remain in school until 3pm on Monday and Tuesday, 2pm on Wednesday and Thursday and 1.45pm on Friday.

School finishes at 3.00pm (Monday-Thursday) for all P4 - 7 pupils and 2.00pm on Friday.

### **Arrival in School (8.30-8.45 am)**

Children enter the school grounds through one of the

pedestrian gates on the Old Cullybackey Road and Carnview Park. **For safety reasons the school driveway is only for vehicular access and must not be used by pedestrians at any time.**

School doors will be opened at 8.30 am. Pupils should not arrive before this time when formal supervision begins. Children will enter the building through the entrance adjacent to their classroom. Mr Calwell's Primary 5 and Mr Church's P7 pupils will walk to the rear of the school and enter their mobile classrooms. Pupils should leave coats and school bags in the cloakroom and then proceed to the playground.

Children must always bring a coat to school for outside play in inclement weather conditions.

On wet days (8.30-8.45am) all children will remain in their classrooms.

### **Morning Drop-Off**

In an effort to promote independence we would encourage parents to allow their children to make their own way into the classroom each morning.

In the Foundation Stage pupils should be encouraged to begin this process of fostering an independent approach. After an initial

settling in period, children could be accompanied to the main door and allowed to proceed to the cloakroom / classroom independently.

By Primary 3 we would like to see children being dropped off in the playground which is supervised from 8.30am, and making their own way into the classroom.

Please allow your child to be more independent.

### End of School Day

Please refer to the arrangements for the End of the School Day which have been detailed in the attached document "Child Protection - Consent Forms"

### Attendance Policy

Carniny Primary School recognises that punctual and regular attendance is an essential prerequisite to effective learning and is therefore committed to maintaining high levels of attendance and punctuality.

The school's Attendance Policy (attached) outlines our policy and procedures in more detail. Please take time to read this document.

### Car Parking

When leaving children off in the morning and collecting again in the afternoon I would ask parents to show consideration to local



residents by not obstructing driveways. Parents should **not** use school car park to drop off pupils (Only cars displaying Disabled Badges are permitted to park in the Disabled Parking bay).

In the interest of safety please do not park on the double yellow lines and Keep Clear Zones on the Old Cullybackey Road.

### Visitors to School

To ensure safety of pupils we ask all visitors (parents/friends/teachers/NEELB personnel) report to the office on entry to the school.

Parents wishing to collect children from school during the school day (ie for medical appointments) must first report to the school office. Your child will be collected from the classroom by a member of staff.

### Dinner Money

Primary 1 -7 children have the option of choosing a set dinner costing £2.50 per day. (£12.50 per week **Please note new price**).

All parents are encouraged to pay for School Dinners in advance using the Parent Mail+Pay. Alternatively pupils can pay by cash on Monday mornings. Dinner money **must** be in an envelope clearly marked with the child's full name and class. Envelopes are available from the office. Please note that payments can be made for

periods longer than one week.

The monthly menu can be viewed on the school website or copies are available opposite the office door.

### Toast Money

Children in P1-7 have the option of buying toast for morning break from the School Meals Kitchen. Toast money should be paid each Monday or the first day of the week the child has returned following an absence. The cost of toast for a school week is £1.25. Refunds are not given for days children have been absent from school. **Please do not place Dinner and Toast money in the same envelope.** Toast money can **not** be paid via +Pay.

### School Milk Scheme

Pupils have the opportunity of purchasing milk within the EC Milk Scheme. 1/3 pint cartons will cost 20p. The total payment for the school year will be £34 and should be paid by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September. *This can be paid by cash, cheque (made payable to Carniny Primary) or +Pay.* There will be no refunds for absent days. Please complete the pro forma granting your child permission to purchase milk for this term. Milk will be available from Monday 14 September.



## Healthy Break Policy



As a school we hope for your support in our continued efforts to promote healthy eating at break time. Our Healthy Break policy has been established to ensure an on-going focus on this area.

Why is a healthy break important?

- Childhood is an important time to establish good eating and drinking habits for future health.
- The promotion of a healthy break policy within school gives pupils the knowledge and opportunity to make healthy choices.
- A healthy snack at break time can help with pupils' concentration and behaviour in the classroom.

What is included in a healthy break?

- Drinks - it is important that children drink enough during the day, so they do not become dehydrated and tired. Water dispensers are available throughout the school, and pupils may drink from their water bottle freely during class. A drink

should also be included for break / lunch, water (unflavoured) or milk being the most suitable.

- Fruit and Vegetables - fresh fruit and vegetables make a very healthy break time snack.
- Bread-based snacks - these can help to meet your child's extra energy needs and help your child feel more satisfied. Care should be taken to not use spreads or fillings which are high in sugar and fat. Our school kitchen offers toast with a thin spread of butter each break time, if you wish to order this for your child.

At various stages throughout the school year we will be conducting a survey of how each class has adopted a healthy break ethos. We would greatly value your support in this very important area.

### Drinking Water

We realise the health and educational benefits of allowing children to drink still water (with no additives) during the school day.



We encourage children to drink the purified drinking

water available in school. Children will require their own drinking bottles which are available from the school office at a cost of £2.

### Pupils Record Changes

I wish to remind parents of the importance of notifying the school of any changes to pupil records during the school year. (address, telephone number, emergency contact numbers, mobile phone numbers etc.).

### Website

Please remember to access our school website during the year:

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

Any suggestions regarding the website will be greatly appreciated.

Our Daily Updates page provides up to date information on current events/clubs etc

### School Handbook

Parents of new pupils have received a copy of the School Handbook.

Additional copies of the Handbook may be obtained from the office or downloaded from the school website.

### **Club Afternoon**

Each Friday afternoon P4-7 pupils will continue to have the opportunity of participating in a range of clubs from 1-2pm.

#### **P4/5 Clubs:**

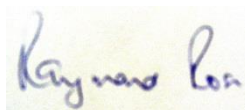
Art, Cookery, Spanish, Needlecraft,

#### **P6/7 Clubs:**

Grid Club, Technology, Heartstart, French

All children will experience the full range of clubs detailed above during the school year. I am confident they will all benefit from and enjoy the range of activities.

The school would appreciate a one-off voluntary contribution of £5 towards consumables.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Raymond Ross".

---

Raymond Ross  
Principal