



Carrickfergus Model Primary School Principal's Newsletter: April 2019



Dear Parents / Carers

I would like to start by congratulating our wonderful Eco-Schools Committee and their leader Mrs Johnston on the renewal of our Green Flag this month. We are so proud of this group of children who have been working hard to keep the school grounds tidy and encourage recycling in every classroom. They are a superb group of young people - well done!

We had a lovely day for World Book Day as we read together in our pyjamas. It was a real treat to see our boys and girls reading with children from other classes and true friendships forming between older and younger pupils. We have also had many sporting tournaments over the last few weeks with some hockey, football and rugby stars displaying their talents. True sportsmanship has been displayed throughout which has been fantastic!

Primary 7 have been making Easter crafts for their Young Enterprise Project, learning Makaton and Heartstart for their JASS Programme and having a go at some year 8 Numeracy in preparation for their next school. Primary 6 have been engaging in lots of STEM activities in line with their Aviation topic as well as working hard with their AQE preparation. Primary 5 have been making volcanoes, refining their swimming skills and working hard with their Literacy and Numeracy in preparation for Primary 6. Primary 4 have been perfecting their handwriting skills and enjoying learning about WW2. Primary 3 have also been engaging with STEM activities and have been enjoying the story of the rainbow fish – their art work has been fabulous. Primary 2 pupils have produced some fantastic independent writing based on their topic of Space – we have some budding astronauts in this year group after a very enjoyable visit to Armagh Planetarium. Primary 1 have really impressed us all with their Numeracy skills, play based learning in our lovely Inner Courtyard and getting to know their P7 buddies. Well done everyone and thank you to the teachers for making our learning so much fun!

Finally, congratulations to all our boy and girls who took part in the Carrickfergus Festival. I am always amazed at their enthusiasm and bravery when performing in front of so many people.

Best wishes,

J Miller

Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

Saturday 30th March: Carrickfergus Festival begins.

Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th April: Primary 6 Parent-Teacher Interviews.

Monday 8th – Friday 12th April: Walk to school week. Meet at 8.25am at Castle car park

Friday 12th April: End of Term. Non-Uniform. Pupils finish at 12 noon.

Monday 15th April – Friday 26th April: Easter Holidays.

Monday 29th April – Wednesday 1st May: Pupils in school as normal. After-school activities and support groups recommence.

Thursday 2nd May – Monday 6th May: School closed for election, school development day and bank holiday Monday.

Thursday 9th May: Primary 1 Placement letters posted.

Tuesday 14th May: Primary 7 Leavers Photographs.

Wednesday 22nd May: Primary 1 Induction Evening for parents.

Friday 24th May – Tuesday 28th May: School Closed for bank holiday and school development day.

Wednesday 29th May: Primary 1 Induction (our current Primary 1 pupils will be off school on this day).

Saturday 1st June: Primary 7s receive post-primary school places.

Thursday 6th June: Sports Day (weather permitting)

Monday 10th June: Primary 7 Residential

Friday 14th June: Fun Day (Timings to be confirmed)

Friday 21st June: Primary 7 Leavers Event (Timings to be confirmed)

Monday 24th June: Primary 6 Residential

Friday 28th June: End of Term. Non-uniform. Pupils finish at 12 noon.

We apologise that some of our dates have had to change. A late Easter is making it difficult to fit everything in!



This year 'Walk to school Week' takes place during the week of 8th – 12th April. We encourage all pupils to participate in the 'Walk to School Week' to help young children discover the health, social and environmental benefits of walking. We will operate a 'WALKING BUS' (supervised walking group) during this week. The 'bus' or 'buses' will meet at Carrickfergus Castle car park at 8.25am sharp each morning of the week beginning 8th April, and will follow an arranged route to school. We would love it if parents would also participate and help to 'drive' the bus. Simply park your car at the Castle car park and join in the fun!



SAVE THE DATE: FRIDAY 14TH JUNE!

HELPERS WILL BE REQUIRED IN THE MORNING FOR SETTING UP, DURING THE EVENT AND CLEARING UP AT THE END – THANK YOU. WE HAD EXCELLENT HELPERS LAST YEAR!

COMING SOON TO OUR OUTDOOR LEARNING AREA



INTERNET SAFETY

Don't forget to read our monthly Internet Safety Newsletter. Our staff are also having a special training session in May so we can continue to be updated and help our boys and girls stay safe online. There is also an Online Safety evening for parents in the local area at Whitehead Community Centre on 4th and 11th April at 7.30pm. This can be booked via www.eventbrite.co.uk.

COMING SOON – PARENTMAIL APP



- Online Payment System for parents (launching August 2019)
- Parent's Evening Manager
- Online form collection
- Online permission slips
- Online absence reporting
- Meetings and events

More Information to follow after the Easter Holidays!

Learn More at

<https://www.parentmail.co.uk/>



3 PTA EASTER PRIZES TO BE WON NEXT WEEK!

Please send some money with your child next week. Pay £1.00 to enter the competition to win an Easter prize. The winners will be chosen on the last day of term – Friday 12th April.

Happy Easter from the PTA!

WORRIED ABOUT YOUR CHILD?

Have a concern about your child?



Always speak to the class teacher first



Speak to the Principal if you still have concerns.

DOES YOUR CHILD GET THE BUS HOME FROM SCHOOL?

Please remember that it is school policy for any child not met at the bus stop by an adult to bring them back to school. This is simply to avoid any child being left by themselves in a situation that may cause them distress or danger. Thank you for your understanding in this matter.



At the Model we are always working hard on building the skill of Resilience in our boys and girls.

Building Resilience in children is not about making them tough. Resilience is the ability to recover from difficulties and manage how you feel in that process.

Some children are naturally more resilient than others. However, resilience is a skill which can be learned and developed.

Some Signs of a resilient child...

- *The capacity to have courage*
- *The motivation to move forward*
- *The power to stay centred*
- *The awareness of knowing themselves*
- *The gift of laughter*
- *The ability to bounce back*
- *The potential of showing promise*
- *The capacity to ask for help*
- *The tenacity to accomplish goals*
- *The willingness to share feelings*
- *The capacity to connect with others*
- *The inspiration to give back*

ATTENDANCE FIGURES FOR MARCH 2019

Primary 1 HM: 95%	Primary 1 SEM: 93.2%	Green = 96% +
Primary 2 SM: 96.5%	Primary 2 JD: 97.6%	
Primary 3 RJ: 94.6%	Primary 3 CR: 94.8%	Amber = 94% - 95.9%
Primary 4 LR: 96%	Primary 4 CG: 94.8%	
Primary 5 BM: 96.2%	Primary 5 MF: 96.8%	Red = 93.9% and below
Primary 6 JC: 97.6%	Primary 6 JH: 96.3%	
Primary 7 JK: 95.2%	Primary 7 CT: 97.5%	



We know that some classes have had chicken pox, tummy bugs and viruses this month. Hopefully the Easter Holidays will help everyone recover!

WE WISH ALL OUR FAMILIES A LOVELY BREAK OVER EASTER!

Senior Leadership Team	Safe-Guarding Team	Wish to speak to the Principal or your child's class teacher?
<p><u>Principal:</u> Mrs J Miller</p> <p><u>Vice-Principal / Head of Key Stage 2:</u> Mrs J Kirkland</p> <p><u>Head of Foundation Stage:</u> Mrs H Morton</p> <p><u>Head of Key Stage 1:</u> Mrs L Robinson</p> <p><u>Care & Welfare Co-ordinator:</u> Miss S Manson</p>	<p>If you are concerned about the welfare of a pupil in school, please speak to Mrs S Mitchell.</p> <p><u>Designated Teacher:</u> Mrs S Mitchell</p> <p><u>Deputy Designated Teacher:</u> Mrs J Miller</p> <p><u>Designated Governor:</u> Mr N Entwistle</p>	<p>We have an open-door policy when it comes to communication between home and school. However, it is hard for members of staff to be available right away, especially at the beginning of the school day. Please leave a message with the school office and we will get back to you. Emails can be sent but we would rather this is not the main avenue for bringing up issues / discussing children as it is not the personal approach we would wish to take with you and your child.</p>

CONTACT US

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