



Cairncastle Primary School  
Cairncastle Road, Ballygally,  
Larne BT40 2RB  
Principal: Mrs. J. Halliday

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### Welcome News Letter!

Mrs Halliday and the Staff of Cairncastle Primary School welcome pupils, parents and friends to a new school year at Cairncastle Primary School!

**School Day:** Staff will open the front gate at 8:40am. Children are asked to walk around the building into the playground. Children with bicycles are asked to walk their bikes to the stand which is to the right of the building. Children will keep all belongings with them in the morning and a member of staff will supervise them until the bell rings at 8:55am. If it is raining children can enter via the front door and sit in their class rows in the hall. They will be supervised until the bell rings. No child should enter the school grounds until 8:40am as there will be no adequate supervision available.

**Break:** Cairncastle is striving to become a 'Healthy School' and we would like all children to bring a healthy break to school. It is recommended by DENI that this consists of fruit, vegetables, non-sweet bread or cracker based snack (e.g. crackers, breadsticks, bread sandwich, brioche, croissants etc.) and water to drink. Please keep lunches as healthy as possible. No peanuts or nut snacks/biscuits in school please as we have children in school with food allergies. Break time is 10.30 - 10.45am

### **Home Time:**

Year 1 children will go home at 12:00pm until week beginning 16th September, when they will stay for lunch and then go home at 1:00pm. From week beginning 30<sup>th</sup> September, they will remain in school until 2:00p.m.

Year 2 Home 2:00pm

Year 3 Home 3:00pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & 2:00pm on Thursday & Friday

Years 4-7 all go home at 3:00pm (Mon-Thurs)

School finishes for all classes at 2:00pm on Friday

All classes will be supervised to the school gate and handed over to parents/guardians.

Please inform the school of any changes to your daily collection arrangements.

Please ensure that children are collected promptly, as staff often have further classes at 2:00pm. Parents will be notified of any clubs and after school activities.

**Free school meals:** Save £££££s...For more information on eligibility and how to apply visit <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals>. If you are entitled, please apply as this has an influence on the school budget. Pupils can be flexible on the days they wish to avail of meals provided.

**After School Club:** After school club currently runs on a Wednesday & Thursday from 2.00 - 3.00. It costs £2.50 per day and includes a healthy snack. Should you wish your child to attend, please send in money on a **Monday** in an envelope marked after school's club or with dinner money.

We are currently gauging the demand for after school's club to run on a Monday & Tuesday also.

**Breakfast club-** In previous years we have run a breakfast club Monday - Friday.

Times to be decided however drop off would be approximately 8.00am.

Please complete attached slip to register interest. Availability will depend on demand.

**Buses/Parking at school:** The buses will drop off and collect children from the side path inside the school grounds in the car park.

Please keep the school gates clear at all times to allow for the movement of staff, the buses and Board vehicles. Parents are not to use the school car park unless they need to avail of a disabled space. Please consider householders near the school and do not block lanes or drives.

**Parent's Information Evening:** This will take place on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm in the Assembly Hall. Childcare will be available on the evening. Every child that is represented by a parent attending will be awarded 100 "house" points that will go towards the winning house at the end of the school year. Our houses are Drainsbay Dolphins (green) Sallagh Squirrels (yellow) Ballygally Bears (blue) & Cairncastle Cheetahs (red). All new P1's will be informed of which house they are in.

**AQE:** The closing date for applications is tomorrow Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

**Information:** Over the coming weeks there will be information/forms being sent home for parents to sign and return. Please ensure that you check your child's bag to ensure a prompt return as this is important, up to date information for school to have.

**Piano Lessons:** Hannah Copes, a qualified piano teacher is in school on Monday's to teach piano. Pupils from P3 upwards can learn for fun or progress onto sitting graded examinations. 20 minutes costs £8 and 30 minutes costs £12. This can be paid on a weekly basis.

**Community news:** BCDA Ltd are holding a Fete for local residents in Ballygally Play Park on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2-5pm. We have lots of activities organized for the day, including Only Yolkin Petting Farm, Children's Yoga, Face Painting & Glitter Tattoos and The Gathering Drum, all finished with a BBQ. This is a ticketed event, and numbers are limited. Tickets cost £2.50 per person and are available from Ballygally Hall Office.

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I would be interested in After school's club/Breakfast club (delete as appropriate) for my

child----- Signed-----