



Carrickfergus Model Primary School Principal's Newsletter: February 2019



Dear Parents / Carers

We have had a lovely January in school. Our boys and girls have been working very hard on their January exams and we have enjoyed a whole host of after school activities, projects and visitors to school.

Our Primary 7 pupils have received their AQE results and have been a credit to us and their parents in the way they have supported and encouraged one another. Primary 7 have also been enjoying their young enterprise projects and had to face a very formidable 'Dragon's Den' panel in order to secure funds for their endeavours! Well done, also, to the eight Primary 7s who represented the school at two local Road Safety quizzes. Our Primary 1 children are truly amazing and it is wonderful how they have grown in confidence since September. I am impressed by their work with Numicon in Numeracy and their early writing – well done! Primary 2 have had great fun learning about the Arctic in our wonderful Inner Courtyard and Primary 3 have been developing their ICT and investigative skills. Primary 4 have been 'singing in the rain' and learning how to record the weather. Primary 5 have been making the most of the school grounds by designing and testing kites and practising working together. Primary 6 have been dancing in PE and making instruments as part of their sound topic.

Our Primary 1 – Primary 4 pupils had a visit from Mr Hullabaloo to reward them for all their hard work and we also had a visit from the Recycling Van and Young Enterprise. Still to come this month is the launch of Accelerated Reader in Primary 4 and Translink Safety Bus workshops. Our staff are also receiving training in Outdoor Play and Learning next week.

Please continue to support us by having dinner money in on a Monday morning with the correct change provided and remember that children using the bus should be using a bus pass. This is to protect teaching time and to help us run school more efficiently.

As always, please contact the class teacher if you have any concerns about your child. We love and care about every single child in our school and we are here to help if we can.

Best wishes

J Miller

Principal

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THIS TERM

Friday 8th February: Translink Child Safety Bus visiting school
Monday 11th February: School Nurse visits begin with Primary 1 pupils.
Wednesday 13th February: Exam Papers sent home for pupils in Primary 3 – Primary 6.
Thursday 14th February: Choir at Peace Proms Workshop.
Monday 18th – Friday 22nd February: Half-Term.
Monday 25th & Tuesday 26th February: School Photographer (Individuals, families and classes)

Thursday 7th March: World Book Day. Wear your pyjamas to school!
Thursday 14th March: All pupils finish at 12 noon to facilitate Parent Interviews for pupils in Primary 1 – Primary 5. More information to follow. Primary 6 Interviews will be slightly later when more AQE papers have been completed.
Monday 18th March: Primary 6 Transfer Meeting. More information to follow.
Tuesday 26th March: Book Fair (More information to follow)
Saturday 30th March: Carrickfergus Festival begins.
Friday 12th April: End of Term. Pupils finish at 12 noon.
Monday 15th April – Friday 26th April: Easter Holidays.

PTA Meeting Date to follow...

Other dates may be added in line with P6 / P7 visits to Post-Primary Schools / class trips etc.
Please keep checking your child's school bag for notes etc.



WASTE WEEK – 11TH February

We will be trying to reduce the amount of waste in our school throughout the rest of the year and are initiating it with a campaign during 'Waste' week. We would ask parents to support us by reducing packaging in lunch boxes. We would appreciate it if lunch boxes could be used instead of plastic bags, cling film and tin foil and of these items could be avoided within the lunch box. We know that many parents already adhere to this and we thank you. We are having a class competition to see which class can reduce their waste the most during this special week! Thank you to Mrs Johnston and her Eco-Council for motivating everyone to get involved!



Due to the commission earned from the recent Scholastic Book Fairs in school, we were delighted to receive a large delivery of reading books.

- Primary 1 and 2 have a range of new, glossy picture books in their borrowing library.
- Primary 3 have a wide selection of early reader novels to enjoy in their classrooms.
- Primary 4 are benefitting from a range of new reading books to kickstart their Accelerated Reader library.
- Primary 5-7 will be enjoying a host of new books in their Accelerated Reader library from contemporary and classic authors.

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL

Please ensure that all children, especially very small children do not run near the school crossing. Mr McAlister does a wonderful job but please support him in his efforts to keep everyone safe 😊



What are Fab Fridays all about?

A new initiative for us this year is our 'Fab Fridays.' Our children and teachers work hard each Friday but lessons are slightly different to the rest of the week. The aims of our 'Fab Fridays' are:

- To experience active learning across the curriculum
- To engage with pupils in a fun and active way
- To provide opportunities for children to put their learning into real-life contexts
- To allow children who struggle with certain concepts to gain hands-on experience, particularly in Numeracy
- To provide opportunities for discussion, pair work and group work, particularly in Literacy
- To inspire creativity within the Arts across the curriculum
- To promote the teaching of PDMU and ensure this subject is valued throughout the school
- To encourage more opportunities for outdoor learning in all year groups

Preparing children for AQE is still an important part of our work in school, especially in Key Stage Two but so too are the skills for real life and the jobs our children may end up doing that haven't been invented yet. Fab Fridays are about developing the whole child!



SCHOOL COUNCIL

Our School Council have been working hard to make playtime better for all our boys and girls. Look out for the new shed coming soon to the playground to house all the lunch time play equipment. A huge thank you to our lunch time supervisors for facilitating play at lunch time. Our boys and girls are very lucky indeed!

PARENTS VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION

These contributions continue to help us in school within the difficult financial climate we are in. Our children have benefitted from IFA Coaching, buses for school trips have been subsidised and every year group has received an amount of money to purchase vital learning materials. This is making a huge difference to our school and most importantly to our children.



PRIMARY 1 PARENTS: PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD'S SCHOOL BAG AND COMPLETE THE QUESTIONNAIRE WE HAVE SENT HOME – YOUR VIEWS MATTER TO US!

PLEASE RETURN BY MONDAY 11TH FEBRUARY. THANKYOU!

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT OUR SCHOOL CAR PARK IS FOR BLUE BADGE HOLDERS ONLY AT ALL TIMES – PARKING PERMITS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE OFFICE.

PLEASE CONTACT MRS SMYTHE IF APPLICABLE.

ATTENDANCE FIGURES FOR DECEMBER 2018

Primary 1 HM: 97.8%	Primary 1 SEM: 98.9%	Green = 96% +
Primary 2 SM: 96.7%	Primary 2 JD: 98.7%	
Primary 3 RJ: 97.0%	Primary 3 CR: 97.5%	Amber = 94% - 95.9%
Primary 4 LR: 98.5%	Primary 4 CG: 95.9%	
Primary 5 BM: 96.1%	Primary 5 MF: 96.5%	Red = 93.9% and below
Primary 6 JC: 98.4%	Primary 6 JH: 94.9%	
Primary 7 JK: 94.3%	Primary 7 CT: 96.9%	

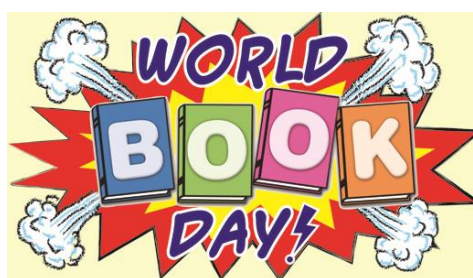


Senior Leadership Team	Safe-Guarding Team	Wish to speak to the Principal or your child's class teacher?
<p>Principal: Mrs J Miller</p> <p>Vice-Principal / Head of Key Stage 2: Mrs J Kirkland</p> <p>Head of Foundation Stage: Mrs H Morton</p> <p>Head of Key Stage 1: Mrs L Robinson</p> <p>Care & Welfare Co-ordinator: 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 Anderson</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

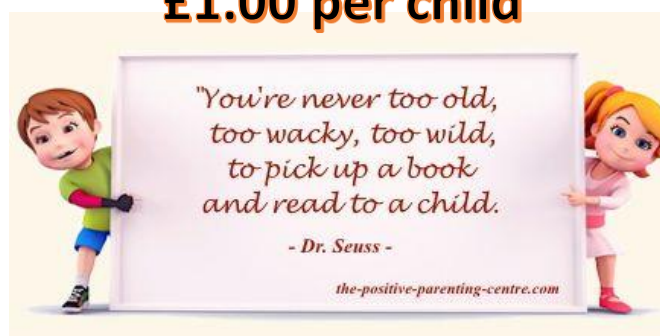
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Wear your pyjamas to school for World Book Day!

£1.00 per child



- Dr. Seuss -

the-positive-parenting-centre.com