

# The Score in the 'Dore

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

## SEAG

We want to take this opportunity to say how proud we are of our Primary Seven pupils who have been working SO hard to prepare for their SEAG tests. This Saturday marks the end of a long and arduous journey, boys and girls you have worked your socks off! Give it your all one last time this Saturday, today's words of wisdom are especially for you.

## Industrial Action

We have been notified of strike action taking place **next** Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November by all five teaching unions. School will be **closed until 12 noon, please see letter at end of today's Score in the 'Dore.**

## PTA AGM & Bake Sale

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the PTA bake sale on Friday. We raised an amazing £117, thanks to the PTA members for all their hard work! The next meeting of the PTA is next Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> at 3pm and we would be delighted to see any parents who would be willing to get involved with PTA.



## PTA Christmas Quiz

Christmas quiz sheets are available to buy now via the Shop on School Money, priced £1 each. Place your order via School Money and we will send the quiz sheets home. We hope you will encourage friends and family to get involved for the chance to win a £20 Tesco Voucher.

## Open Morning

Please share with family, friends and neighbours that our Open Morning for children due to start Primary One in September 2024 will take place on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 9:15.

## Nativity

We plan to run our P1-4 nativity plays on the mornings of the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> December, tickets are limited to 4 per family (2 for each performance) and are available now via the Shop on School Money.

## Easy Fundraising

Carrowdore Primary School, Newtownards are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can raise FREE donations for us every time you shop online. Over 7,000 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! These donations really mount up and make a BIG difference to us, so we'd really appreciate it if you could take a moment to sign up and support us. You can find our easyfundraising

page

at



[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/carrowdoreprimary/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=pmc&utm\\_content=gs-email1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/carrowdoreprimary/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=pmc&utm_content=gs-email1) Thank you so much!

## Afterschool Clubs

P1-3 club runs 2-3 and P4-7 3-4 each Tuesday until 12<sup>th</sup> December. All pupils in P3-6 should come to school on Tuesdays wearing their PE kit. P1&2 should wear their normal uniform as this is suitable for PE.

### Carol Service

Our P5-7 Carol Service will take place on the evening of the 19<sup>th</sup> December. Details re tickets to follow.

### School Money

Please remember to book your child on for dinner, break and milk each week as this saves staff a lot of time in the mornings. Bookings should be made for the week ahead; we will unbook your child if they are absent. You can make a last minute booking up to midnight the night before.

### School Fund

The school budgetary position is worse than ever, and we not only greatly appreciate but also rely on the support of parents via our annual school fund collection. We ask for £30 school fund per family which can be paid now for the whole year or in three instalments of £10 per term. The school fund payment should be showing in your eldest child's payments on School Money. We appreciate there are many financial pressures at the moment and completely understand if you feel unable to pay this amount, we have set the system to enable you to choose to pay a lesser amount! Thanks to those families who have already contributed.

### Allergy Aware

Due to children with severe allergies please do not to send nuts or coconut into school. e.g. Nutella. Please note Prime drinks contain coconut water and should not be brought to school.



### Car Park

We kindly ask parents, grandparents, childminders etc. NOT to bring their cars into the turning circle either at drop off or pick up time. Please park and walk your child to/from the gate each day, we appreciate the road works are causing extra congestion and ask all parents to take extra care and be considerate towards others.

### P6 Swimming

P6 are scheduled to go swimming this Friday.

### PE Uniform

Pupils in P3-7 should come to school on PE days wearing their PE kit - a pair of **plain** navy shorts or jogging bottoms, their school polo and sweatshirt and a pair of trainers.

### Covid-19

COVID-19 testing is no longer recommended or available for most people. If your child has a positive COVID-19 test result, they should stay at home and avoid contact with other people for three days after the day they took the test or from the day their symptoms started (whichever was earliest). After three days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is lower and they should return to school. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.

### Healthy Break

Please remember to send a **healthy** snack for break (no chocolate, crisps or sweets) or pay for school healthy break - 50p per day for toast and fruit and 10p per day for milk.

### Dinners

The cost of school dinners will remain £2.60 per day, this cost is set by the Education Authority. Dinners should also be paid via School Money

1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days	5 days
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£2.60	£5.20	£7.80	£10.40	£13.00
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### Dinner Menu w/c 27-11-23

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Ham & Cheese Pizza with Chips & Corn Melon, Mandarin & Pineapple Pot	Beef Bolognaise with Garlic Bread & Pasta Twists Jelly & Fruit	Chicken Curry Boiled Rice, Garden Peas & Naan Bread Date Fudge & Custard	Roast Turkey, Stuffing, Gravy, Vegetables, Mashed & Roast Potatoes Chocolate Sponge & Custard	Oven Baked Chicken Goujons, Chips & Peas Ginger Biscuit & Fruit
<i>Please note due to ongoing supply issues this menu is subject to change!</i>				

### The Week Ahead

Date	In School	After School
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>		
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>		P1-3 Sports Club 2-3 P4-7 Sports Club 3-4
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	<b>School closed until 12 noon</b>	
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>		
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	P6 Swimming	

### Words of Wisdom

*There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failure.*

Colin Powell

# Carrowdore Primary School

caring promotes success

## Open Morning

### Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December

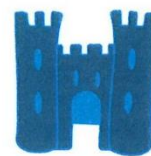
### 9:15 – 10:15

Carrowdore Primary is a happy and welcoming school. Our dedicated staff strive to ensure every child reaches their full potential in a caring environment. We can't wait to welcome you for a look around in person but in the meantime watch this video for a taste of life in Carrowdore Primary.



Tel: 028 9186 2791 or e-mail:  
[info@carrowdoreps.newtownards.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@carrowdoreps.newtownards.ni.sch.uk)





**Half Day of Strike Action by Teachers and School Leaders.**

**SCHOOL CLOSURE – Morning of Wednesday 29 November 2023**

Dear Parent,

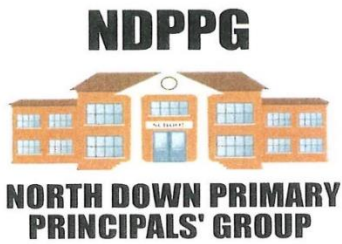
In light of the upcoming industrial action by teachers I met with the Board of Governors to consider the impact this is likely to have for Carrowdore Primary. As the action involves all five teaching unions in Northern Ireland and because teachers are not expected to give advance notice of participation, we are unable to ensure adequate staff to pupil ratios. **We have therefore taken the decision to close Carrowdore Primary on the morning of Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November.**

Why?

Education in Northern Ireland has been systematically defunded in recent years, resulting in decimating reductions in support, resource and capacity for your children.

- The teaching profession has filled in the growing gaps, holding the fragmenting system together and protecting children from the impact of the cuts.
- Pay paralysis, when set alongside the working conditions of the teaching profession in Northern Ireland, is having a devastating impact on the profession, with clear evidence that we will not be able to recruit or retain teachers and school leaders in the future if these issues are not resolved. Education is in crisis.
- Other public sector workers in Northern Ireland have also received pay increases during this time.
- Teachers across the UK and Ireland have received their normal pay increases, several times over the last three years. Teachers in Northern Ireland have received nothing.
- All five teaching unions have been in dispute for over a year, during which time no offer has been made.
- During this year of dispute, action has been gradually escalated, in the hope that an offer of resolution would be forthcoming.
- Taking strike action is the last resort. This could have been avoided and, indeed, can still be avoided.
- The responsibility to resolve this dispute lies squarely with the employing authorities and the Department of Education.

The staff in Carrowdore Primary School are very conscientious and committed to the children, they always go above and beyond for our pupils and will not take part in this action lightly. A strike by teachers is highly unusual and teachers taking strike action will lose pay. As Governors we are dismayed that the Department of Education and the Education Authority have been unable to resolve this long running dispute and the ongoing impact reduced levels of funding are having on all our pupils.



We fully acknowledge any disruption to pupils' education is incredibly unfortunate and recognise the pressure this places on families to make alternative childcare arrangements. School will open at 12:00p.m. for all pupils and school dinners/lunches will operate as normal.

We hope by communicating this now you have sufficient time to make alternative arrangements. I thank you in advance for your understanding and continued support.

The responsibility to resolve this dispute lies squarely with the Department of Education and our local government. To make your feelings known about that damage that is being done to our schools, the teaching profession and, of course, our children, you can write directly to the following people, in addition to your own local political representatives:

Sara Long, CEO: Education Authority, 40 Academy Street, Belfast, BT1

[sara.long@eani.org.uk](mailto:sara.long@eani.org.uk)

Eve Bremner, CEO: CCMS, Linen Hill House, 23 Linenhall Street, Lisburn, BT28 1FJ

[eve.bremner@ccmsschools.com](mailto:eve.bremner@ccmsschools.com)

Nuala O'Neill, Director: Governing Bodies Association, Fountain Centre, Belfast, BT1 6ET

[nuala@gbani.org](mailto:nuala@gbani.org)

Mark Bailie, Director of Workforce: DENI, Rathgael House, Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down, BT19

[mark.bailey@education-ni.gov.uk](mailto:mark.bailey@education-ni.gov.uk)

Mark Browne, Permanent Secretary: DENI, Rathgael House, Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down, BT19

[mark.browne@education-ni.gov.uk](mailto:mark.browne@education-ni.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

R.Roe

Principal

#### **The North Down Primary Principal's Group**

*Ballyholme PS, Ballymagee PS, Ballywalter PS, Bangor Central PS, Bloomfield PS, **Carrowdore PS**, Clandeboye PS, Cranfordsburn PS, Donaghadee PS, Glencraig IPS, Grange Park PS, Holywood PS, Kilcooley PS, Kilmaine PS, Kircubbin IPS, Kirkistown PS, Millisle PS, Portavogie PS, Rathmore PS, Sullivan Prep, St Malachy's PS, St Comgall's PS, St Patrick's PS, Towerview PS, Victoria PS Ballyhalbert.*

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# CHRISTMAS FAIR

THURS 23RD NOV  
6.30 - 9PM

CRAFTS ♦ SANTA'S GROTTTO ♦ HOT FOOD

ADULTS £3 • TEENS £2 • KIDS FREE

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GLASTRY COLLEGE, BALLYHALBERT



# OPEN EVENINGS 2023



**THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER  
6:00PM - 9:00PM**

Headmaster's Address: 6:00pm and 7:30pm

**FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER  
4:00PM - 7:00PM**

Headmaster's Address: 4:00pm and 5:30pm

## JOIN US

SCAN ME



Tel: 028 91 813234

Email: [office@regenthouse.org.uk](mailto:office@regenthouse.org.uk)

Website: [www.regenthouse.org.uk](http://www.regenthouse.org.uk)

Twitter: @RegentHouseSch



**REGENT HOUSE GRAMMAR SCHOOL,  
PREPARATORY DEPARTMENT & PRESCHOOL**

Circular Road, Newtownards, BT23 4QA