



St Joseph's Primary School

Carnacaville

25 Carnacaville Road, Maghera, Newcastle, Co. Down BT33 0JS

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www.carnacavilleps.com

Principal: Mr Christopher McCann Bsc(Hons), PGCE, PQH(NI)



August 2016

Dear Parents & Guardians,

I hope you are all enjoying the holidays and that you are looking forward to the new school year. I would like to draw your attention to a few items and ask you to consider them before the term is upon us.

School Uniform and Shoes

- I would ask all parents to adhere fully to our uniform policy and provide pupils with proper uniform items from our agreed suppliers, Annett's and Bingham's in Newcastle.
- Please remember to label your child's uniform and all of his/her belongings.
- Pupils are permitted to only wear black school shoes.
- Keeping our new school clean is now a mammoth task for our caretaker and in order to reduce the time consuming task of excessive scrubbing of floors:-
- **All school shoes and PE trainers must have NON MARKING SOLES.**
- This is to protect the new flooring throughout the school and the beautiful solid wooded floor in the Sports Hall.
- Please ensure to ask for non-marking soles when purchasing shoes for your child.
- If a pupil's shoes mark the floors excessively, staff have been asked to bring it to your attention.

We are all very proud of our new classrooms and I know you will agree with me that it only takes a little effort from everyone to ensure we maintain the high standard of finish in our new building.

- I would ask you to ensure that any pupils with shoulder length or longer hair have it tied back daily in a plait or pony tail. This is for practical reasons as it keeps hair away from their face during work time, playtime and PE. It also helps to minimise the spread of head lice.
- As stated in our school Information Booklet, for health and safety reasons pupils are only permitted to wear small stud type ear rings.

Drop Off , Pick Up and Parking

- When the term starts we will have access to the full frontage of the school. Over the first few weeks of term we will be implementing a new traffic management plan.
- Both our gates will be in operation so entry and exit will be easier.
- A drop off and Pick up area has been created along the frontage of the existing school.
- **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES MUST CARS BE PARKED OR LEFT IN THIS AREA.**
- All parents are asked to use this area and continue with the drop off system in the morning which was very successful last term.
- At pick up times please park **cautiously** and **considerately** in the new car park or on the road.
- Limited spaces for cars will be available under the Old School.
- **WHEN IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS ONLY PARK IN DESIGNATED PARKING BAYS.**
- **PARKING IS ABSOLUTELY DISCOURAGED IN ANY OTHER AREA IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS**
- Remember children will be moving among cars as parents collect them and return to their vehicles.
- When you have parked please collect your child and return to your car **immediately**.
- ***Under no circumstances must you beckon you child to cross the car park unaccompanied. They will not be allowed to do so by the teacher on duty.***

School Meals

School meals are available for all P1 – P7 pupils at a cost of **£2.50 per day**.

If you wish to avail of school meals please ensure that payment is made to the class teacher **on the day** dinner is needed or **in advance**. If you feel that your child is eligible for free school meals please pick up a form from the school office and complete as soon as possible.

Free meals cannot be administered in school until the correct forms have been completed and we have been informed by the SEELB

Nut and Kiwi Allergy

We have some pupils who have been diagnosed with an allergy to nuts and Kiwi fruit. Children with this condition can have a severe reaction and go into anaphylactic shock if they come in contact with the nut, fruit or products containing the allergen. As a consequence of this I would ask that ***no nuts, kiwi or products based on them (including Nutella) are brought into school for snacks or packed lunch.***

I hope you appreciate that it is for the safety and wellbeing of all our pupils and trust you will cooperate with us.

Mrs Helen King Retires.

Mrs Helen King officially retires on 31st August 2016. Helen, taught with such enthusiasm, it was infectious. Her dedicated teaching service to the pupils of Carnacaville went beyond the classroom where she helped so many children on their journey through education. Helen will be truly missed by staff, pupils and parents and we wish her every happiness and good health in her retirement. We will mark Helen's retirement formally later in the first term.

Finally, I would like to pass on my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all our families for their patience and support throughout the last eighteen months of building work.

It has been difficult at times but we could always see the big picture and knew that it was all for the benefit of the children.

Thank you for your continued help and support in all these matters.

Kindest Regards,

Christopher McCann
Principal