



# The Wee Friday Note

## Friday 13th November 2020



### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK


**"Worrying won't stop the bad things from happening, it just prevents you from enjoying the good." – Unknown**

1. **P1 enrolment 2021** – many of you are aware that our school is located in an area with numerous other primary schools. You may also be aware that Forge Integrated PS, currently located close to Wellington College, plans to move onto the old Knockbreda High School site within the next couple of years. Whilst I wish all local schools & their families well, I am concerned about the impact of this future development upon our school. I'm also concerned about the reducing numbers of children enrolling into our P1 class & how this affects our school. In 2014, our school enrolment was 152. By 2017 it was 181. Today it is 165. In a nutshell, too many families from the immediate area are sending their children to other schools – often because they see those schools as being more 'middle class' or superior in some other way. I can say with certainty that Cregagh Primary School out-performs most of its neighbouring schools, provides unparalleled pastoral support to its pupils & their families, & has a dedicated staff that works for the good of the children & not just because "it's their job" to do so. Cregagh Primary School can only stay in 'good health' if its local area supports it by sending us their children to care for & educate.

Please help us spread the good reputation of Cregagh Primary School far & wide. Share our new promotional video on social media with your friends & families, ask us for a school prospectus & give it to a family of school-aged children you know, & most importantly, recommend us! If we want Cregagh Primary School to reach its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in nineteen years' time, we need the local community to proactively support the school & help protect its future. School cannot do this alone. We need you!

2. **Scholastic Book Club** – every year around this time, a travelling book fair sets up its displays in our school & sells its books. Scholastic is a publisher of quality children's books & have been around for many years. This year, we have asked them to provide Cregagh parents with an online way to browse, order & pay.  
Visit <https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/cregagh/digital-book-club> for full details.
3. **Children in Need** – today we held our annual charity day for Children in Need. Thank you for supporting this important event. All proceeds go directly to Children in Need. See Facebook & website for more information.
4. **Remembrance** – teaching the children about Remembrance Day & why it's important has always been something close to our hearts here at CPS. On Wednesday of this week, all classes observed a 2-minute silence at 11am. Very well done to all the children from P1 to P7 who joined in & showed great respect for this solemn occasion. *"We Will Remember Them"*
5. **Free donations to Cregagh Primary School when you shop** – you can now help us raise money for school by doing your online shopping through *Easy Fundraising* where 4,300 online sites will give us a free donation when you shop with them - at no extra cost to you! Select Cregagh Primary School as your chosen cause to help & shop away! Visit: [www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cregaghprimaryschool/](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cregaghprimaryschool/) & use the free App to make it even easier. Costs you nothing but can help us a lot.
6. **Cregagh Primary has its very own parent support advisor/worker** - Alex Barnes, our parent worker, is here to help & she is brilliant! If you need advice on anything to do with family life & the challenges of raising kids, give her a call or text (07740545129). Alex is totally confidential & very easy to chat to. Check out our school Facebook page where we put details of all the different things Cregagh Primary School is offering to parents with Alex. A new short course for parents is starting quite soon over at Mount Merrion Parish's church halls. See Facebook for more details or ring/text Alex.

### Important Dates for your Diary

-  **Christmas Holidays** – NOTE CHANGE OF DATE – School will now close on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon not Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December (as indicated before the summer).

# COVID - Information for Parents & Carers

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & CARERS

Everyone has a role to play in keeping our schools safe and helping to stop the spread of COVID-19.

**DON'T SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF THEY HAVE COVID-19 SYMPTOMS.**

**VISIT [NIDIRECT.GOV.UK/CORONAVIRUS](https://nidirect.gov.uk/coronavirus) TO BOOK A TEST ONLINE. CALL 119 IF YOU CANNOT BOOK A TEST ONLINE.**

### YOU SHOULD BOOK A COVID-19 TEST IF YOUR CHILD HAS:

#### A HIGH TEMPERATURE

This means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature).

OR

#### A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).

OR

#### A LOSS OR CHANGE TO THEIR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE

This means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

**IF YOUR CHILD DOES NOT HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 BUT HAS OTHER COLD-LIKE SYMPTOMS, SUCH AS A RUNNY NOSE, THEY DO NOT NEED TO BE TESTED AND THEY OR MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD DO NOT NEED TO SELF-ISOLATE. YOUR CHILD CAN ATTEND SCHOOL IF FIT TO DO SO.**

### HERE'S WHAT TO DO IF:

#### YOUR CHILD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

##### WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Book a COVID-19 test
- Household self-isolates
- Inform school immediately about test result

##### WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school if the test is negative providing they are well enough, have not had a fever for 48 hours and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service.

#### YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

##### WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Inform school immediately about test result
- Self-isolate for at least 10 days as advised by the PHA.

##### WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school after 10 days even if they still have a cough / loss of smell or taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks.

#### SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

##### WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- The household member should book a COVID-19 test
- Household self-isolates
- Inform school immediately about test result

##### WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school if the symptomatic household member's test is negative and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service.

#### SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

##### WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Inform school immediately about test result

##### WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms\*.

#### CONTACT TRACING HAS IDENTIFIED MY CHILD AS A CLOSE CONTACT

##### WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Self-isolate for at least 14 days as advised by the PHA Contact Tracing Service

##### WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms\*.

#### YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A CLOSE CONTACT

##### WHAT TO DO?

- Attend school as normal
- If your child does not have any COVID-19 symptoms they should carry on with normal activities.

#### YOUR CHILD HAS TRAVELLED ABROAD AND HAS TO SELF-ISOLATE

##### WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Self-isolate for 14 days in line with quarantine advice

##### WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms\*.

\*If your child has been identified as a close contact of a case of COVID-19, or has returned from travel abroad and is self-isolating, they must self-isolate for 14 days regardless of a negative COVID-19 test result.

Further information, including Frequently Asked Questions for Parents and Carers, can be found on the Department of Education's website at [www.education-ni.gov.uk](https://www.education-ni.gov.uk)

### EDUCATION RESTART