



FRIDAY NOTE

Friday 22nd March



1. **Mr Heggarty appointed as new Principal** – following a recruitment process by the Education Authority over December/January, I am delighted to share with you all the news that I have been formally appointed as the new Principal of Cregagh Primary School. I consider this a great privilege. I came to Cregagh Primary School in 1999 (20 years ago!), having taught in Avoniel Primary for 3 years. So for me to be appointed the new Principal is just fantastic. I look forward to new and exciting things here at Cregagh Primary!
2. **School Secretary** – we are also delighted to welcome onto our school staff Miss Murphy, our new permanent school secretary. It will take her some time to learn the 1001 different jobs that a busy school office demands but you will find she is very friendly and extremely helpful.
3. **Mobile Phones** – remember, please do not use your mobile phone while on the school grounds. This is for Child Protection reasons (could be pictures/video taken etc.). Quite a few parents are still using their phones around the clock-tower and in the school's reception area. Thanks for helping us with this.
4. **Parent Staff Association** – we'd really like to see our PSA get back up and running again. For a few years there it was humming along very nicely: organising fun events, helping out on special days (eg. Sports Day) and even raising some money for school funds. If you'd be interested in becoming part of a school PSA, please give your name to Mr Larmour, Miss Murphy in the Office or myself. We hope to get a series of events agreed very soon – but we'd like more parents to get involved.
5. **P1 Enrolment** – I've thought carefully about including this last item on this Friday note but I think parents need to be made aware of the lower than normal number of P1 applications we received this year – only 17 for September 2019. While 17 is a lovely size of a class for a child to be part of, it decimates school finances. Over the past year, Cregagh Primary School has featured regularly in the press and media, we have spent generously on advertising, we have had excellent open day events for pre-schoolers and their families such as our Carnival and Breakfast with Santa events. We offer Family Learning opportunities. We have a School Counsellor. Our school outperforms many neighbouring schools' academic results and rivals many others. All our pupils are well cared for. Every year group enjoys at least 2 out-of-school trips each year. And during the ongoing Industrial Action by teachers' unions, we have continued to provide our boys and girls with after school clubs, not to mention lots of training opportunities for their parents! Lastly, we are once again staging a school show at the end of what will have been a fabulous school year!

So, parents of Cregagh – share the good news stories about Cregagh Primary School! At the moment our pupil numbers are healthy but we all need to work together to keep them that way. If Cregagh Primary School is “At the Heart of its Community”, we need to look after that heart together.

Important Dates for your Diary

-  **Parent Teacher Interviews**- Monday 8th – Friday 12th April. Pupils finish at 1pm Monday-Thursday. 12 noon finish on the Friday, as it's the last day of a full term.
-  **Local Government Elections** - Thursday 2nd May. School closed – used a polling station.
-  **Sports Day** – Friday 31st May (Friday 7th June will be held as a reserve day)
-  **Prize Day and Final Assembly** – Thursday 20th June
-  **P7 Residential** – 10th – 12th June (further details to follow – please continue to send in money)
-  **P7 Final Day** – Tuesday 25th June (12noon finish)

