



# The Wee Friday Note

## Friday 2nd December 2022



*“Unless we make Christmas an occasion to share our blessings, all the snow in Alaska won’t make it ‘white.’ ” – Bing Crosby*

### 1. Carol Service & Carols Around the Christmas Tree

**CAROL SERVICE** – our school’s Carol Service is held in St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church (Rosetta) every year. This year it’s being held on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm. Due to the size of the church building and fire regulations, we must manage the number of people attending. We do this through tickets. Cregagh Primary School pupils do not, of course, need tickets to attend but everyone else does. Each family will be sent 4 tickets initially; if one or two more are required, parents can contact the school office and leave their name with Miss Murphy who will compile a list. If anyone does not need all 4 of their tickets, please return any spares to school. These will then be shared with families who have requested extra tickets. Carol Service tickets must be shown at the door upon entry. The congregation of St. Andrew’s are providing a light supper after the Carol Service; please keep your own children supervised during this time: especially when they are choosing food from the tables. There will a collection for charity at the end of the night in favour of Cregagh’s own **TeamDot**, please bring whatever you can to donate to this brilliant cause which is very dear to all our hearts.

**CAROLS AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE** – this event takes place outside in our playground area on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 6:15pm. Like the Carol Service, each family will be given 4 tickets for this event. Pupils don’t need tickets. Should any families want extra tickets, please let Miss Murphy know and we will try our best. Entrance to this event will be via the school’s rear yellow gates. Tickets must be shown at the gate (this is to make sure no one who would spoil the event gains access). The school building will be closed to children and families on this evening but our friends at Cregagh Community Centre will be providing access to the centre’s toilets. School staff will be selling hot drinks & some sweet things for School Fund – so please try and support us by purchasing something. There will also be a collection for the **TeamDot** charity at the close of the event. Remember to wrap up warm!

### 2. After-School Clubs & Two-to-Three finishing this term

🏠 After-school clubs finish for this term - Thursday 8th December

🏠 Last day of Two-to-Three Club for this term - Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December

### 3. Christmas Stamps

Cregagh PS has sold stamps for the Cedar Foundation (people with learning difficulties) for over 30 years. These stamps can be put onto Christmas card envelopes and posted into our school post box (internal mail only). The cards then get delivered to the addressee by our P3 postmen and postwomen. Please help your children when writing on the front of the envelope so we know the name and classroom of the child where the card must be delivered to! Each sheet of 35 stamps cost £1 and will go on sale on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November. ½ sheets can also be purchased for 50p. All proceeds go to the Cedar Foundation.

4. **Lois Corbett Family Worker** – Lois is our school’s family support worker. She is simply here to give parents a helping hand and offer some advice over a relaxed cup of tea or coffee. If you haven’t connected with her yet, you should try to: she’s lovely and very helpful! You can text her on 07526915747.

5. **Four-Legged Friends** (some parents are still bringing their dogs to the school gates 😞 )

Most people love dogs ... most people ... but we do have some children in our school who, for various reasons, are very afraid of dogs. Only Guide Dogs are permitted on school grounds. Parents should not bring their dogs to school at drop-off or pick-up times, as this will bring them into close contact with our pupils.

Dogs Fouling Outside School Gates/Fence – this continues to be an issue. Mr Dickson our caretaker, checks that the areas around our school gates are clean every morning but all that is needed is for one careless dog owner to walk by, not pick-up after their dog and we're back to square one. It's disgusting and dangerous in areas that are frequented by young children. **Please contact your local councillors and MLAs and ask them to do more about helping with this problem – particularly putting up two new dog bins at the two lampposts either side of our back yellow gates. Your help with these doggy problems would be appreciated!**

## 6. Spare School Uniform

Thanks to school parents of previous pupils, we have a quantity of pre-loved Cregagh uniform which is available free-of-charge to any family who needs any available items. Contact Miss Murphy or Lois and we'll arrange a time for you to pick it up. At the moment, we have:

| Item                              | Age   | Quantity |
|-----------------------------------|-------|----------|
| Navy school sweater with crest    | 13    | 2        |
| Navy school sweater with crest    | 11/12 | 6        |
| Navy school sweater with crest    | 10/11 | 3        |
| Navy school sweater with crest    | 9/10  | 2        |
| Navy school sweater with crest    | 3/4   | 1        |
| Red school sweater with crest     | 12/13 | 1        |
| Blue school T-shirt with crest    | 11/13 | 4        |
| Blue school T-shirt with crest    | 10/11 | 2        |
| Plain blue t-shirt without crest  | 6/7   | 5        |
| Plain blue t-shirt without crest  | 9/10  | 3        |
| Plain blue t-shirt without crest  | 11/12 | 1        |
| Plain white t-shirt without crest | 10/11 | 1        |
| Navy shorts                       | 7     | 1        |
| Navy shorts                       | 8/9   | 2        |
| Navy shorts                       | 9/10  | 2        |
| Navy shorts                       | 10/11 | 2        |
| Navy Shorts                       | 11/12 | 1        |
| Plain black girls' shoes          | 9/10  | 1        |
| Plain black girls' shoes          | 11/12 | 1        |



## 7. Help with Christmas school trips and other things

-  We all know that things are tight right now. We have been doing what we can to help including: cutting the cost of Breakfast Club by over half and school paying for buses for all classes who go for swimming lessons.
-  School will also be paying for buses to take P1-3s to the cinema at Christmas and the P4-P7s to the Panto. Together, this will cost the school budget close to £2,000 and we will have to make our own cuts to make ends meet.
-  We are also pleased to have been able to help many families in other practical ways this term. As a small primary school have very limited resources but where and when we can help, we will try to. I would ask that when teachers ask parents to pay the heavily reduced price for their children's Christmas trips, they will. School is paying more than half for both trips out of our limited budget, we cannot cover the full costs. Thank you 😊

## \*\*\* IMPORTANT FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY \*\*\*

- Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December**      AQE paper 3 (affects only some P7s)
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December**      Last day of after-school clubs for this term
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December**      P4-P7 Carol Service at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 7pm
- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December**      Last day of Two-to-Three Club for this term
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December**      P1-P3 Nativity Play at Mount Merrion Parish Church (a.m.)
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**      Aldo the Magician - £1 per pupil please  
"Carols Around the Christmas Tree", 6:15pm-7:15pm-ish!
- Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December**      School closes for Christmas holidays at 12 noon
- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January**      School reopens. Breakfast Club open.  
**2023**
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January**      Two-to-Three Club restarts
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January**      After-school activities

