



The Wee Friday Note

Friday 3rd February 2023



**“It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light”
Aristotle**

1) All the very best to our P7s who sat the AQE / GL Assessments in late 2022

All the staff and governors of Cregagh Primary School send our best wishes to those P7s who will receive their results on Saturday morning. From P1, our pupils are told, “The most important thing to do is to always do your best.” We regularly remind our older pupils that what matters most about their next school, is not the name above the door but rather what they make of the opportunities given to them when they go there! There’s a special letter going home with P7s waiting on results tomorrow and we’d ask that parents hold on to this letter for their child and give it to them just before they open their results envelope – it contains a note of encouragement and a little gift! 😊

2) Missed the P1 Admissions deadline?

Late P1 applications can still be made by contacting the Education Authority Admissions section on 028 95985595.

3) Free School Meals

Schools in Northern Ireland receive additional funding according to the percentage of its pupils entitled and registered for Free School Meals (FSM). I would ask all parents who think they may be entitled to FSM but currently aren’t registered to apply. Whether or not their children actually use them is a completely different matter.

Like most primary schools across NI, we are facing a ‘perfect storm’ of a small P1 class coming in September 2023, lower numbers of children registered for FSM, and the DE’s 10% cuts across all government departments and the EA’s £110 Million own cuts. If you need any help to apply, please contact either Miss Murphy in the school office (028 90 401246) or our Family Support Worker Lois Corbett (07526915747).

4) Applying for a Post Primary School Place 2023

Online applications will open at 12 noon on Wednesday 1 February 2023 and will close at 4pm on Thursday 23 February 2023. Cregagh Primary School will share with P7 parents an electronic copy of the key information leaflet ‘Applying for a Year 8 Post Primary Place’ once this becomes available from EA. Further guidance and information is available on the EA’s website.

I would encourage all P7 parents to take up the offer of a short interview with myself as offered in a recently shared letter, as it gives parents an opportunity to ask any questions about the process, local schools, and their child’s options. P7 parents should contact the school office on 90 401246 to arrange a mutually suitable interview time.

5) Notice of school disruption due to teachers’ unions strike - morning of Tuesday 21st February

The normal school day will be disrupted on the morning of Tuesday 21st February due to industrial action agreed upon by all Northern Ireland’s teachers’ unions. The planned action will only affect the first half of the day as it ends at 12 noon: making it possible for school dinners to be served as normal.

As it is likely that Cregagh Primary School will not have sufficient staff to supervise pupils and therefore operate safely, I believe it is best to advise parents now, 2 weeks in advance, that **school will be closed to children on the morning of Tuesday 21st February until 12 noon**. School will operate as normal on this day from 12 noon to its normal closing times. After-school Clubs will also run as normal on this Tuesday.

6) 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. Parents looking for a little advice or support can text her on 07526915747. Lois is organising different things for parents to enjoy and be part of their child’s education. Check out two brilliant opportunities overpage ...

STAY AND PLAY
PARENT AND CHILD TOGETHER
Cregagh Primary School

COME AND JOIN US

FAMILY HUB BUILDING
WEDNESDAY'S 2-3PM
1ST FEB - GAMES CAFE
8TH FEB - WINTER SENSORY PLAY

Stay and Play sessions are for parents and children to come and spend time together. Each session will provide an opportunity to have fun through play that will encourage language, literacy, early maths concepts and creativity. We look forward to meeting you. For more information contact Lois 07526915747.



Family Connections
Cregagh Primary School

RESPOND · CUDDLE · RELAX · PLAY · TALK

BOOSTING BRAINS in Cregagh Primary School.

Five things you can do to help your child succeed in Primary School.

When a child thrives and are doing well they are able to:

- Be happy in themselves
- Make friends
- Enjoy their family life
- Get the best start for learning

Copyright © Kate Cairns Associates

Registration Morning – Wednesday 22nd Feb – 9AM
Starting Wednesdays
1st March – 5th April
Time: 9.00 – 10.30AM

WE WILL:

- ENJOY A RELAXING CUPPA AND SNACK
- SHARE TIPS AND SUPPORT
- GET PRACTICAL IDEAS OF HOW TO USE THESE 5 THINGS TO BENEFIT OUR CHILDREN.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THIS COURSE
PLEASE CONTACT LOIS
Email lois.corbett@barnardos.org.uk
text/phone 07526915747

Believe in children
Barnardo's Northern Ireland



Family Connections
Cregagh Primary School

*** IMPORTANT FUTURE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY / CALENDAR ***

Saturday 4 th February	AQE & GL results due (some P7s only)
Monday 13 th February to Friday 17 th February	Half-term break (5 school days)
Tuesday 21 st February	CPS closed to children until 12 noon. School dinners as normal.
Friday 26 th May	Sports Day
Thursday 22 nd June	Final Assembly for P3-P7 pupils (parents/carers welcome)
Friday 23 rd June	P1 & P2 Prize Day (parents/carers welcome) Deaf Units 1 & 2 Coffee Morning
Tuesday 27 th June	P7s last day of school P7 Awards Ceremony & Celebration (evening)