



The Wee Friday Note

Friday 13th October 2023



1. Harvest Assembly

We are planning to have a special Harvest Assembly on Thursday 26th of October. If any parents, grandparents or guardians are free on this morning they are very welcome to join us for this assembly at 9:15am. The school choir will be singing and we hope to have a guest speaker who will speak to the boys and girls for a short while.

As well as this, we hope to help the wider Cregagh community by collecting tins of food that will in turn be distributed to needy families identified by our friends from Mount Merrion Parish Church and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

We ask that each pupil donates one or two tins of food (or packets of dried food) to our harvest service table and 'community food basket'. Anyone wanting to donate more than one or two tins, may of course do so. School also recognises that money is tight for a lot of people right now, so if you can't manage to do this, please do not worry about it.

- 🍎 Please make sure that any tins or packets of food being donated have a long shelf life left (at least three or four months before expiration) and are unopened.
- 🍎 Basic food items are best (things that most people like to eat, rather than very fancy foods)
- 🍎 Tins and packets can be brought to school by the children and given to their class teacher or, if preferred, parents and grandparents can leave them off at reception.
- 🍎 The last day for donation is Wednesday 25th October (the day before our assembly).

2. Christmas Trips

Every December, our P1-3 children go the cinema to enjoy a festive movie and the older children visit the pantomime. Because these trips are quite expensive (although we try our best to keep the costs down as much as we can), we like to give parents the facility to pay for the cost of these trips off in smaller instalments. This can now be done online using the *ParentMoney* App for the P4-7 pantomime trip (payment is "live") and soon the same will be done for the P1-3 cinema trip.

3. Board of Governors – reconstitution of school boards 2024-2028

Governors play a very important role in the life of any school. Cregagh Primary School has been very fortunate over past years with excellent people volunteering their time and expertise to serve our school community and support me as principal. A term of office for governors normally last 4 years, after which the Board is 'reconstituted'. This usually leads to a few changes in a Board's membership. In January of 2024, all schools across NI will see their Boards of Governors renewed. I will write to you closer to the time to explain in more detail what this involves here at Cregagh Primary School.

4. Children cycling to school

- If you allow your child to cycle or scoot to school, please make sure they wear a helmet – even if they protest and say they don't want to. It's for safety, after all!
- Also, please remind your child that once they arrive at the school gates, they are to dismount and push their bikes and scooters down the school paths, across the playground and over to where they are stored.

5. School Fund

Most school staff are parents themselves and understand that money doesn't grow on trees – especially at the moment! However, without school fund contributions the boys and girls would miss out on a lot of things. The amount remains at £20 *per family* per school year. This can be paid through our online payment system School Money in either one or several instalments. Speak to Miss Murphy our school secretary (90 401246) if you need help doing this.

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

Thursday 26th of October

Harvest Assembly (starts at 9:15am)

Monday 23rd

Parent-Teacher Interviews

to Friday 27th October

School will finish at 1pm every day this week

School dinners as normal

Monday 30th October

Half-Term Holidays

(5 school days)

to Friday 3rd November

Monday 6th November

School Development Day 1

School closed to all pupils

Saturday 11th November

SEAG Paper One

Monday 13th November

Odd Socks Day (Anti-Bullying Week)

Thursday 23rd November

Family Bingo! (PSA event)

Saturday 25th November

SEAG Paper 2

Saturday 2nd December

Christmas Market (PSA event)

Friday 8th December

P1-P3 Nativity

Mount Merrion Parish Church

Wednesday 13th December

P4-P7 Carol Service

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Tuesday 19th December

Pantomime trip for P4-P7

Waterfront Hall, Belfast

Class parties with Aldo the Magician & Disco

Wednesday 20th December

Last day of term – 12 noon finish