



Carrickfergus Model Primary School

"Aspiring to learn, care and grow together."



Term 2: March Newsletter 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,



There have been lots of smiling faces this week in the playground as the sunshine brings brightness and cheer. Our outdoors are busy and it is just joyful to see especially for the hockey, rugby and football that is taking place. Every year PTA funding allows us to top up our play equipment so I am sure the children will be delighted!

A huge congratulations to our PeaceProms Choir who impressed everyone with their performance on Sunday evening; a very special event for all involved!

Well done, also to our Primary 6 pupils who have started their SEAG Practise Papers this week; a little daunting for them but a great start has been made.

Mrs J Miller
Principal



- Thursday 5th March**
World Book Day & Author Visit to P1 - P4
- Monday 16th March**
School Closure: SDD
- Tuesday 17th March**
School Closure: St Patrick's Day
- Thursday 19th March**
Primary 4 at Armagh Palace Stables / Noel Arc Visits
- Monday 23rd March**
P6 Birds of Prey Visit & Primary 1 Acceptance Letters
- Tuesday 24th March**
PSNI Children's Court
- Wednesday 25th March**
P6 Aviation Society Trip
- Thursday 26th March**
P6 & P7 Disco (pm)
- Friday 27th March**
P1 -P5 Disco / P6 & P7 School Uniform
- Tuesday 31st March**
School closes at Noon for all pupils
- Monday 13th April**
Extra School Development Day for TransformEd
- Tuesday 14th April**
All children return to school after the Easter break
- Monday 20th - Thursday 23rd April**
Primary 7 Residential Trip to York
- Friday 1st May**
Extra School Development Day for TransformEd
- Monday 4th May**
School Closed for Bank Holiday
- Week Beginning Monday 18th May**
Sports Week (details to follow)
- Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May**
School Closed for May week Holiday
- Thursday 18th June**
PTA Summer Fundraiser
- Wednesday 24th - Friday 26th June**
Primary 6 Residential Trip to the Share Centre



Carrickfergus Model Website Update

We are delighted to launch our brand new website on Friday in celebration of our 165th year. We hope that it is a useful resource for parents!

www.carrickmodelps.co.uk



School Drop Off & Pick-Up at the back gate.



- Thank you to those parents who park and walk to the back gate in the mornings and afternoons. Not parking on both sides of the road really helps things to flow better.
- Please do not park on the corner shown in the photograph above as this is causing lots of problems for other parents and local residents.
- Please keep younger children behind the white line in the playground so that teachers can bring classes out safely. Younger children should not be climbing over picnic tables or the stone wall; they are not allowed to do this during the school day.
- Any child coming to school on a bike or scooter should wait until they are out of the playground before riding so we can get everyone out safely.
- I appreciate that local residents don't always take things slowly at the back gate but please watch your speed at drop-off and pick-up time.
- Primary 6 and Primary 7 may meet parents at a local car park at the end of the school day but the class teacher should be aware of this arrangement.





School Drop Off at the front door and crossing the Belfast Road



A number of parents have been in touch with school about the crossing on the Belfast Road and the number of cars that are driving through the red lights. This is an issue that has caused school much concern over recent years. I would remind parents to be extra vigilant when using this crossing and please don't allow young children the freedom of doing this by themselves.

Whilst a patrol person could not control all of the traffic, we believe that it would provide extra visibility and some reassurance to parents, children and staff. Schools are only allowed to re-apply for a patrol person every 2 years and that is what we have done but we continue to be refused even though there is four lanes of traffic. We cannot do this job ourselves or use volunteers due to indemnity in the event of any legal proceedings. The Education Authority have also stated that because there is a temporary 20mph and traffic lights in place that is sufficient. School strongly disagrees with this policy.

My thanks go to Mr John Stewart and the PSNI for their support in seeking a SCP. We have recently re-applied to the Education Authority so I would ask as many parents as possible to email HomeToSchool.Transport@eani.org.uk about this matter.



Collective Education & Religious Education



Parents may have heard via the media or other sources about the UK Supreme Court Ruling regarding Collective Worship & RE. Some parents may have already received information for post-primary or nursery children. We will be communicating with parents on this matter later this month but if any parent would like to discuss this at this stage please get in touch with Mrs Miller. Information will also be available on the Department of Education website.



Bus Prices for school trips

School Trips with classmates provide a lovely opportunity for pupils to learn in different contexts to the classroom and is always something that pupils remember even into adulthood.

We are trying to protect these experiences for pupils as much as possible but the cost of travel is increasing and recent world events could see this increasing even more. A recent quotation for an hour's bus journey was over £600!

Perhaps you know of a local business that may wish to sponsor a bus journey for a school trip so that these experiences can continue for all.

TransformEd Update

A large part of the new TransformEd Strategy is extra training for school staff. You may have noticed some supply teachers in school as teaching staff engage with training in Autism, SEN and all aspects of Literacy support.

The year 2026 - 2027 will be a year of engaging with up to date educational research and preparing for TransformEd. At the moment the new curriculum is planned for September 2027 but the writing of it has not been completed yet.



Carrickfergus Model Primary School
1980-1981



Carrickfergus Model

