



St Joseph's Primary School

Carnacaville

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www.carnacavilleps.com

Principal: Mr Christopher McCann Bsc(Hons), PGCE, PQH(NI)



Friday 28th August 2020

Dear Parents/ Guardians

Allow me to thank everyone for your patience, understanding and flexibility during the induction week. We are delighted to have all our pupils back to school and back to a new routine. All pupils settled in really well and showed so much knowledge and understanding about our new school norms. We have been able to review how induction week went and with some updates to the guidance from The Department of Education I want to give you some information about school next week as we welcome all our pupils back.

As per DENI's guidance pupils will remain in their class bubbles and we will endeavor to ensure that these bubbles do not cross. It is inevitable that there will be key times during the school day when pupils will pass each other. These will be kept to a minimum.

NB*

No school bags or lunch boxes are permitted in school yet, this will be kept under constant review.

Adults in class will be maintaining a two metre distance from other adults and pupils at all times. In some circumstances if an adult cannot maintain the two metre distance they will be wearing appropriate PPE. Please remember this is for their protection as well as the pupil's protection.

Morning Drop Off

- Gates will be open from 8:45am to 9:10 sharp.
- Stop your car in The Drop Off Area and let your children out on to the footpath. Allow them to walk to their designated gate.
- **Please DO NOT PARK your car in this area. The success of the morning drop off depends on the quick turn round of cars in and out of the school yard.**
- Reception and Primary One parents can continue to drop their child off at the class outside doors. **(Remember to park your car safely.)**
- When on school premises all adults are instructed to adhere to all current Government and PHA guidance on social distancing, hand sanitising and wearing of masks.
- Any child arriving at school after 9:10am must enter via the main entrance.

Break Time

- Please send in a healthy snack with your child. Healthy snack includes: - ***Fruit, vegetables yogurt, crackers or a plain biscuit.***
- Chocolate, fruit winders, crisps and bars/snacks with a high sugar content ***ARE NOT ALLOWED. These will be returned home.***
- Please ensure your child can open and eat the snack independently and the packaging can be disposed of. If your child needs help with peeling fruit, please prepare this at home and then send it in.
- Break times have been staggered and each class have been given a defined play area.
- **Nut and Kiwi Allergy**
Our school is a NUT AND KIWI FREE ZONE. Please do not send in food or products based on nuts or kiwi (including Nutella) for snacks or packed lunch.

Lunch Time

- ***Cooked meals will be available from Tuesday 1st September for Primary 2 – Primary 7.***
- Please ensure you have logged on to the **SCHOOL MONEY APP** and book your meal in advance.
- Primary One will begin dinners on 14th September. Primary One Login details will follow W/B 7th September.
- **Cash cannot be accepted in school as payment for dinners.**
- You will be receiving a reminder text from the payment system in the next 24 hours. A menu for the week will also be included by email and will be on our website.
- If you have any issues logging on and booking a meal, please contact the office and we will sort your issue out as soon as possible. As with any digital system there can be some teething problems. Can I suggest you continue to send in a packed lunch until we have your issue resolved.
- If your child will be continuing to take a packed lunch, please keep providing lunch in a disposable bag and only include items that your child can open and eat independently.
- Please open, chop and prepare all food at home and remember to keep it simple, particularly for the younger children.
- ***If spoons etc. are needed, please include disposable cutlery.***

2:00pm Pick Up

- ***At pick up times please park **cautiously** and **considerately** in the car park or on the road.***
- Pupils will continue to exit through the pedestrian gate at the playground.
- Primary One parents will continue to collect their child from the Primary One outside doors.
- Primary 2 pupils will be ready to collect at 1:55pm
- Primary 3 pupils will be ready to collect at 2:00pm
- **Please collect your child and exit the car park promptly to ensure the smooth movement of traffic.**

3:00pm Pick Up

- At pick up times please park **cautiously** and **considerately** in the car park or on the road.
- All pupils will continue to exit through the pedestrian gate at the playground.
- Primary 7 pupils will be ready to collect at 2:45pm
- Primary 6 pupils will be ready to collect at 2:50pm
- Primary 4 pupils will be ready to collect at 2:55pm
- Primary 5 pupils will be ready to collect at 3:00p
- Please consider your arrival time to coincide with your collection time.
- **Please collect your child and exit the car park promptly to ensure the smooth movement of traffic.**

Bus Service

- Translink will continue to provide the usual bus service at 2:00pm and 3:00pm
- If you wish to use the bus it is **strongly recommended** to use the Translink card to avoid using cash. Cash can also be difficult for the younger pupils.
- Cards are available from the Bus Depot in Newcastle. Any amount of journeys can be credited to the card. Top ups can be done by the bus driver, simply send the top up amount to school with your child and the driver will credit the card.
- Please ensure your child's name is on the bus card and that they know their stop.
- Pupils will be escorted to the bus class by class.
- Where possible we will be seating pupils socially distant.
- If you wish your child to wear a mask on the bus, please ensure they can access it easily and are able to fit it independently.
- Pupils will be using the pathway alongside the Sports Hall. Adults are asked to use the second pathway closer to the kerb line.
- Adults are asked to be diligent and allow room for pupils to access the bus safely while trying to avoid a bottle neck at the Bus stop area.

As the weeks progress we will keep the new arrangements under review ensuring adherence to DENI's guidance.

A list of main closure dates for this year are included. Event dates will be added as they are confirmed.

May I thank you again for your support and understanding with the new arrangements.

Kind regards,

Christopher McCann
Principal

Closure Dates 2020 2021

Start of Term	Monday 24 th August 2020	Induction Week
Staff Day	Friday 18 th September 2020	School closed for all pupils.
Staff Day	Monday 12 th October 2020	School closed for all pupils.
First Holy Communion (Primary 5 only)	Saturday 17 th October 2020 @ 11:00am	Our Lady of the Assumption, Newcastle. Each pupil is allowed 4 guests max.
Halloween Holidays	Mon. 26 th October – Friday 30 th Oct. 2019	School closed to all pupils.
School reopens	Monday 2 nd November 2020	
Parent Teacher Meetings for all classes	Monday 23 rd November 2020	School closed to all pupils.
Christmas Holidays	Tuesday 22 nd December 2020	12:00 noon finish for all classes (no bus).
School reopens for Spring Term	Wednesday 6 th January 2021	School reopens for all pupils.
Staff Day	Friday 29 th January 2021	School Closed for all Pupils.
Midterm break	Friday 12 th February 2021	School closes for all pupils @ 2:00pm.
Midterm break	Monday 15 th February- Friday 19 th February 2021	School Closed.
School reopens	Monday 22 th February 2021	School reopens for all pupils.
St Patrick's Day	Wednesday 17 th March 2021	School closed to all pupils.
Easter Holidays	Holy Thursday 1 st April 2021	12:00 noon finish for all classes (No bus).
School reopens for Summer Term	Monday 12 th April 2021	School reopens for all pupils.
Staff Day	Friday 30 th April 2021	School closed for all pupils
1 st May Bank Holiday	Monday 3 rd May 2021 – Wednesday 5 th May 2021	School Closed for all pupils.
School reopens	Thursday 6 th May 2021	School reopens for all pupils.
2 nd May Bank Holiday	Monday 31 st May 2021	School Closed for all pupils.
School Year End	Wednesday 30 th June 2021	12:00 noon finish for all classes (no bus).

(Please note these dates may be subject to change)

First Communion and Confirmation for 2021

will be available in due course.

Under current Department of Education Covid-19 guidance large gatherings in school will not be taking place.

Therefore, the annual Halloween bun sale and Christmas play will not be taking place. If guidance changes and time allows we will review this.