



The Wee Friday Note

Friday 21st June 2024



“It takes a big heart to help shape little minds.” ~ Anon

1. A Week of Celebration at Cregagh Primary School

What a week we've had! The week started off with the Chair & Vice-Chair (pupils) of our school's Green Team attending an awards ceremony at Stranmillis University College, where Cregagh PS was awarded its third consecutive Green Flag. Mrs Standley and her team have worked so hard for this over the past two years, it was fitting that they enjoyed a little time in the spotlight together!

Final Assembly for the P3-P7 classes saw record numbers of Gold and Super Gold awards being presented. Then today, we had a wonderful Foundation Stage (P1 & P2) Prize Morning with lovely signing and singing! At both events, presentations were made to Mrs Julie Duncan, Leader of Cregagh Preschool to celebrate her years of service to our schools and the wider Cregagh community. Julie retires after 17 wonderful years. And as if this wasn't enough, our Deaf Units had a very successful Coffee Morning for parents. Phew!



More photos will be added to our website & FB soon !

2. Update on Parent Governor Elections 2024-2028



One of our three nominees (Mrs Ruth Jamison) has been appointed by the Education Authority to be one of their representatives on Cregagh Primary School's Board of Governors.

This means that our other two nominated, seconded and voted-for parents (Mr Abel Gatsi and Mrs Rachel Jamison) will be put forward to the EA for ratification as our new Parent Governors. So, in summary, all three of our nominated parents will serve as governors 2024-2028. This is a good outcome for our school.

Thank you again to everyone who participated in the process.

3. School Disco is tonight !

Don't forget, Mr Irwin & our amazing PSA Team are holding a disco tonight for Cregagh PS pupils !



4. Pre-loved school uniforms

Cregagh Primary School has redistributed pre-loved uniforms (must be in good condition) for around ten years now. Now, we work with local charity #TeamDot in helping provide pre-loved uniforms for some of our own Cregagh Primary School children but also other local primary and secondary schools.

Like last year, #TeamDot will be setting up 'shop' in our Family Resource Hub in August. The poster on the next page provides additional information. As well as being environmentally friendly (recycling clothing), it also helps community out when the cost of living is so very high.



5. Chickenpox ... is still doing the rounds!

Chickenpox is very easily spread from person-to-person and so if your child has it, they should be kept off school for 5 days from the onset of the rash. This will help stop chickenpox spreading to other children and families. Some very useful information for parents has been uploaded onto our school website which we would ask you to read carefully.

6. School Fund

If any family still has not paid school fund (£20 per family) for this current 2023-24 school year, it would be greatly appreciated if they could. School fund is a really important source of additional income for our school and enables us to provide things for the children that we otherwise could not do.

7. Applying for Free School Meals (2024-25) (Primary & Secondary schools)

Uniform Allowance is for Secondary school aged children only)

Applying for Free School Meals & Uniform Allowance

If you require help...

- www.eani.org.uk/fsm
- 028 9041 8044
- mealsanduniform@eani.org.uk

1. Are you eligible?

You must be:

- in receipt of a qualifying benefit OR
- be an Asylum Seeker supported by the Home Office Asylum Support Assessment Team (ASAT).

Qualifying Benefits:

- Income Support;
- Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance;
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance;
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit;
- Child Tax Credit or Working Tax Credit with an annual taxable household income of £16,190 or less;
- Universal credit and have net household earnings not exceeding £15,000 per year.

2. What documentation do you need?

You will be asked to upload proof that you are receiving a qualifying benefit:

- Tax Credits Award Notice
- Universal Credit Payments breakdown or
- Proof of Benefit letter (if you are in receipt of Income Support, Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Related Employment and Support Allowance or the Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit).

3. What else do you need?

- National Insurance Number
- Address
- Children's names
- E-mail and telephone number
- Dates of Birth
- Bank or building society account and sort code details.
- Schools they will be attending

4. Where do you apply?

Apply for Free School Meals and Uniform Allowance for the new school year beginning September, through the Education Authority's online portal, EA Connect. If you haven't already registered an EA Connect account, it's quick and easy to do. Information can be found on the EA website.

5. What happens next?

We aim to process applications within 4 weeks. However, in the busy period of June to September, this can take up to 5 weeks. Please do not contact EA for an update on your application within the 5 weeks of submitting your application. If you have provided incorrect or insufficient supporting documentation, you will receive a tailored email advising you to resubmit your application with details of the correct documentation you need to provide.

You will receive an email from EA once your application has been approved and processed.

eaconnect

Advice?
Apply early
& get it
sorted! 😊

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

Tuesday 25th June	P7 final day of school (normal 3pm finish)
Wednesday 26th June	P7 Awards Evening at Mount Merrion Parish Church
Friday 28th June	Final day of school. Uniform-free day. 12 noon finish
Tuesday 27th August 2024	First day back school (12 noon finish)



SCHOOL HOLIDAY LIST FOR PUPILS 2024-25

Autumn Term (2024)

New Term Commences:	Tuesday 27th August (12 noon finish all pupils)
Wednesday 28th August:	12 noon finish all pupils
Thursday 29th August:	First full school day
Hallowe'en Holidays:	Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November (5 school days)
Staff Development Day:	Monday 4th November
Autumn Term Ends:	Monday 23rd December (12 noon finish all pupils)
Christmas Holidays:	Tuesday 24th December-Monday 6th January (10 school days)

Spring Term 2025

New Term Commences:	Tuesday 7th January
Half-Term Holidays:	Monday 10th- Friday 14th February (5 school days)
Spring Term Ends:	Friday 11th April (12 noon finish all pupils)
Easter Holidays:	Monday 14th April – Friday 25th April (10 school days)

Summer Term 2025

New Term Commences:	Monday 28th April
Early May Bank Holiday:	Monday 5th May
Staff Development Day:	Tuesday 6th May
Spring Bank Holiday:	Monday 26th May
Staff Development Day:	Monday 9th June
Term Ends:	Monday 30th June (12 noon finish for all pupils)





SCHOOL UNIFORM 2024-25

Standard Uniform	
GIRLS	BOYS
Navy, red, yellow or green sweatshirt* (with school badge)	
Light blue, red, yellow or green polo shirt* (with or without school badge)	
<i>*Sweater & polo shirt colours can be mixed & matched as desired</i>	
Grey skirt or dark grey trousers	Dark grey trousers
Grey or black tights or grey/white socks	Grey or black socks
Black shoes (flat heels) or black trainers	Black shoes or black trainers

Summer Uniform (optional)	
GIRLS	BOYS
Light blue, red, yellow or green polo shirt (with or without school badge)	
Dark grey school shorts	Dark grey school shorts
Blue checked cotton dress	-
Navy cardigan (with or without school badge)	-

P.E. Kit	
P1-P7 Indoor P.E.	Black plimsolls Navy shorts (with or without school badge) White or light blue t-shirt (with or without school badge)
P1-P7 Outdoor P.E.	Trainers Navy shorts (with or without school badge) <u>or</u> tracksuit bottoms (with or without school badge) White or light blue t-shirt (with or without school badge) School sweater (with school badge)

- All uniform must be clearly labelled/marked with child's name & checked throughout the year as labels & markers wear off!
- Uniform available from: The Signature Works, Castlereagh Business Park, Unit 5b, 478 Castlereagh Road, Belfast BT5 6BQ & ONLINE at: cregaghprimary.thesignatureworks.co.uk