

January Newsletter 2023

Dates for Diary

Thursday 26th January:	Mass to launch Catholic Schools Week, St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry
29 th January to 4 th February:	Catholic Schools Week
Tuesday 17 th January:	Open Evening CCS
Thursday 31 st January:	Transfer Day CCS
Friday 3 rd February:	School closed for pupils, teacher training
Monday 6 th February:	School closed, Bank Holiday
Monday 13 th to Friday 17 th February:	School closed, mid-term
Saturday 4 th March:	Confirmation

Primary Language Curriculum

The school will close for pupils on Friday 3rd February for teacher training in the Primary Language Curriculum.

Enrolment

Enrolment forms for next year's Junior Infants are now available from school office, phone 9374136 or email stpatsboyscarn@gmail.com Alternatively, you may call into the school office to collect a form. Forms are available on our school website www.carnboysschool.ie. The form should be printed and signed and returned to the school.

Please feel free to visit the school to meet with principal and see our facilities (appointment should be made through the school office).

CCS Open Evening and Transfer Day

Pupils from 6th class are invited to an Open Evening in Carndonagh Community School on **Tuesday 17th January from 7 to 9 pm**. Prospective students and their parents/guardians will be welcomed into the Aras in CCS for a short talk followed by a chance for students to interact with staff members from the various departments of the school and find out about the subjects offered in first year. It is advised that only the 6th class pupils and their parents/guardians attend as space is limited.

A Transfer Day has been organised for **Tuesday 31st January**. More information will follow at a later stage.

Debating:

Well done to the boys who upheld the motion that All Schools Should be Gaelscoileanna recently, against Scoil Colmcille, Greencastle. The team members were: Ben Kelly (captain), Darragh O'Donnell and Donal O'Carroll (speakers), Alex Bradley, Oisín Harkin (research) and Jack Walsh (time-keeper). Our school hosted the debate and the chairperson was Alex Bradley. We look forward to the next challenge!

Board of Management:

The Board of Management met recently. Our Child Safe Guarding policy was updated. The updated version of this document is available on the school website.

The board discussed our rule about wearing earrings. From January 5th children are permitted to wear earrings. In the interest of safety, only stud type earrings may be worn. Earrings must be removed for competitive sports during school time.

The board thanked all the teachers for their hard work so far this year.

St. Vincent de Paul Collection

Thank you to all families who donated so generously to our annual St. Vincent de Paul collection. We collected a total of €776 and this was presented to SVP before Christmas. All of this money will be distributed locally.

Parents' Association

Our Parents' Association committee members are:

Chairperson: Marianne O'Connor

Secretary: Frances Doherty

Treasurer: Christina Moore

Thank you for your support with the recent 50/50 draws. Recent winners were Lonán Hill (Third Class), Séan & Donnacha Doherty (Elizabeth's son and grandson) and Lochlann Harkin (Fourth Class). The Christmas bag pack in SuperValu was a great success. Thank you to Gerry Doherty and Gary Rice for supporting the school. The general public were extremely generous and this is much appreciated.

Confirmation:

The sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated for children from the Boys' and Girls' Schools on Saturday 4th March at 1:00 pm in Sacred Heart Church.

Sympathy

We extend our sincere sympathy to Noel Doherty (Deputy Principal), Marie and their children on the death of Marie's father, Packie Farren. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilís.

Staffing:

We are delighted to announce that Ms. Aisling McGonagle, Fourth Class teacher has been appointed to a permanent position in the school. Philip Cuffe, Special Education Teacher has been appointed on a fixed-term basis for this school year.

Sport:

Soccer: Patrick McGrenaghan will begin coaching in the school next Tuesday 17th January. Initially he will work with second, fifth and sixth classes. The boys will improve their fundamental skills through fun games and soccer skills. Congratulations to Donal O'Carroll (6th class) and Oleksandr Rumiantsev (4th class) winners of the World Cup sweep.

Fundamental Skills: John Gibbons is doing fundamental skills with first and fourth classes.

Hurling: Cathal Doherty is currently teaching hurling skills to Junior & Senior Infants and Third Class.

Swimming: Swimming lessons for third class have been arranged for April. Parents will receive all information closer to the time.

Vex Robotics:

Members of the robotics team will represent the school at the North-West VEX IQ regional competition being held at ATU on Tuesday 17th January. The boys from 5th and 6th class have worked very hard assembling the game, designing and building a robot and modifying their robot design. This year's competition game is titled Slapshot. The boys will work collaboratively with teams from other schools to score as many points as they can in rounds of 1-minute duration. It promises to be a great experience for the team and we wish them the best of luck.

HSCL:

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