



Welcome Back Newsletter-September 2025

Carntall Primary School Newsletter

Responsibility, Collaboration, Respect, Honesty, Kindness & Courage

Welcome to Carntall!

We are thrilled to welcome 14 wonderful pupils to our school family this year. Thank you for trusting us with this special stage in their journey. We can't wait to watch them, learn, grow and shine at Carntall.



Keeping up to Date...

All of our important dates and events will be posted on the school website calendar. We encourage families to check it regularly so you don't miss out on anything happening in school.

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In the heart of Clogher Valley,
where bright new journeys
start,
Carntall Primary School
stands proud,
with children at its heart.

A guiding light for every child,
through knowledge well-
immersed,
Our strength, our pride, our
lasting truth;
'Where Children Come First'.

Welcome Message from Mr Clarke

Dear Parents/Carers,

I trust you have all enjoyed a lovely summer break, and I warmly welcome you to another exciting school year at Carntall Primary School. A special welcome is extended to the parents of our new pupils, we hope you will enjoy many happy years with us as part of our school family.

At Carntall, we are proud to provide a happy, safe, stimulating and inclusive learning environment. One that nurtures individuality and enables every child to achieve their full potential.

As we begin the new academic year, we will continue to strive for excellence by introducing new school initiatives and building upon our successes. Our commitment to safeguarding, thorough risk assessments and strong pastoral care will ensure that every child is supported and secure throughout their school day.

I trust you will find the information in this Welcome Newsletter helpful and informative. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss any questions or concerns during the year ahead.

With warmest wishes for a successful and happy year,

R. Clarke

Principal



www.carntallprimaryschool.co.uk



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Staffing Update

We are pleased to welcome Miss Allen back to Carntall this year. She will be teaching P6&7 alongside Mr Clarke and we are confident that the pupils will benefit greatly from her experience and enthusiasm.



Breakfast Club & Wrap Around Care

We are pleased to offer a range of wraparound care options to support our pupils and families:

- Breakfast Club runs daily from 8:00am.
- Extra-Curricular Club for P1 & P2 is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1:40–2:40pm.
- After School Club operates Monday–Thursday, 2:40–5:00pm (includes an afternoon snack).

All places should be booked in advance through the school office.



P2-P7 Parent Questionnaire

Our P2-P7 parents' questionnaire is still open and can be found on the parents tab of the school website. If you haven't already completed it, we really welcome your views.



Pupil Voice

At Carntall, we value pupil leadership and involvement in school life. This year pupils will have the opportunity to serve as:

- School & Rights Respecting Council Representatives
- Playground Buddies
- Eco-Team Leaders
- Digital Leaders
- Wellbeing Ambassadors



We look forward to seeing how their ideas and contributions will help shape our school.

School Development Plan 2025-28

Looking Ahead at Carntall

At Carntall Primary School, we continue to keep our school vision at the heart of all we do. Our vision is to create *"a happy, safe, stimulating and inclusive learning environment that nurtures individuality and enhances potential."* By maintaining high expectations of ourselves and each other, we aim to equip our children with the resilience, confidence and determination they need to embrace both opportunities and challenges.

With this vision in mind, I am delighted to share that we will soon be launching our new School Development Plan for 2025–2028. This plan will outline how we intend to build on our successes and continue to provide the very best experiences and opportunities for every child in our care.

A parent friendly version will be distributed soon.



Swimming

P6/7 will commence swimming lessons at the Youth Annexe on Monday 6 October for 6 weeks at a cost of £4 per week (£24 in total). Please sign and return the consent form overleaf. Please ensure your child brings a swimming kit each Monday.



Updating Parent Email Contacts

In order to communicate and share school policies and other information, it is important that we have an up-to-date email address for all families. Please complete this information on the reply slip and return to the school office.

Term 1 Extra-Curricular Activities

Ex-curricular activities are listed below. All activities commence on week beginning Monday 15 September 2025. Please fill out and sign the consent form and return to the school office at your earliest convenience. All activities are £2.50 per session. Please ensure ex-curricular activities are paid for on a Monday morning with the dinner money.

DAY	ACTIVITY	YEAR	TIME
Monday	Transfer	P7	2:45 – 3:45pm
Tuesday	Football / Netball	P4 - 7	2:45 – 3:45pm
Thursday	Transfer	P7	2:45 – 3:45pm
Thursday	Scripture Union	P3 - 7	2:45 – 3:45pm

Book Fair

Our annual travelling book fair will be in school from Monday 6 until Thursday 9th October 2025. We thank you in anticipation of your support as we are permitted to spend 60% of the takings, on books for our class libraries.

Assessment Week

All year groups will be participating in assessments during the week of the 6-10th October 2025. Please do your best to avoid non-urgent absences during that week.

P6/7 Trip

On Thursday 25 September 2025, P6/7 will visit the Navan Centre, Armagh to explore the Vikings which is one of our topics this year. All children will require a packed lunch and snack will be provided in school as usual before we leave. The cost of the trip is £8.50 per pupil. Please return the reply slip at your earliest convenience.



Flu Vaccine

The annual flu vaccine is available for all children and will be administered on Monday 20 October 2025. Consent forms will be sent home with all children in the next few days.



Share Village P6/7 Residential

Due to the ongoing success of our residential trip to the Share Discovery Village, Lisnaskea, we are happy to offer a further trip this year for P6/7 pupils. The dates for the trip are Wednesday 20 May – Friday 22 May 2026. The cost of the trip will be £225 and may be paid in full or with an initial deposit of £75 and 3 x £50 instalments. (Please return the reply slip below along with the deposit no later than Monday 13 October 2025.)

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Parent / teacher interviews will take place on Friday 14 November for all classes. Please telephone the school office to make an appointment.

Tots' Time

We are delighted to offer Tots' Time again this year and we invite all toddlers with their parents/grandparents/carers etc. The dates are as follows and it will run on a Thursday morning from 10:00am until 11:30am. Please share this with your friends and family, everyone is welcome.

Thursday 2 October	Thursday 6 November	Thursday 4 December
Thursday 8 January	TBC	Thursday 5 March
TBC	Thursday 7 May	Thursday 4 June

Harvest Hooley & Pumpkin Carving Competition

Our annual 'Harvest Hooley' will take place on Thursday 23 October 2025. All children should come to school dressed up (harvest/farm theme) and bring their carved pumpkin (also harvest/farm theme) into school for judging on this day.



School Uniform

It's wonderful to see all our pupils looking so smart in their school uniforms. They really do wear them with pride. We kindly remind families that children should wear black school shoes (not trainers) and that all clothing and belongings should be clearly labelled to help us return lost items quickly.



Pupil Records

Please notify the school of any changes to pupil records during the school year (address, telephone number etc.) This also includes keeping us informed of any changes to your child's medical or dietary needs.

Attendance Matters

At Carntall, every day of learning matters. Good attendance helps children build confidence, enjoy friendships and reach their full potential. Let's work together to make every school day count.



Safeguarding & Child Protection

At Carntall Primary School, the safety and well-being of our pupils are our top priorities. Our Safeguarding Team is dedicated to ensuring that every child feels safe, supported, and valued. We work together to promote a secure and nurturing environment, where pupils can thrive both academically and emotionally.

If you ever have any concerns about a child's well-being, please don't hesitate to reach out to a member of our Safeguarding Team. We are here to listen, support and work in partnership with families to keep our school community safe.

Our team is made up of:

Mr Clarke - rclarke441@c2kni.net - Designated Teacher

Mrs Mulligan- kmulligan180@c2kni.net - Deputy Designated Teacher

Mrs Audrey Boyd - Chair of the Board of Governors and Designated Governor for Child Protection

A full copy of the school's updated (September 2025) Child Protection Policy and a summary leaflet are available on the school website

Our First Aid Team also ensure that your children are well looked after and continue to get the care they need during any illness or injury.

Our designated first aiders are:

Mrs Farrell, Mrs Owens and Mrs McKeown.



Parent Participation Sessions

We are excited to share a series of special parent participation sessions throughout the year, where families are invited to come into school and take part in their children's learning. These events create a 'community of learning' and are a wonderful opportunity to see the classroom in action, celebrate progress and join in with hands-on activities. To help with planning, we wanted to share the dates in advance.

We warmly encourage all parents, carers or grandparents to attend, as your involvement makes such a difference to your child's learning journey. More details about each event will be shared closer to the time but please do save the dates. We look forward to welcoming you into school.

- Evening for P1 parents-Wednesday 10th September 2025 at 7pm in the P1/2 classroom.
- P1/2-Pumpkin Patch Fun-Friday 10th October 2025 (9:30 am)
- All parents/carers-Emotional Health & Wellbeing: Beyond Bricks & Six Bricks-Wednesday 19th November 2025 at 7pm in the school hall.
- P5-Family Forest School Experience-Friday 20th February 2026 (9:30 am)
- P3/4-A Morning with Mum-Friday 13th March 2026 (9:30 am)
- P6/7-STEM Explorers-Wednesday 22nd April 2026 (9:30 am)
- P1/2-Together Time with Dad-Friday 19th June 2026 (9:30 am)



Health & Safety

In the interests of health and safety, we kindly ask that no one parks on the turning circle. This area is for buses only and it is very important that it is kept clear at all times. For drop off and collection, please use the car park and designated parking spaces provided. Thank you for your cooperation in helping us keep everyone safe.

School Policies

Throughout the year, school policies will be added to our website for parental consultation.

The policies for consultation this month are:

- Child Protection & Safeguarding
- Use of Volunteers & Vetting Policy
- Road Safety Policy
- Addressing Bullying Policy
- Positive Behaviour Policy
- RSE Policy

As always, we value your views and input.

Visitors in School

At Carntall Primary School, the safety and wellbeing of our children is always our first priority. For this reason, we kindly ask that parents and guardians do not enter the school building during the day unless invited by a member of staff. This includes drop-off in the mornings.

We do, however, make an exception for our new Primary 1 families. Parents are very welcome to deliver their child to the classroom for the first few weeks to help them settle in, if needed.

If your child needs to leave school during the day (for example, for a medical appointment), please call at the main entrance. A member of staff will be happy to bring your child from their classroom to meet you.

Thank you so much for your support in helping us keep Carntall a safe and happy place for everyone.

