

Starting School

At

Carrick Knowe Primary



Achieving Excellence Together

Session 2021-22



Carrick Knowe Staff

2021-22

Mrs Gail Canning	Head Teacher
Mrs Catriona Iley	Deputy Head Teacher
Mr Shaun Morley	Principal Teacher
Miss Laura Inglis	PEF Development Officer
Mrs Heidi Mannion	Business Manager
Mrs Joyce Matear	School Administrator

PRIMARY ONE TEACHERS

P1A	Mrs MacLennan	Room 1
P1B	Mr Morrison	Room 2
P1/2	Mrs Christie	Room 3





Welcome

At Carrick Knowe Primary School we aim to help make your child's experience at school a pleasant one. We are keen to involve parents in all aspects of our school life. This August, there may still be some adaptations to the normal school year and some of the information provided in the booklet may be changed in accordance with Government Guidelines. We aim to give you as much notice of this as possible. Meanwhile, we hope you will find this information useful and that it will help you and your child with the transition into Primary 1.

Normal School Times

Monday	8.50 a.m. - 12.10 p.m.	1.15 p.m. - 3.00 p.m.
Tuesday	8.50 a.m. - 12.10 p.m.	1.15 p.m. - 3.00 p.m.
Wednesday	8.50 a.m. - 12.10 p.m.	1.15 p.m. - 3.00 p.m.
Thursday	8.50 a.m. - 12.10 p.m.	1.15 p.m. - 3.00 p.m.
Friday	8.50 a.m. - 12.15 p.m.	(NB early close)

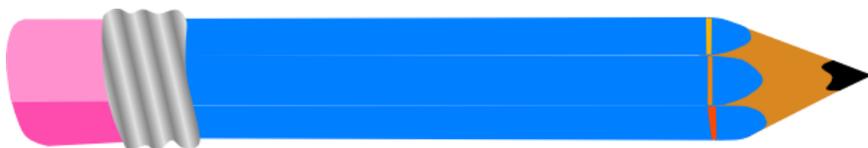
Please Note: Staggered drop off/pick up times may still be in place in August. This minimises the number of Parents/Carers and Pupils in the playground at one time. Pupils can arrive any time between 8:45am and 9:10am and can be picked up between 2:45pm and 3:00pm (Mon-Thurs) and 11:55am and 12:15pm (Fri). These time will be confirmed the week before school starts in August.





Other Information

- If your child is ill and cannot attend school, please phone and let us know on our absence line. This is especially important given the current circumstances.
- Make sure that your child arrives on time each day. If for any reason your child is going to be late, please call the school office.
- It is a very important that you collect your child on time. We do not have facilities to supervise children after home time.
- On wet days, send your child just before the bell and we can allow them to take shelter in the school where staffing allows.





Some Ways You Can Help Your Child Get Ready For School

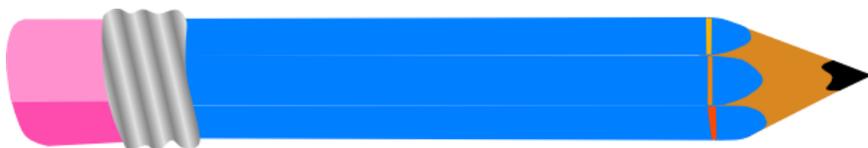
- Encourage your child to dress themselves, e.g. fasten zips and buttons, put on shoes and coat, and learn to tie shoelaces.
- Teach your child to tidy up toys etc. when they have finished playing with them.
- Encourage your child to hang up their coat properly.
- Spend as much time as you can talking with your child and listening to what they have to say. Talk to them about coming to school.
- Answer their questions. This is how a child learns and makes sense of their world.
- Read stories to your child and encourage your child to use the public library.
- Encourage your child to help you when you are baking, setting the table etc. Talk to them about what they are doing. These activities are particularly good for giving your child early experiences in maths and number.





How Can I Help My Child When They Have Started School?

- Show your child you are interested in what goes on in school by coming to parents' talks and evenings.
- Come along to any special events that are held e.g. concerts, sports days etc.
- Talk with your children about what they have been doing at school.
- Check your child's school bag each night to find out if they have any homework or have brought home any important letters. Also, check for emails and keep updated with the school website
- Make sure your child takes everything they will need to school each day - especially reading books and tricky words
- For health and safety, please ensure your child has the correct gym kit - shorts, T-shirt and gym shoes. Gym shoes with elastic or Velcro instead of laces are easier for a young child to cope with.





Literacy

If your child has shown an interest in forming letters encourage them to develop this by providing a variety of resources to use such as pens, pencils, crayons, different types of paper. Apart from the first letters of his/her name please **do not teach capitals** at this stage.

If you wish to teach your child letters, please do not use their names which are normally used when reciting the alphabet, but instead use the letter sound i.e. 'a' as in **a**pple not A.

When teaching a new consonant it is important to avoid an indistinct neutral vowel sound ('i' sound) on the end of the consonant. For example:

m should be pronounced 'mmmmmm' not 'mi'

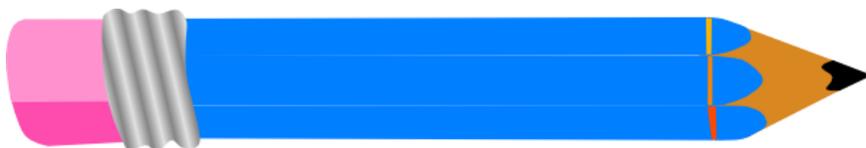
s should be pronounced 'sssss' not 'si'

f should be pronounced 'ffffff' not 'fi'

Numeracy

Numbers are all around us in everyday life. It is important to help your child develop a good grasp of basic Maths by talking about numbers in a fun and interesting way. This could include:

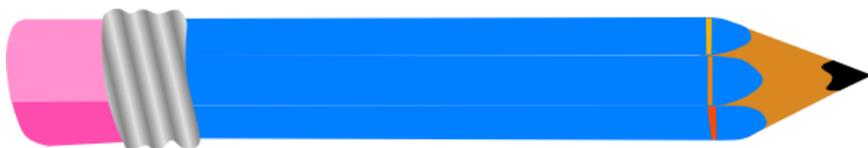
- Counting steps going up and down stairs, counting fruit/veg when buying it in the shop.
- Recognising bus numbers, house numbers
- Looking for numbers on TV, in books , in places (train station, etc)
- Playing games using dice, board games





PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE...

- Put your child's name on their clothing ~ especially gym kit and school uniform. It helps enormously when finding owners for lost articles and cuts down on the expense of replacing them.
- Make sure that your child goes to bed at a reasonable time so that they will be alert and ready to start school the next day.
- We encourage the children to bring a sports style bottle with water (no juice please) in it. This is kept on the children's desk or in a basket in class and we encourage them to drink from it regularly.
- Playtime is usually from 10.35-10.50 a.m. Please remember we are a health promoting school, so your child should bring a small healthy snack whenever possible.



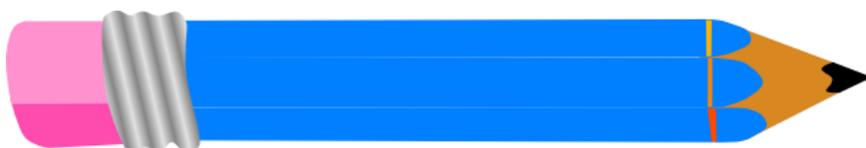


Some Helpful Hints

- Please talk to the teacher about anything that is worrying you or you are unhappy about. Make an appointment at the office or speak to the teacher at home time.
- The best way to help your child is to praise the efforts they have made. Each child is an individual and develops at their own pace. Try not to compare your child's progress with that of other children. At Carrick Knowe we promote a *Growth Mindset* where children are encouraged to challenge themselves and keep trying, especially when things are difficult.
- If your child has been sick the previous night or is looking unwell in the morning, **please do not send your child to school**. We cannot allow children back in school for 48hrs , if they have had sickness or diarrhoea. This is particularly important during the current climate.
- Important Dates : We would normally provide a list of important holiday dates but due to potential changes , you will find the most up-to-date information at:

<https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/termdates>

We value parental co-operation and involvement in all aspects of school life and parents are always welcome to arrange an appointment to discuss any concerns .





Safety Issues

- During the school day our security system is in operation. The school gate is the only pupil entrance to school. However, if your child is late and their classroom door is closed they should be escorted round to the main entrance (beside the school office). For health and safety reasons lateness is recorded.
- If you need to come in to the school building, please use the Main Door, by ringing the buzzer, stating who you are and your reason for entering.
- For the safety of all children we ask you not to stay in the playground longer than the time necessary. Please do not crowd round the classroom doors before/after school and encourage your child to go into the class by themselves.
- Please let your child and their teacher know if someone different is picking them up so we can maintain their safety at all times.
- People and traffic congestion can cause difficulty, and at times dangerous situations do arise when children are arriving at and leaving from school.
There is no vehicle access to the school car park from 8:25am-9.15am in the morning or from 2.20pm-3.20pm at the end of the day, parents are asked to co-operate with this. If you have to bring your child by car, please park a few minutes walk away from the school as the road outside school is for 'Residents Only'.

All staff will endeavour to make your child's time with Carrick Knowe Primary a very happy and enjoyable learning experience.

We are looking forward to working with you and your child in the days and years ahead.

