



# CPS News

Website: [www.centralps.co.uk](http://www.centralps.co.uk)

18th June 2019

## Big Lunch

Please join us on Tuesday 25th June if you can for our 'Big Lunch' between 12.15pm and 1.00pm. We are inviting parents and neighbours to join us for a picnic lunch if they can make it.

Please bring a blanket and something to eat with you. The PTA are going to provide buns and tea. It is a chance for the community to come together.

The Big Lunch is a very simple idea from the Eden Project. The aim is to get as many people as possible across the whole of the UK to have lunch with their neighbours annually in June in a simple act of community, friendship and fun. Since starting in 2009, thousands of Big Lunches have taken place in all types of communities.



## FREE SCHOOL MEALS / SCHOOL UNIFORM / PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLOTHING ALLOWANCE

The application process for assessment of eligibility to the above entitlements has commenced. An application form has been posted to the parent/guardian home address of children currently entitled to free school meals advising that a new application has to be completed for the 2019-20 school year.

We have a small number of forms available from the school office or they can be accessed from the EA website at <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals>.

## End of Term Arrangements

School will close on Thursday 27th June at 2pm for all pupils. The last day of term will be Friday 28th June. School will close at 12pm and pupils may wear their own clothes to school. There will not be any lunches that day or buses.

School reopens on Wednesday 28th August at 9am.

## P7 Leavers' Assembly

The Primary 7 Leavers' assembly will take place on **THURSDAY 20th JUNE** at 9.30am. We hope to see all parents/relatives of Primary 7 children, at the assembly to mark this very important time in their child's life. Tea/coffee will be served afterwards in the P6/7 room.

The Primary 7's last Day will be on Friday 21st June. They will be having a BBQ and will finish school at 2 o'clock on that day.

I'm looking forward to seeing their Leaver's Assembly. Rehearsals are well under way but the content is a closely guarded secret!

## School Budget

As you will be aware, school budgets across the country are in crisis and I have been working hard to ensure cuts do not have to be made at Carrickfergus Central PS. Due to the dedication of my teaching and non-teaching team, our pupils continue to enjoy an excellent variety of provision. However, this is being challenged year on year as the budget becomes more strained. The future financial picture for schools in N. Ireland is very concerning but we are committed to doing the best we can with the funds available to us. We therefore really value the fundraising events that are supported by our parents, other family members and the local community.

For the year 2019/2020 we are fortunate enough to maintain the same levels of staffing as we currently have. We are also committed to maintaining our building and providing for the increasing number of children with Special Education Needs, now entering all schools. These two areas have been greatly affected by cuts to the education budget over recent years.

On a more positive note, I am indebted to those parents who continue to help our school; whether it be helping us complete our outdoor play area, as parent Governors, our PTA members, volunteering for trips or within school. All of these things matter and are noticed so thank you!