Ardcarne Parish Primary School
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20th October 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please see the following notes for your attention:

Work To Rule
The planned Public Service Strike for this Wednesday has been **suspended**. However, the work to rule directive remains in place, meaning morning and afternoon supervision is still suspended. Thank you for continuing to adhere to the 9.30am drop off time. We will update you as soon as this directive has been lifted.
The Board of Management wish to remind everyone that pupils should not be on school grounds before a staff member opens the gate at 9.30am or after 3.10pm, as there is no supervision in place.

Midterm Break/Halloween Dress Up Day
School will close at 2.10/3.10pm this Friday 23rd October for the midterm break and will reopen Monday the 2nd of November at 9.30am. We will have a Halloween dress up day this Friday 23rd of October. Please ensure that your child's costume is suitable for a normal school day.

Voluntary Contribution 2026/27: The school are requesting a **contribution of €35 per pupil**. This amount goes towards the cost of art supplies, photocopying and Pupil Personal Accident Insurance. We have now moved Way2Pay over to our new school, we will be sending out notification of the contribution via text message after the Halloween break.

Swimming Lessons
Swimming lessons for pupils in *Senior Infants, 1st Class, 4th Class and 5th Class* will begin in Aura Leitrim Leisure, Carrick-on-Shannon on **Tuesday 24th November** and will run every Tuesday for **4 weeks. The total cost per pupil is €44 for four weeks and the increased costs will be paid by school funds**. A link via Way2Pay will be sent out this week.

Student Council
There is great excitement this week as we are electing our very first student council of Ardcarne Parish Primary School. Class speeches are taking place until Wednesday with voting taking place on Thursday. Thank you to Ms Brennan for overseeing our student council.

Cycle Right Training-5th & 6th Class
Cycle Right training will begin on Thursday 5th November for 4 weeks for children in 5th & 6th Class. This training will cover essential safety and competence skills such as bike handling, correct use of helmets, bike safety checks and how to navigate in various road environments. The last lesson on 26th November will involve an instructor led cycle, details of this will be confirmed closer to the date.

Parent-Teacher Meetings 18th & 19th November

Parent-Teacher meetings will be held in the school on Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th November. These meetings will take place during school time unless the "Work to Rule" measures are lifted in the meantime. We will be sending out appointment times after Halloween.

School Photos-Monday 9th November

County Photos will visit the school on Monday 9th November to take professional photos of all students. These will be in individual, family and group settings. The purchase of these photos is not obligatory. Please let us know by email, by Friday 6th November, if you do not wish for your child to be photographed.

Board of Management

Our Patron has given us permission to formally elect a new Board of Management for our newly amalgamated school Ardcarne Parish Primary School. The Board of Management consists of 2 Patron Nominees, 2 Parent Nominees, 2 Teacher Nominees and 2 Community Nominees. This Board of Management will be in place until 30th November 2027. After Halloween we will be seeking nominations from parents as part of this process.

Shoe Box Appeal: The school are partaking in the shoe box appeal this year. Anybody interested in donating a shoe box, please bring it to the school by November 5th. More details can be found on https://www.teamhope.ie/christmas-shoebox-appeal/.

Wishing you all a lovely midterm break and looking forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 2nd November at 9.30am.

Kind regards,
Cian Duffy
Principal
Ardcarne Parish Primary School