

## **FAO: PUPILS, PARENTS, GUARDIANS**

Dear Pupil, Parent, Guardian,

The school is a very sombre place today as we reflect on the loss of our colleague, friend and French teacher John Doherty.

John lost his battle with illness on Sunday afternoon and will be buried on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January in Cockhill cemetery after Requiem Mass at 11.00a.m.

John joined the French Department in 1992 and established himself as a valued friend and colleague much admired by pupils and staff.

For almost two years John has been away from his classroom. There has been an empty chair in the Staffroom while John battled gallantly and with great dignity against his illness. It was the great hope of his friends in Carndonagh Community School that he would return to take up his rightful place in his classroom and amongst his colleagues and friends in the staffroom. Sadly that is not to be.

The Board of Management recognises that John's colleagues and his pupils will wish to show their final respects and the Board wish to record the contribution of John Doherty to Carndonagh Community School.

The school will be closed on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> January.

It has been a turbulent start to the year and it would not be the desire of anyone at the school to have the school closed again. Not since 1982 has the school experienced the loss of a member of the teaching staff. John is the third member of staff to die in service.

We ask for your thoughts and prayers for the family of John, for his colleagues, for his pupils and for his friends.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fiorentini  
Secretary, Board of Management