



Email: principal@caraghns.ie

Tel: 045 – 903091

October 2022

Volume 26 Issue 2



Principal's Desk

Dear Families,

I hope our latest Newsletter finds you well. The first month of the school year certainly has flown by and we are well and truly back to school.

We are very happy with how well all the boys and girls have settled back into school and in particular all our new Junior Infants. It is lovely to see them all so happy coming into school each morning and home in the evening time.

As mentioned previously, if you have any concerns we would urge you to always get in touch with us here in the school. Sometimes a quick chat with teacher can iron out many concerns.

We are delighted to see the return of many of the usual school activities which have been missing over the years, sport, music, and after school activities.

Please keep an eye on our Newsletters as the year goes on for regular updates.

Parking

When parking locally, please be mindful of residents and the importance of not obstructing access for people.

There is ample parking available in the Parish Field both mornings and home time.

As always, we would remind motorists to show extreme care as children are crossing the roads and walking/cycling to and from school.

Infants

We are very happy with how well the Junior & Senior Infants have settled into school. We would encourage Mums and Dads that in order to promote a bit of independence that we let the boys and girls walk into the classrooms themselves in the morning times. When we return after Halloween, Mums and Dads won't be coming to the classrooms in the mornings. Collection from the classroom for Juniors will continue as is.

Accessing the School

Should you wish to drop something off for your child, collect your child or give a message, visitors must report to the school office. For Child Protection reasons it is not possible to make your way to the classroom unaccompanied by a member of staff. This is also the case at home time when waiting for children. Parents should not make their way onto the school yard at 2:45 when collecting children. Please wait at the school gate or parish gate and children will make their own way out. All gates are supervised and children are escorted out to the gates.

Witch/Monster Walk



As is tradition in our school, we will hold the Caragh NS Witch Walk on the day of the Halloween holidays **28th October**. This event is very much weather dependent and a last-minute decision may be made to change the time or to cancel if the weather is too inclement. We will cross all the fingers!!! We will commence our walk at **11:30am** or thereabouts. All classes will walk around the Parish Field and then through Caragh Lawns and back to the school. Should parents wish to come and watch the children on their parade, we would be delighted to see you. The Parish Field is always a good spot.

This is a great fundraiser each year for the school. We will ensure that the monies raised will be spent on valuable resources for the children here in our school. We have a plan to add to our school yard with markings outside for the children to play with at break times. Donations can be made to our Witch Walk fund through Aladdin and Sponsorship cards. We are very grateful for all donations received.

Calendar

Halloween	31st Oct. – 4th Nov.
Christmas Break:	Closing 22nd Dec. Reopen 5th Jan.
Feb. Bank Holiday	Monday Feb. 6th
Feb Midterm:	Thurs. 16th + 17th Feb.
St Patrick's Day:	Friday 17th + Mon. 20th Mar.
Easter Break:	Closing 3rd April
May Bank Holiday:	Mon 1st May
June Bank Holiday Week:	June 5th – 9th
Summer Closure:	Friday 30th June



5 Km Run for 6th Class

Our 6th class children are training very hard for the annual 5K run. I would like to thank the teachers, Ms Banks and Mr Rogers for putting the children through their paces over the last few weeks.

We plan to hold the run on Thursday 27th October at 1:30pm for the two classes. As always this will be held around the Parish field. The children can change into their running gear before the race. We would strongly urge the children to prepare for the weather. We may run in light drizzle. If parents wish to attend this event, we ask that they stay by the car park and exercise social distancing at all times.

School Mass - tomorrow

On Thursday Oct. 6th at 10:00am in the Church (for 1st to 6th class)

All welcome to attend or watch on the webcam.

Healthy Lunches

Our school operates a nut free zone and a healthy school policy. So, we would impress on parents the need to ensure that children have a healthy lunch each day for school, without sugary treats or drinks, or chocolate spreads or such like.



SWIM ROTA 2022 – 2023

Swimming starts back on Nov 9th
and continues in 6-week slots.

DATES
Ms O'Connor 3 rd + Ms. Duggan 5 th – 6 week session
Mr. Fitzgerald 5 th + Ms Troy 3 rd – 6 week session
Mr. Dunlea 4 th + Ms. Naughton 4 th – 6 week sessions
Ms. Hanly, Ms. Jennings, Ms. Ryan 2 nd – 6 week sessions

Buses leave at 9.40 - Classes extended to 6 for €45.
Payment can be made online – the link will be forwarded on to you.

Swimming is part of the school curriculum

RSA Cycling Ireland

6th class are continuing with their 8 week Road Safety course and are learning some very important life skills.

Peatland World

As part of Science curriculum work, children from 6th class will visit Peatland World on the 24th Oct. They will learn about bog formation and its biodiversity. Cost is €12 please pay online.

Maths Week

Oct 15th – 23rd

Caragh School will be participating in this with many activities, puzzles and practical tasks arranged for all class levels. Please encourage your children to try these activities in school and as part of homework

PARENTS COUNCIL

The Parents' Council are having their first meeting this year next Thurs 20th at 8.15 in the school library. We will be planning for the year ahead and would love as many parents to come as possible.

Remember attending one meeting doesn't tie you into attending every meeting 😊

The parents council is a great way to get to meet other parents and also feel part of the school.

Come along 😊

Nicole

Parent Teacher Meetings

We normally carry out our parent teacher meetings in November. This year we hope to have our meetings for 1st-6th class on 22nd & 23rd November. During the pandemic we facilitated PT Meetings by phone call. This worked very well and we feel suited some parents with work commitments.

This year we will try and offer a choice of face to face or phonecall. We will give further information on this closer to the time.

Green School 22/23

Our Green School Committee for the coming year is:



Annabel Malone	Ms Hanly
Rosa Smullen	Ms Jennings
Emily Egan	Ms Troy
Scott Pringle	Ms Ryan
Ella Rose Ewing	Ms. O'Connor
Alex Sharpe	Mr Dunlea
Charlie Smyth	Mr Fitzgerald
Adam Byra	Ms Duggan
Tadhg Murphy	Mr Corkery
Sarah Malone	Mr Rogers
Fiadh Kelly	Ms Naughton

This year we aim to reduce our energy cost through simple measures for example by creating awareness of lights on/off, white boards on/off. We also aim to reduce our waste by emphasising the use of refillable etc. All children and staff will bring home their own waste. Please continue send in your batteries and used stamps to the school for recycling.

GREEN CORNER

TIP: October is a great time to plant spring blooming bulbs such as daffodils, bluebells, snowdrops and crocuses.

DID YOU KNOW: The Dipper bird have nests under the narrow bridge in Caragh. Keep your eyes out, the Dipper is a little smaller than the Blackbird, is reddish brown and has a large bib of white on its throat and breast.

Thank you to everyone who donated and bought tickets for the Hospice Coffee Morning in aid of St. Brigid's Hospice, The Curragh. A total of €3,080 was raised on the day. Theresa & Annie.





We are delighted that the INTEL Mini Science competition has returned to full capacity, and we look forward to welcoming judges from Intel on the week beginning Nov. 8th.

Cumann na mBunscol

U11 boys have completed their competition and despite some great performances did not progress to the semi-final.

Our girls under 11 team are still in the hunt and will face Naas on Thursday.

Senior Hurlers had a great win over Gael Scoil Nás and despite losing to Clane will hope their game against St. Corbans goes their way.

U11 Camogie Blitz will take place on Friday Oct 21st at 11am in E.O.C.C..



Raheens Ladies

We were delighted to welcome members of the victorious ladies team to the school. Not only are these past pupils great players but they are great role models for the children in Caragh N.S.

E.O.C.C.

Past pupils from the victorious E.O.C.C. Hurling also visited last week and spoke of the importance of constantly working on their skills.

Raheens Minors

We would like to wish our past pupils the very best of luck as they prepare for the Minor A Championship Final V Naas

Caragh NS Homework Club

A reminder that there is a Homework Club in Caragh NS.

Caragh NS is running a Homework Club this year aimed at children from 1st - 6th class and will take place Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for an hour after school.

Under the supervision of teachers, Homework Club provides children with the opportunity to complete their homework in a quiet environment free from the distractions of home.

Cost €7 per day paid half termly

To book your child's place or for more information please email: cns homeworkclub@gmail.com

Family Mass

Some interest has been expressed in re-establishing our Family Mass again. If anyone is interested, please contact Phylly Cassells (087-6269244) or mail phyllycassells@gmail.com.

We are

delighted this year to be able to take part in the Christmas Shoe Box Appeal. Children are invited to take part in this wonderful project. The Shoe Boxes is an annual campaign sending gift filled shoeboxes from Ireland to children affected by poverty across Africa and Eastern Europe. The leaflet explains how to prepare the shoebox and the items which may be included. Please include the €4 in an envelope in the box. Boxes will be collected from school on Friday Nov. 5th. Leaflets have been given to children this week. More leaflets available in the school office.

www.teamhope.ie   

WHAT NOT TO INCLUDE:
Please do not send liquids (shampoo, bubbles), sharp objects, food/chocolate, books with lots of words, scary items (Halloween), war related, music, toy snakes, breakables or medicines.



Parents Plus Healthy Families Programme

Join our Parents Plus "Healthy Families Programme" and meet other parents in a supportive group to make this a reality. **For children aged 1-12**

Support your children to:

- Learn healthy eating habits for life
- Reduce their screen time and increase physical activity
- Have a restful sleep routine
- Develop positive relationships

As a parent, learn how to:

- Take back control from unhealthy environments
- Create a home environment that promotes positive physical and mental health
- Set rules and good habits around screen time
- Develop positive family relationships

Delivered every Tuesday evening from 10th January to 28th of February 2023

Online via MS Teams 6pm to 8.30pm by the Social Work Department in Primary Care in Kildare

For more information or to reserve your place, please contact:
Nicola Guilfoyle - 045-920 910 before **Friday October 21st 2022**. Please leave a message if you get no response & someone will phone back.
Places are limited so book early.

ParentsPlus
Empowering Professionals to Support Families

Parents Plus is an Irish charity that develops practical, evidence-based parenting and mental health programmes. We train professionals working with children and families to deliver the programmes in communities and clinical settings. Our programmes support families to communicate effectively, build satisfying relationships and overcome emotional and behavioural problems.

www.parentsplus.ie

Before & After School Care

Limited Places Available

Before and after school child minding for a small pod of children attending Caragh N.S. in my home - Caragh, Naas.

Open 8am to 6pm.

- Garda vetted.
- Fully insured.
- Member of Child Minding Ireland.
- HSE 'Child First' certified.
- Paediatric First Aid trained.

CONTACT: Dee - 087 289 8368
deirdre@iserve.ie

♥ **THANK YOU**

YOUR AMAZING RESPONSE TO OUR CLOTHING APPEAL

VERY MUCH APPRECIATED.

Michael Hopkins

FRIENDS & CALCUTTA

Éire Óg Corra Choill

Nursery up to U6 is run on Sunday Morning 11am -12pm

U7 - U8 Camogie trains on Thursday 6.30pm to 7.30pm & Sunday 11am - 12pm. Matches every second weekend. Contact Brian 0863213113

U9 Camogie trains on Thursday 6.30pm to 7.30pm & Sunday 11am - 12pm. Matches every second weekend. Contact Hugh 0879491805

U10 Camogie trains on Thursday 6.30pm to 7.30pm & Sunday 11am - 12pm. Matches every second weekend. Contact Alan 0872295804

In terms of gear, we have some spares the girls can use if needed.



