



Email: principal@caraghns.ie ----- Tel: 045 – 903091

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January, 2023

Principal's Desk

Dear families,

Athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh a chairde. A very happy New Year to you all and best wishes for 2023. I sincerely hope your family had a lovely Christmas break. We are delighted with how well all the children have settled back into school after the 2 weeks off. This time of year is a bit quieter than others and the children are working hard with their teachers.

This time last year we returned to school with children from 3rd-6th wearing masks and thankfully that is no longer the case. However, I'm sure you are very aware of the on-going concerns we all have with other respiratory viruses doing the rounds this winter season. As always, we ask that you would consider the health and safety of all the children and staff in our school. If your child is unwell, please do not send him/her to school. We are keen to look after everyone here in the school as best we can.

We are currently reviewing some of our practices around Homework and Wellbeing and we will update you in due course on these matters.

Our school basketball team are doing very well at present and our boys are into a semi final at present. We wish them all and their coaches Mr Rogers & Ms Brady the very best of luck. We are looking at entering the FAI 5 a side soccer competition which will be held in March. This is for senior classes.

On these cold mornings, I'd like to remind people to please take their time coming to school. Please show extra care on the roads and pathways. We don't want any unnecessary accidents on the way to school in the mornings.

Our Enrolment is currently on-going and all the relevant forms and information can be found on our school website.

There are some important updates here in our Newsletter, so please keep a close eye on the information below.

Kind regards,

Alan Hobbins



Catholic Schools: Walking Together in Faith and Love

22 JANUARY – 29 JANUARY

Calendar

Feb. Bank Holiday	Monday Feb. 6 th
Feb Midterm:	Thurs. 16 th + 17 th Feb.
Staff Planning PLC	March 10 th - half day
St Patrick's Day:	Friday 17 th + Mon. 20 th Mar.
Easter Break:	Closing 3 rd April
May Bank Holiday:	Mon 1 st May
June Bank Holiday Week:	June 5 th – 9 th
Summer Closure:	Friday 30 th June

Staff Planning PLC

At the request of the Dept of Education the school will close for a half day on **Friday 10th March @ 12pm** for all children. Such half day closures are to facilitate staff training in the Primary Language Curriculum, particularly Gaeilge. Infant Classes can be collected at 11:50am from the classrooms as always. All other classes will come to the school gates at 12pm as usual.

SWIM ROTA 2022 – 2023

Please see below our updated Swim Rota

Buses leave at 9.40 - Classes extended to 6 for €45.

Payment can be made online – the link will be forwarded on to you.

DATES

Mr. Fitzgerald 5th + Ms Troy 3rd

06/01, 13/01, 20/01, 27/01, 03/02, 10/02,

Mr. Dunlea 4th + Ms. Naughton 4th

24/02, 03/03, 10/03, 24/03, 31/03 21/04,

Ms. Hanly, Ms. Jennings, Ms. Ryan 2nd

28/04, 05/05, 12/05, 19/05, 26/05, 02/06

Enrolment

We wish to remind all our parents that our Enrolment period is currently on going. Applications for Admission for Junior Infants and all classes are being accepted at present and will be until the first week of February. All relevant forms and information is available on our school website www.caraghns.ie

Grandparents' Day

As part of Catholic Schools Week, 3rd class will be celebrating Grandparents' Day on Wednesday 15th February at 11am. Father Joe has invited both 3rd classes and their grandparents to a special mass in Caragh Church. The children will be preparing some songs and prayers for this special mass and we hope that grandparents will be able to join us on the day. If Grandparents are unable to make it in person they can watch online: <https://mcnmedia.tv/camera/caragh>.

Following the Mass, we would like to invite the 3rd Class Grandparents to join us in the school hall for some refreshments and for a tour of our classrooms.

Ms. Troy and Ms. O'Connor

Students Council



The members of the student council this year are Mya, Seán, Hannah, Lakya, Ruaidhrí and Amber. We got elected by writing a small speech for our class giving some reasons why we think we should be chosen. We meet every second Tuesday. Each class from 4th class up has a suggestion box where students can write down their ideas. We bring the suggestion boxes to the meeting and read through the ideas and see what we can do. We have lots of ideas already and have chatted to our teachers about the ideas to make our school a better place. We have plans for competitions, sports, yard ideas and fundraisers.

Hannah Student Council

Infant Parent Teacher Meetings

As is our tradition we will hold Parent Teacher Meetings for Junior and Senior Infants in February. These meetings will be in person meetings held in school on February 13th & 14th before we break for the mid-term. The meetings will be held from 2pm-5pm. Over the coming weeks we will release booking slots on Aladdin so that you can book a suitable time to meet with your child's teacher. We will notify you when these slots are available online.

Caragh NS Homework Club

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



Many thanks to Caragh School from the St. Vincent de Paul for the recent collection at our Carol Service Day. A total of €1200 was collected which will be used to help and support members of our community who are experiencing difficulty and request help. Thank you.

Healthy Lunches

As we start the new year we would like to once more promote our healthy approach to school lunches. On any given day children should have a healthy lunch; sandwich, fruit, pastas, rice etc. While it is important that your child is happy with their lunch, we all know that a healthy lunch boosts energy and concentration. Children should also have a drink of water and not bring chocolate flavoured or sugary drinks to school.

We are lucky to have the facility of the Lunch Bag and Centra shop across the road. However, if children are to visit the shop in the morning, packets of biscuits or bags of sweets should not be brought to school for lunch. Such items will be confiscated and returned after school

School Attendance Reports

Twice each year every school is obliged to submit 'School Attendance Return' to TUSLA the child and family agency. We submit a report at this time of the year based on the attendance from September to December and again at the end of the school year for the period from January to June.

We must notify TUSLA of the list of children over the age of 6 who have missed over 20 school days for any reason during these two periods. The submitted report can be followed up by the Education Welfare Officer and they will ask if the absences were explained. Such explained absences due to illness etc are not a cause for concern. A large number of unexplained absences may lead to further involvement from the Education Welfare Officer.

Generally, the report is not something to be concerned about and as a school we fully understand that a child may be absent for a number of very valid reasons. We encourage good attendance and we know that this can help children settle into school and will really help with their overall attainment in school. Should you have any concerns please contact the school office.

Absence

From time to time children can be at home sick for one reason or another. Generally this might be for a day or two. In these situations, when a child is sick, our school policy is not to provide school work for them to complete at home. The focus should be on getting better and ready to come back to school. Of course if the child is out on a longer term illness we will do our best to support them. Please make contact with the school office and we will arrange what we can.

If some of the boys and girls are going on a family holiday during term time, it is also school policy not to provide work packs or school work to be completed while away on holiday. Again please contact the office if you'd wish to discuss this matter.

When your son or daughter is absent from school, please use Aladdin to fill in the reason or you can send a note into the class teacher explaining the absence.



Green School ...

We recycle batteries - Wee collection boxes around the school.

Don't forget to continue collecting used stamps for Irish Peatland

Green Tip:

Look out and see if you can find any cowslips for sale, they are a native wildflower in the primula family with a lovely yellow flower.

*When the ground is frozen it can be difficult for native birds to access food so now is the time when they need a helping hand, provide fresh food and water regularly during the cold winter months.

Did you know?

The robin is one of Ireland's favourite birds. It is very friendly and will often sit on windowsills. It is not afraid of people at all! It is very easy to spot a robin. It has a bright orange-red coloured breast.



The female robin builds the nest. She likes to build it in cracks in walls, hedges, or tree stumps. Some have even built their nests in tin cans. If you put a nest box outside, you will probably find a robin nesting there soon.

Basketball Kit



We are delighted to have acquired a new Basketball Kit for our Boys & Girls teams. Huge thanks to AYS Embroidery for their sponsorship of these jerseys which were presented by Joanne Britton Milner this week. Best of luck to our coaches and teams and to our boys as they play their semi finals this week and next.

Basketball NEWS

6th class boys and girl started the term off with a friendly match against Kill. The boys team will play their semi final against Kildare Educate Together in two legs over the next two weeks. We wish them the best of luck.



Caragh National School will be participating in the Aldi Rugby sticker collection again this year. The top prize is €50,000 towards improving sports facilities in the school and there are lots of runner up prizes. Every school that takes part will win a rugby sports pack for the school. We are asking you to send in any stickers you receive while shopping at Aldi. Thank you.

R.D.S. Visit

6th class visited the young Scientist exhibition at the R.D.S Mon Jan. 12th. The range of investigations on display will hopefully inspire their applications in years to come. It was great to see some of our former pupils displaying their investigations, Whoever knew that there was so much science involved in break dancing!!!

First Communion Dates:

May 16th at 10:30 Ms, Hanly + Ms. Glendon's class
May 16th at 12 noon – Ms. Jennings' Class

Confirmation Dates:

Monday 29th May at 7.30pm – Mr. Rogers class
Tues. 30th May at 7.30pm – Mr. Corkery's class

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



Speech and Drama

Classes take place in Caragh School on Tuesday afternoons

Limited spaces available for children aged 5-8 years only.


Contact Eunice at Kildare Academy of Communication
087 275 0418

CARAGH PARISH - FAMILY MASS

If you are interested in getting involved with our Parish Family Mass contact Philly Cassells 086 6269244.


Masses are held once every two months. The next mass will be held at the end of February.

Healing Mass @ 6.30pm Sat. 04/02/23




Join CLANE Rugby Club

- Girls U8 - U10 - U12 U14 - U16 - U18
- Ladies Tag
- Minis Boys & Girls U7 up to U12
- Youths U13 up to U18.5 U20
- Seniors



For training times and contact details please visit our website or scan www.clanerfc.com SCAN ME



Caragh National School

Junior Infants Enrolment Admissions 2023

Admission Application Forms now available for Junior Infants in Caragh NS

from our website
www.caraghns.ie



Closing Date Thursday the 9th of February 2023
Queries to principal@caraghns.ie

NOW OPEN