



Email: [principal@caraghns.ie](mailto:principal@caraghns.ie) ----- Tel: 045 – 903091

Volume 26 Issue 6

Feb. 2023

## Principal's Desk

Dear families,

I hope this finds you well after the midterm break and that you all had a few nice days off. It won't be too long now until the next break at St Patrick's Day. We have a busy few weeks between now and then of course. There is much to read up on in this edition of our Newsletter with some great fun activities for the children and classes.

Our enrolment period has come to an end for now and places have been offered to our new junior infants for next year. Each year we get requests for places in other classes also. I'd ask that if you know that you might be moving on from Caragh NS that you would make this known to us as this might free up places in other classes.

We have finished our Infant Parent Teacher meetings last week and I would like to thank the teachers involved for the time they gave in meeting everyone. Nice to see parents in and around the school for those meetings.

We had a lovely Grandparents Day for 3<sup>rd</sup> class children last week. This was a huge success and a lovely opportunity to celebrate mass in the church and then welcome grandparents to our school for a visit. Many thanks to Ms O Connor and Ms Troy and Fr Joe also. Thanks to all those who baked all the goodies and the Parents Council for their help on the day.

Over the coming weeks, the sports season will get very busy. We have basketball blitzes for the boys and girls. FAI 5 a side soccer, Cross Country and the Cumann na mBunscol competitions will get going soon also.

World Book Day and Seachtain na Gaeilge are happening in the month of March. We also have some interesting fundraisers for charities coming up too.

If it all sounds very busy, it's because it is!!!! Good busy of course.

Amidst all the fun there's loads of work being done also. We are lucky to have a film crew coming to our school next week to film some of the excellent initiatives we are using in our classrooms. They will visit mainly Ms Burke's first class. This is a nice opportunity to showcase some of the work going on in our school.

As the weather picks up, it's nice to welcome these activities back to school.

Enjoy the half-term,

*Alan Hobbins*



# Calendar

Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> March:	Children go home at 12 noon today (See below)
St Patrick's Day:	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> + Mon. 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar.
Easter Break:	Closing 3 <sup>rd</sup> April Reopen 17 <sup>th</sup> April
May Bank Holiday:	Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> May
June Bank Holiday Week:	June 5 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup>
Summer Closure:	Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> June



Please continue to collect the Aldi Rugby sticker for us 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.

## REMINDER Upcoming Closures

We will close for a half day on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March to facilitate staff training in the Primary Language Curriculum. Infant classes will finish at **11:50am**. All other classes will finish at **12pm**.

We will close for St Patrick's Day celebrations on **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> & Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March**.

## 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. Dunlea 4 <sup>th</sup> + Ms. Naughton 4 <sup>th</sup> 24/02, 03/03, 10/03, 24/03, 31/03 21/04,
Ms. Hanly, Ms. Jennings, Ms. Ryan 2 <sup>nd</sup> 28/04, 05/05, 12/05, 19/05, 26/05, 02/06

## Collection Times

I'd urge families to ensure that children are fully aware of the arrangements for collection after school. Children should know which gate they are going out and who will be collecting them each day.

As always, we need to stress the importance of road safety for both children and motorists. Please do not park in front of the school gates in the mornings or at home times.

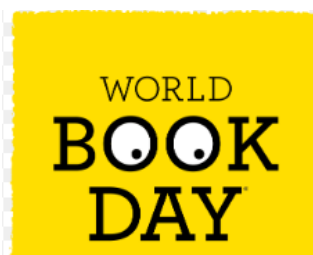
Please respect the homeowners in the estates near the school when parking. Please do not cause an obstruction.

I would also ask that when collecting Infant children from the classrooms that parents/adults would not be on a phone call at the time where possible. We are glad that we have the opportunity to meet with parents at the classroom door for a quick chat at collection time.

## Anything but a schoolbag



**March 10<sup>th</sup>** - children and staff are asked to bring books, lunches etc into school in Anything but a schoolbag. We are running this as a fundraiser for the earthquake disaster - we are asking each child to bring in 1 euro. The student council will be around in the next few days and explain all. Children wear uniform on that day.



This year our school will celebrate World Book Day on Friday

March 3<sup>rd</sup>. We have lots of activities planned such as quizzes, classes reading to other classes, as well as displays in the school relating to various authors.

Each class will have a mini competition for costumes also. We would love the children to dress up as their favourite character, however there is no pressure to do this.

World Book Day vouchers will be given to each child, which gives them €1.50 off any book in most book shops.





**RSE** see included letter below

**Please read.**

Lessons will take place in March + April.

## Green School ...



We recycle batteries - Wee collection boxes around the school.

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

### 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: [cnshomeworkclub@gmail.com](mailto:cnshomeworkclub@gmail.com)

### Green Tip:

February is a good time to prune apples and pears if you haven't done that yet. It's also a great time to get in early and plant some tomato and pepper seeds indoors.

### Did you know?

Kildare has 243 km<sup>2</sup> of bog (almost 14% of Kildare's land area) mostly located in the south-west and north-west, a majority of this being Raised Bog. It is habitat to over 185 plant and animal species.



Lent begins on Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Each class has been given a Trócaire Box. This year Trócaire is helping the people of Somalia. Their country is in the grip of a devastating food crisis and are experiencing the worse drought in decades. Pupils can donate any small change if they wish. We are aware that many charities are seeking donations at this time for the Syria/Turkey Appeal.

### Parents Council

Meeting this Thurs 23rd at 8.30pm in the school library. All welcome to come along to meet other parents and get involved.

### GRANDPARENTS' DAY

Grandparents Day was held on the 15th of February 2023 in Caragh Parish Church and afterwards 3<sup>rd</sup> class and their Grandparents went to the school for some refreshments that the children had made.

In the church the 3<sup>rd</sup> class children sang songs and read some prayers at mass. Afterwards, at the school the grandparents got a tour (led by the children) of their classroom.

We would like to thank Father Joe for presenting us with a lovely flag which represents our inclusivity, our teachers Ms. Troy and Ms. O'Connor, our principal Mr Hobbins, Liz and the Parents' Council for making all of this happen. We would also like to thank the 3<sup>rd</sup> class children for baking all those lovely treats and our Grandparents for joining us on the day.

We had a wonderful time.

By Emily Egan, Nina Byra and Emily Morrin.

### Cross Country

The boys and girls Cross country teams are training hard to take part in the annual Cumann na mBunscoil Cross country which will take place in Hawkfield on 30th March. Thanks to Ms Banks Mr Rogers and Ms Doyle for all their hard work. We wish them every success.

### Basketball

Well done to our 6<sup>th</sup> class boys basketball team who were narrowly beaten in the final this month after an excellent league. Both boys and girls basketball teams will play in a blitz in Prosperous over the coming weeks and we wish them the best of luck.



**Homelee Honey**  
Made in Castlekealy, Caragh.  
Pure, local honey,  
Now available: text/call:  
086 850 5490

## Important Notice

Please make sure, to always check your Aladdin App for important messages or updates.

### Seachtain na Gaeilge

Beatha teanga í a labhairt! Seachtain Na Gaeilge Seachtain na Gaeilge is a festival that takes place all over Ireland every March. The festival gives people an opportunity to attend Irish language events, to experience the spirit of the festival, and to use Irish in an enjoyable way. Every year, there are many Seachtain na Gaeilge events held in locations all around Kildare.

Seachtain na Gaeilge takes place from the 1st March until just after St. Patrick's Day. Here in Caragh N.S. we will have Tráth na gCeist, Céilí, Lá Scannán, agus Aiste Gaeilge (Gradam Uí Luineacháin). On March 16<sup>th</sup> pupils can dress in green for our Lá Ghlas and our open air céilí. Beidh duaiseann i ngach rang le fail do Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine. De gnath bíonn atmaisféar croíúil spráíúil le brath thart timpeall na scoile agus bhaineann chuile dhuine an chuid taitnimh as. "Má labhraíonn tú le fear i dteanga a thuigeann Sé téann sé sa cheann air. Má labhraíonn tú leis ina theanga féin, téann sé sa chroí air"

- Nelson Mandela



## Lá Glas

16<sup>th</sup> March

**Wear something green – no donation needed.**



## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHERS

This year the school photos will happen on the Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th of March.

As per last year, if you wish your children to be photographed, please register on <https://ericmolimard.ie/cns/>

If you have any questions, please contact Eric Molimard on 087 322 3329.

Best regards,  
Eric

Eric Molimard Photography 0873223329

| [www.ericmolimard.ie](http://www.ericmolimard.ie) | [ericmolimard@gmail.com](mailto:ericmolimard@gmail.com)

## Students Council

The Students Council have been working hard to do nice things for Caragh School. We have been working on a few fundraisers for the school over a couple of meetings. We have put an idea box in some classrooms so the other students can share their ideas for the school. A few suggestions were a soccer team, no homework on Mondays. We talked to Mr Corkery about the soccer, and we talked to Ms. Hanly about homework.

We have decided to do a fundraiser of a no schoolbag day for the Earthquake disaster.

You can bring all your school supplies to school in anything but a schoolbag.

On May 5<sup>th</sup> we be having an intercultural day. This is to celebrate the students in Caragh NS from different countries. If any parent or student can support or suggest ideas, please contact us.

Thank you. Lakya Dunne

## First Communion Dates:

May 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 Ms, Hanly + Ms. Glendon's class

May 13<sup>th</sup> at 12 noon – Ms. Jenning's Class

## Confirmation Dates:

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm – Mr. Rogers class

Tues. 30<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm – Mr. Corkery's class



# Raheens GAA Nursery



Boys & Girls u7 to u10  
Football training

Starting back Friday  
February 24th  
u7/u8 @6pm - u9/u10 @7pm

u6 (Junior Infants) starts March 31st @6pm

New Members Welcome



John Gallagher 087 233 6017

[raheens.gaa.ie/contact-us](http://raheens.gaa.ie/contact-us)

## CARAGH PARISH - FAMILY MASS

If you are interested in getting involved with our Parish Family Mass contact Philly Cassells 0876269244.

Masses are held once every two months. The next mass is 12<sup>th</sup> March at 10am.

### Church Servers

If your child is in 4<sup>th</sup> class and interested in becoming a server please fill in the relevant form that will be given out this week. Servers are asked to serve at 2 Masses per month.

If I can be of any further assistance with the above please call Orla in the Parish office on 045 875602

## Clongorey Chorus

Come join our local choir.

New members are very welcome

It's an hour jam packed with good vibes & glorious song



Venue Clongorey Clubhouse  
W12 TN25

Tuesday evening's 8pm to 9pm  
(Adults only)

Any enquiries phone Nicola 0876596279



**Feb 2023**  
**AGES 7 to 9**

Year of birth 2014-2016 only

**KIDZ Pre-Season Academy**

Starting Feb 11th

**€5 Per Session**

- PASSING
- SHOOTING
- DRIBBLING
- FUN

Saturday's 10 to 11

With view to forming teams for upcoming KDUL season

**LOCATION: Parish Field, Caragh**

Message us on 086-404600 for more information

**KIDS SUMMER CAMP**  
Fun - Informative - Structured

Now Open for Registration

Weeks commencing:  
24th July,  
31st July,  
7th August,  
14th August.

Limited Places 7 to 12 years old

**Program Includes**

- ✓ 4.5 hours of daily activities
- ✓ Pod of only 6 per camp
- ✓ Cooking, Baking, STEM
- ✓ Arts, Crafts, Movies & more...

CALL DEE: 087 289 8368  
[summer@iserve.ie](mailto:summer@iserve.ie)

Caragh, Naas, Co. Kildare

**2023 DEE'S DAYCARE**

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE - NOW!  
REGISTRATION OPEN FOR SEPT '23

**ENROLL NOW**

**HOME COOKED MEALS**

**HOME WORK - DONE!**

Junior Infants to 6th class

Dee's Day Care 087 2898368



# Caragh National School

February, 2023

We shall be covering the RSE (Relationships and Sexuality Education) aspect of SPHE (Social, Personal and Health Education) during the months of March/April. As the information booklet for parents (R.S.E. Going Forward Together) is no longer being printed you can view the relevant lessons from each class at the following link: <http://www.pdst.ie/primary/RSE>

Parents who do not wish their child to participate in an aspect or all aspects of the R.S.E. programme have the right to opt out but must do so in written format to the school principal prior to March.

This year we will include some of the Catholic Schools Flourish programme as part of our overall RSE programme. The "Vision" for this as set out by the

Catholic Schools can be viewed on our website [www.caraghns.ie/general-policies](http://www.caraghns.ie/general-policies). Should you have any concerns don't hesitate to contact me further.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Hobbins (Principal)

<u>Topics covered up to 2<sup>nd</sup> include:</u>	<u>Topics from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> include:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keeping safe</li><li>• <b>Bodily changes from birth (birth-9)</b></li><li>• Making age-appropriate choices</li><li>• Appreciating the variety of family types and the variety of family life that exists in our school and community</li><li>• Recognising and expressing feelings</li><li>• Self-care, hygiene, diet, exercise and sleep</li><li>• Expressing opinions and listening to others</li><li>• <b>Naming the parts of the male/ female body using appropriate anatomical terms (Junior/ Senior Infants)</b></li><li>• <b>Naming the parts of the male/ female body using appropriate anatomical terms and identify some of their functions (1st/2nd).</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Bodily changes</b></li><li>• Healthy eating, personal hygiene and exercise</li><li>• Keeping safe</li><li>• Expressing feelings</li><li>• Appreciating the variety of family types within our school and community and how these family relationships shape us</li><li>• Making healthy and responsible decisions</li><li>• Forming friendships</li><li>• <b>Discuss the stages and sequence of development of the human baby in the womb(3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> class)</b></li><li>• <b>Introduction to puberty and changes (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class)</b></li><li>• <b>Changes that occur in boys and girls with the onset of puberty ( 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class)</b></li><li>• <b>Reproductive system of male/female adults (5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class)</b></li><li>• <b>Understanding sexual intercourse, conception and birth within the context of a committed loving relationship (5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> class).</b></li></ul>



