



## Principal's Desk

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

**October 2023**

**Year 27 – Issue 2**

Dear families,

I hope this latest edition of our Newsletter finds you well. It is hard to believe that we are back to school now over 5 weeks. We are delighted with how well all the children have settled back into school since the summer holidays – our two new third classes and those children who have joined us for the first time this year.

We are very proud of all our Junior Infant children and how well they have adapted to life in big school. We strive to create a positive learning environment where all the children can access the curriculum in a safe and happy way. Our children embrace this, and we all work together. Of course, there will be ups and downs over the course of the year and please speak with us if you have any concerns. You can email the school or ring the office directly and the message will be passed onto the teacher. This is the most effective way in which to contact the school, rather than the teacher directly. From our part, most of the school communication takes place over Aladdin, be it through Newsletters or one off Notices on the App. Please keep an eye on these for important updates.

For example, we sent out important messages this week in relation to our Board of Management and Healthy Lunches. We will have some updates before Halloween in relation to the Witch Walk.

Our Witch Walk this year will be to repay for the Trim Trail which we installed in our school last year. Your amazing generosity last year made a huge dent in the overall bill, but we still have nearly €15K to repay. So once again we are very grateful for all your help and support.

*Alan Hobbins*



# School Calendar



## School Closures 2023-2024

• Oct 30 <sup>th</sup> – Nov 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Halloween Break
• Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Jan 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2024,	Christmas Break
• Feb 5 <sup>th</sup> (Mon) 2024	Feb Bank Holiday
• Feb 15 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup>	Feb Midterm
• March 18 <sup>th</sup> (Mon)	Bank Holiday
• March 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Apr 8 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Break
• May 6 <sup>th</sup> (Mon)	May Bank Holiday
• June 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup>	June Closure
• June 28 <sup>th</sup>	School Closure

## 5K Run 5 Km Run for 6<sup>th</sup> Class

Our 6<sup>th</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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

On Thursday Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> at 10.15am in the Church  
(for 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class)  
All welcome to attend or watch on the webcam.

## Christmas..

Is it too early to talk about Christmas??? Yes it is.

However, this year we will not hold our usual Carol Service in the church. Instead, we will put on **Christmas Concerts** here in the school. Each class will do a little performance on the stage in the hall and we will invite parents to come along and watch. We will have all details, dates, times etc sent out to you in good time when we have all the logistics worked out.



## Witch/Monster Walk



As is tradition in our school, we will hold the Caragh NS Witch Walk on the day of the Halloween holidays **27<sup>th</sup> 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. Donations can be made to our Witch Walk fund through Aladdin and Sponsorship cards. We are very grateful for all donations received.



## Collection for THE DINING ROOM

(Newbridge Charity) 9<sup>TH</sup> – 20<sup>TH</sup> October



Our Students Council are organising a collection for the above Charity. We in Caragh NS would have helped this charity in the past and we like to encourage the children to be part of the "Giving Process". Please drop items to the box in the classroom

### Items requested:

- Tinned food – beans, peas, fruit.
- Breakfast cereals, pasta, rice, biscuits, bars
- Tea, coffee, sugar, ketchup, and sauces
- Toiletries – shower gel, shampoo, toothpaste etc
  - Unwanted gifts.

- **THEY ARE EXTREMELY GREATFUL FOR ALL DONATIONS MADE**

## Parent Teacher Meetings

Nov.22<sup>nd</sup> + 23<sup>rd</sup> for 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class

Please note the dates for our Parent/Teacher meeting for 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class only. You will be able to book your appointment on Aladdin – more information next month.

Parent Teacher meetings for Infants will be in February.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

If you availed of the insurance for your child, the below document provides a summary of your policy cover.

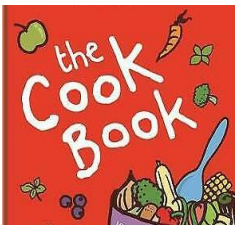
Please advise parents that details of this insurance product and how to make a claim can be found by visiting our website, [www.jfd.ie](http://www.jfd.ie) and going to the Pupil Protector page [here](https://jfd.ie/our-products/product/pupil-protector) (<https://jfd.ie/our-products/product/pupil-protector> )

## PARENTS COUNCIL

The Parents Council would like to thank outgoing committee members, Aisling Sheil, Treasurer; Aoife Carey, Secretary; Emer Lavin, Social Media Co-Ordinator. Thank you so much for all your hard work, enthusiasm and energy!

We are delighted to welcome Ciara Keogh as Treasurer, Seàn Ryan as Secretary and Ciara Smullen and Laura Campbell as Social Media Co-ordinaries. Well done all!

Nicole Kennedy will remain as Chairperson in the absence of any volunteers for the role. However if anyone was interested in sharing the role or taking a Vice Chair role please get in touch.



Our cookbook project is bubbling along nicely so if anyone would like to avail of an advertising spot, please email [77nicolekennedy@gmail.com](mailto:77nicolekennedy@gmail.com) ASAP before space is completely filled.

## Credit Union Art

All entries must be returned to the office by tomorrow with the entry form attached.

## Peatland World

As part of Science curriculum work, children from 6<sup>th</sup> class will visit Peatland World on the 23<sup>th</sup> Oct. They will learn about bog formation and its biodiversity.

Cost is €13 please pay online.

## Green School

Please continue to recycle batteries in the boxes provided in school.

### Did you know?

Our swallows have left and headed to Africa. It is estimated 30% will survive the journey.

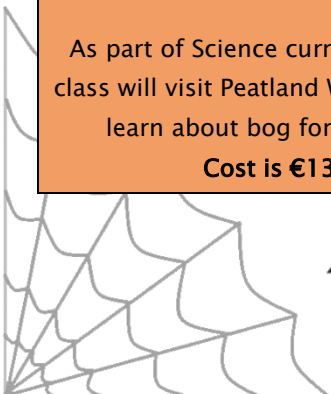
### Our new Green School Committee are:

Grace Maguire, Connor Maher, Annie Kelly, Cian O'Brien, Ruaidhrí Kennedy, Orla Sweeney, Bobby Lavin, Dearbhla Ryan.

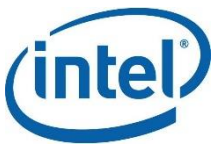


By Ruaidhrí Kennedy

I picked this as my slogan for the green school committee because it is a Nial Armstrong's famous quote. One small step for man one giant leap for mankind. I changed it so it would be more specific to the people in Caragh and encourage them to pick up litter.







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 of November.



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 €5 in an envelope in the box. [Boxes will be collected from school on Friday Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>](#). Leaflets have been given to children this week. More leaflets available in the school office.

### Student Council 2023/24

The members of the student council this year are Sophia, Sarah, Fiona, Evgenia, Leen and Oisin. They got elected by writing a small speech for their class giving some reasons why they thought they should be chosen. They meet every second week at lunch times. Each class from 2nd class up has a suggestion box, children in these classes write down their ideas and put them in the suggestion boxes. The student council bring the suggestion boxes to the meeting and read through the ideas and see what they can do. They have lots of ideas already and have chatted to the teachers about the ideas to make our school a better place. Their first task is to organise the collection for the Dining Room.



### SWIM ROTA 2023 - 2024

DATES
4 <sup>th</sup> Class – Nov. 8 <sup>th</sup> – Dec. 13 <sup>th</sup>
5 <sup>th</sup> class – Dec.20 <sup>th</sup> – Feb. 7 <sup>th</sup>
3 <sup>rd</sup> class – Feb. 14 <sup>th</sup> – Mar. 20 <sup>th</sup>
2 <sup>nd</sup> class – April 10 <sup>th</sup> – May 15 <sup>th</sup>

**Price includes bus and 6 lessons for €45.**

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

**Swimming is part of the school curriculum.**



Caragh NS will celebrate Maths Day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Oct 2023. We have lots of fun activities, games and quizzes to show pupils how much fun Maths is!

There are lots of free family activities to be found at <https://www.mathsweek.ie/2023/> For anyone who wants to continue the fun at home.



### 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.**

### HEAD LICE

Some classes have reports of head lice. Please check your child regularly and treat if necessary.

### Cumann na mBunscol

Our Senior Camogie team, under 11 Boys and Girls are all in the semi-finals of their competitions which will be played this week.



## Caragh Parish Family Mass

You may not be aware that we have a family Mass in Caragh Church held once a month.

Next Mass is Nov 5<sup>th</sup> at 10am  
If you are interested in getting involved with this, please contact Philly Cassells 087 6269244.



### KILDARE ACADEMY OF COMMUNICATION

Speech and Drama classes take place on TUESDAY afternoons

from September to May in Caragh School

Limited spaces available in Junior class only

For information, please contact

Eunice Lavelle on

087 275 0418 or [eunice.lavelle@gmail.com](mailto:eunice.lavelle@gmail.com)



**Halloween Baking Camp.**  
31<sup>st</sup> October, 1<sup>st</sup> Nov, 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov.

10.00a.m. to 2.30p.m.

Lunch provided.

Gingerstown Caragh

€90

For further details phone

Liz 0857116785

**Few spaces remaining**



**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 N.S.



## Caragh National School - Homework Club - 23/24 Commencing Tuesday September 5th



As there has been a change in the school's homework policy, homework club will also change to go in line with this. We will continue to hold our club on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays but the time will now extend to 4pm and we will add another activity along with homework. Please see below for further information:

Tuesdays - 2.45pm-4.00pm - Homework Club + Board Games.

Wednesdays - 2.45pm-4.00pm - Homework Club + Lego.

Thursdays - 2.45pm-4.00pm - Homework Club + Art.

If interested, please contact [cns homeworkclub@gmail.com](mailto:cns homeworkclub@gmail.com)





OCT 30th - Nov 3rd, 2023

TRICK OR TREAT

7 to 12 Year Olds  
Halloween Mid-term Break  
**Spooktacular Camp**  
Cooking, Baking, Games, STEM and more...

Sweets, Treats, Scares and Gouls - REGISTER NOW  
LIMITED TO SIX PLACES ONLY!

10am to 2.30pm Bank Holiday inclusive.



Caragh, Naas, Co. Kildare  
Dee's Day Care 087 289 8368

Made with PosterMyWid.com

 **Baking Birthday Parties.** 

A party with a difference!  
Baking, games, food and cake.  
3 hours of fun!  
Phone Liz for details.

Phone: 0857116785 

 **Join CLANE Rugby Club** 

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




For training times and contact details please visit our website or scan

**[www.clanerfc.com](http://www.clanerfc.com)**

 SCAN ME

Clane Rugby Football Club  
Established 1984  
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clan@clanerfc.com

