



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

September 2023

Year 27 – Issue 1



Principal's Desk



Dear families,

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a big welcome back to our whole school community, pupils, staff, parents, child minders, grandparents..... Our community is getting bigger and bigger each year and we are delighted to welcome more families from outside of Caragh also. A special word of welcome goes to all our new Junior Infant boys and girls and their families. They have all settled in so well to life in 'Big School' and we are very proud of them all.

Each month we send out a Newsletter to all our families full of information that Ann Marie has compiled. Our aim with the Newsletter is to keep you fully informed with what is going on in school and what is coming up.

As we start back to school this month, there is a lot of important information in this edition of the Newsletter. Communication is vital as we go through the year. Please keep in touch with the school should you have any concerns. An email/phone call to the office can often answer the question or we can let the teacher know.

We look forward to another great year in Caragh school and we look forward to working together with all our families to ensure the children have a very positive year in a lovely, safe, and welcoming school environment.

Regards

Alan Hobbins

Home Time Collection

Each afternoon at 2:45 the children leave the school by certain gates.

Gate A: 2nd Class, 3rd Class, 4th Class Ms Naughton

Gate B: First Class & Bus Children

Gate C: 4th Class Mr Dunlea, 5th Class, 6th Class.

Parish Gate: Children from all of these classes can also use the back gate of the school.

Please ensure your child is fully aware of the after-school arrangements each morning before they arrive at school. They need to know WHO, WHERE & WHEN. Who is collecting them, from Where and at When are they being collected. The confusion and uncertainty can cause panic and anxiety for all concerned.

School Calendar

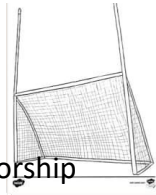
School Closures 2023-2024

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



Raheens Sponsorship

We are delighted to accept Raheens GAA generous sponsorship of our new goal posts. We hope our school teams will test the netting out over the coming years.



Medical Conditions

Parents, please ensure that the school principal is notified of any medical condition suffered by your child, and of any medication and/or medical equipment to deal with in an emergency.

Parents should read the full Administration of Medications policy on the school website:

<http://www.caraghns.ie/general-policies.html>

Conditions might include (but are not limited to) Asthma, Epilepsy, Coeliac, Allergic Reactions, Diabetes, Mobility Issues.

Aladdin Connect

Parents please note that Caragh NS communicates with you through Aladdin Connect. This is both efficient and cost effective for the school and parents. If you are not connected or are having some difficulty with your connection, please contact the office (office@caraghns.ie).

Connect is used by parents to update personal details, change address/phone information, read school notices, see permission slips, make payments to school, see test results & reports, let the school know the reason for a child being absent, view homework and make return to school declarations after an absence.

If you have downloaded the App, please complete the process and validate your mobile phone number – if you don't validate, the system will continue to text you, which is expensive for the school. Thank you.



As part of our Green School we are delighted to take part in the above project. Please drop your used postage stamps to Caragh School or the Parish Office

Art/Crafts, Equipment & Photocopying 2023/2024

Payment for 2023/2024 can be made securely online through your Aladdin Connect - Payment's page - using a debit or credit card.

Cash & cheque payments can be made at the school office between 9am - 12 noon. Put your payment (or part-payment) in an envelope marked with your child's name & class & the amount in the envelope. Drop the envelope into the school office (or your child can give it to their teacher). A receipt will be issued from the office and sent home. Payments should be paid through the Aladdin payments page. Thank you.

School Crests

Any family that would like to purchase school crests can now do so through the Aladdin payments page. Crests are €5 each. On the payments page: Tick the box beside 'Crests' and enter the total amount of money for the number of crests that you need - One crest €5, two crests €10, three crests €15 etc. Cash payments can be made in the office.

When the payment is made online, the crests will be given to your child in school.

6th Class Evening

This year we are asking all 6th class parents to join us in school on **Tuesday 19th Sept at 7:30pm**. This is an important evening talk for parents to set out the coming school year. The 6th class year is a very busy year and this is an important opportunity to discuss the year ahead, the preparation for secondary school, Confirmation, Delphi and much more. Please ensure that at least one parent from each family will attend.

Green School

After we have selected our Green School Committee for 23/24 we will begin our planning.

Did you know?

Of the nine confirmed species of bats in Ireland seven have been recorded in Kildare. The most common is the Leister Bat – our largest but often seen flying over the fields at dusk. They eat over 1000 insects per night. Great pest control.

Top tip for September:

This year try using reusable sandwich bags or paper sandwich bags in your lunch box. This will help you to help the environment.

Cycling

6th class will be involved in a cycling safety course starting on Sept. 11th. With the recent upsurge on the bike activity this is a well-timed and worthwhile programme. The cost of this course is €15 – please pay online – cost covers training and specific insurance.



Pupil Insurance

Pupil Insurance is optional and also available to be paid online or at the school office. If you are paying cash, please complete the Application form and put the signed part of the form into the envelope with the payment. The option to sign up for pupil insurance is available only until September 30th Cost is €5.61 for 24/7/365 cover.

GAA Coaching

We are delighted to have Games Development Officer Robert Thompson back to coach GAA skills. Robert will begin his programme next week.

Thanks to Raheens who have put this plan in place.

Kelly Perkins is returning next week to continue an E.O.C.C. (hurling) led coaching programme. Kelly will also start her sessions next week.

Student Council 2023/24

This year will see the 6th student council established in Caragh National School. This year it will consist of children from 4th, 5th and 6th class. The children in these classes are asked to put themselves and their ideas forward for election. We hope to form the new council by the middle of next week. We hope the council will work on behalf of all the children in the school to make our school a great place for all. We also hope to link in with some community initiatives in the village.

Cumann na mBunscol

This Autumn we will participate in
Under 11 boys and girls football
Under 11 Camogie
Senior Boys Hurling

Training commences shortly and the children will be kept posted. Thanks to the many teachers who give up their time to give the children a chance to represent their school.

Smart Watches

We appreciate that the use of Smart Watches is on the rise not just in our school but in society. However, such watches can be a distraction within the classroom and during the school day. Watches which can take pictures, make a phone call or access the internet are not permitted in school. This is an extension of our mobile phone policy which does not permit phones in school.

Guitar Lessons

We welcome back Don Nea who over an 8 week period will give the 6th class pupils a chance to learn the basics in guitar. The cost of this is €10 in total – please pay online.

Naas Bus


We are delighted that Bus Éireann are now providing an opportunity for a bus collection in the Naas area. The collection point is on the Newbridge Road at the Couy Council offices. Bus departs at 8:25. In order to get a place on this bus it is necessary to contact Bus Éireann directly and apply for a place on their website. Schools do not organise the bus transport to and from school.

Please make sure to label all your children's belongings, especially jumpers and tracksuit tops.

After School Activities in the school

Please consult the details below to make the necessary bookings.
Bookings cannot be made through the school.

Day	Activity	Contact
Tues, Wed, Thurs.	Homework club	cns homeworkclub@gmail.com
Tuesdays	Playball	0861619245
Tuesdays	Speech and Drama	0872750418
TBC	Art with Ciana	Artwithciana@hotmail.com
Thursdays	Deirdre Browne Stage School	0868587364
Thursday	Keyboard lessons	0861682084



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



KILDARE ACADEMY OF COMMUNICATION

Classes take place on **TUESDAY** afternoons in Caragh School

From September to May

Limited spaces available for junior class only

For information, please contact


Eunice Lavelle on

087 275 0418 or eunice.lavelle@gmail.com

DISCOUNT CODE FOR 10% OFF

CARAGH



VALID UNTIL 31/12/2023



Free delivery on all orders

WWW.NAMELABELS.IE

IRON-ON AND STICK ON LABELS

Kildare Library Service Initiatives for Young Children and their Grown Ups




My Little Library Book Bags for all children starting school in September 2023

A My Little Library Bag is available free for every child starting primary school in September 2023 to help them to prepare for this big step. It can be collected in any library. 'My Little Library Book Bag' initiative is a collaboration between libraries, the Department of Rural and Community Development, and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth as part of the First 5 Strategy.

Libraries have put together this My Little Library Book Bag and it contains:

- Three books on starting school, making friends and being comfortable to be yourself
- A story card on going to the library
- A postcard the child can write or draw on and send to their new teacher, or bring to give to the teacher on their first day at school
- A special 'My Little Library' card wallet.
- Information for parents on preparing children for Primary School.



After School Art

I hope to run an art class for 8 - 12-year-olds, after school (3-4pm) from September. Reasonable rates and all materials supplied.

Please email me, Ciana Ferris-Maldon, if you might be interested in signing up: ArtWithCiana@hotmail.com

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

Dear

Parents,

Playball is Back on the 19th of September and

we are looking forward to seeing everyone again this school year!! Playball will be held on the school premises on a Tuesday and is open for jnr and snr infants and our new exciting Playsport program(multi-sport) will be offered for 1st class and 2nd class and up.

If you would like to find out more about Playball, & who we are, please check out our website

at www.playballkids.com/franchise/216

Or go directly to book your child in to playball by clicking on the following links. Places are Limited.

Junior infants

Ms. Hamill https://www.playballkids.com/parent-zone/basket_bookings.php?classid=56981

Ms. McNulty https://www.playballkids.com/parent-zone/basket_bookings.php?classid=56983

Ms. Marsh https://www.playballkids.com/parent-zone/basket_bookings.php?classid=56985

Senior Infants

Ms. Cummins https://www.playballkids.com/parent-zone/basket_bookings.php?classid=56987

Ms. Kieley https://www.playballkids.com/parent-zone/basket_bookings.php?classid=56989

Ms. Dwyer https://www.playballkids.com/parent-zone/basket_bookings.php?classid=56991

1ST AND 2ND CLASS. https://www.playballkids.com/parent-zone/basket_bookings.php?classid=56993

There will be 3 Terms in our Playball year (beginner, intermediate and Advanced)

- This 1st term will start on 19th September and will continue for 10 weeks last class in this term will be 28th November no class Halloween break,
- Playball is taught on the school premises once a week on Tuesday directly after school, we collect from the class teacher at 1.45 collection from Playball will then be at gate B(middle gate) front of the school at 2.40
- and 1st and 2nd class at 2.45-3.40
- Fees; €85.00

For our Pre school Playballers

We also have Classes for preschoolers/Montessori age children (2.5-5 yrs) in The Caragh Community centre on a Tuesday 12.10 Everyone is welcome if you are interested in a trial class, please contact me.

here is the link https://www.playballkids.com/parent-zone/basket_bookings.php?classid=57146

new Playballers are always welcome!

for more information contact Jodie at 0861619245

Best Regards

Jodie



Baking Birthday Parties.



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

Phone: 0857116785



Halloween Baking Camp.
 31st October, 1st Nov, 2nd Nov.
 10.00a.m. to 2.30p.m.
 Lunch provided.
 Gingerstown Caragh
 €90
 For further details phone
 Liz 0857116789



Deirdre Browne Stage School



Musical Theatre
 Song and Dance
 Age 4+
 Classes in Sallins, Naas,
 Caragh and Dublin
 Phone 0868587364

HOME FROM HOME
 Childcare
 A home away from home experience

Before & Afterschool Care
 Junior infants to 6th Class
 Spacious home with dedicated Playroom
 Homework Supervision
 Fresh & Healthy Food
 Limited Places Available

FOR MORE INFORMATION
 Contact
 Karen 086 3961918



MUSIC LESSONS

Contact :Nicola on 086 1682084

Music Classes are available to the children of this school.
 Students are taught how to read and write music along with
 the practical work which is playing keyboard.

If interested in the above please contact

Nicola on 086 1682084.

Students must 5 years or over



Do you want to improve the quality of your relationship with your child?

**STARTING MID SEPTEMBER 2023 | TUESDAYS 7.00-8.30
 PM FOR 6 WEEKS- LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE**

Parent-Child Attachment Play (PCAP) is a gentle, fun approach aimed at
 improving the attachment quality of the parent-child relationship through
 play.

Bring positive relationship change directly into the family home.



- Strengthen relationships.
- Build self-esteem.
- Teach boundaries.
- Increase listening skills.
- Improve emotional and behavioural difficulties.

Small group Setting.

For Further information:

Clare: 086-1708070 or Noreen: 087-6496915

Kildare Play Therapy, Unit W9i, Ladytown Business Park, Naas.
 W91E822



Understanding Dyslexia

Saturday, 14th October 10.30am
 Osprey Hotel, Naas

By Emma Kenneally of EK Dyslexia &
 Katie Tuite of Dyslexia Meath

Topics including:

- Indicators of Dyslexia
- Self-esteem
- Co-occurring Difficulties
- Transition to Secondary School
- Accommodations and Exemptions
- Tips, Strategies & Resources



Tickets €45 or 2 for €70 via Eventbrite
 (Booking Fees Apply)
 Scan QR code for tickets

