



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

Year 27 Issue 6

Feb. 2024

Principal's Desk

Dear families,

I hope this edition of the Newsletter finds you well as we head into Spring. Not sure if the weather knows it is Spring yet!! We have a busy Newsletter for you this month and lots of important information in it.

I would like to say a big well done to our 3rd class boys and girls who welcomed their grandparents to school recently. We were delighted to see them all. Thanks to our teachers and staff who prepared so well for the day and the Parents Council for helping out too. Thanks to Fr Joe for all his help with Catholic Schools week also.

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. You may have noticed we have done a little reorganising of our reception area and created a little sacred space. I would like to extend out thanks to both Tim Dunleavy and Alan Campbell for their fantastic carpentry skills. A small few changes has made a huge difference.

Our enrolment period has now come to a close and we are in the process of offering places for next year. As we head into the coming weeks sport in the school will pick up once more. Our Basketballers will be playing in the schools' blitz. A huge well done to our girls team who were narrowly beaten in the final. We will be entering the schools' 5 a side competition and cross country training is on going also. We will also have Seachtain na Gaeilge and World Book day coming up next month.

I'd ask you to have a read through our Newsletter for some important updates.

*Kind regards,
Alan Hobbins*

Upcoming Closures

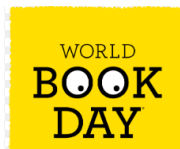
Important Notice

I hope you will have noticed a message sent out recently in relation to some upcoming closures.
Mar 8th: Referendum Closures: All primary schools close for the purposes of voting in referenda or elections.

Mar 13th: Primary Maths Curriculum. The Department of Education are rolling out a new Maths Curriculum for schools and as a result teacher training is essential. This training is lead by Dept staff and thus the closure is at their request. Both these days were not in our original calendar and we recognise the inconvenience this may cause for parents.

Mar 18th: St. Patrick's Day Bank Holiday

Mar 22nd: Easter Holidays



School Closures 2023-2024

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| • March 8 th | Referendum – School Closed |
| • March 13 th | School closed – see below |
| • 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 |

SWIM ROTA 2023 – 2024

Please note date changes

DATES
3 rd class – Feb. 14 th – April 10 th
2 nd class – April 17 th – May 22 nd

Price includes bus and 6 lessons for €45.

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

Swimming is part of the school curriculum.



RSE

 see included letter below

Please read.

Lessons will take place in March + April.

Easter Egg Collection for the Dining Room



We had a wonderful response to our Easter Egg collection for the Dining Room last year. We have decided to hold it again and with the help of the Students Council we will bring a smile to many underprivileged children.



Eggs can be donated in school up until 21st March.

This year our school will celebrate World Book Day on Thursday March 7th. 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.

Grandparents' Day in 3rd Class

This year we celebrated Grandparents' Day on Friday 9th February. We invited our grandparents to the church for prayers and songs. Robyn Crean's grandmother, Betty Hayes, told us what life was like in Caragh School when she was our age. It was very different to now!

After the church our grandparents came to the school for some refreshments and a tour of our classrooms. We would like to thank Liz for all her hard work in setting up the hall and the parents' council for serving everybody. We would also like to thank Ms. Troy, Ms. O'Connor and Fr. Joe for making it an enjoyable day. We had a great time. - 3rd Class

Please make sure, to regularly check your Aladdin App for important messages or updates from us.



Green School ...

According to tradition "If February brings no rain there will neither hay nor grain"
(Think we are ok this year).

We are green keep Caragh School clean! Cian O'Brien 4th class



We are inviting the children in our school to take part in a nationwide competition to design an outdoor wall mural for schools. The theme of the competition is to raise awareness of biodiversity issues but also bring awareness to the features that support local wildlife. For example, a mural that has "birds" as a theme but which also incorporates nest boxes. Entries on an A4 sheet with name on the back please. All entries can be dropped into Mr. Corkery or Ms. Hamill's room by 22nd March.

STUDENT COUNCIL



This month the student council has organized

Trocaire boxes to go around for everyone to bring home. You can put any spare change you have lying around into it because every bit helps. It will be donated to Malawi which has extreme high levels of poverty.

The school has also applied mirrors to the bathrooms from junior infants to sixth class and bought more equipment for the yard as requested from children in Caragh.

We will be doing an Easter egg hunt for infants in the coming weeks.



We are busy reading the suggestion boxes in each classroom, so keep your ideas coming!

**First Confession for 2nd Class
Sat. 23rd March 11an – 12 noon.**



As we move into March preparation will begin for all Cumann na mBunscol competitions.

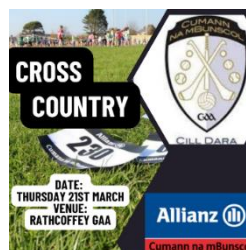
**Senior Boys and Girls Football
U/12 Hurling
U/ 10 Football
Senior Camogie
Cross Country
Quiz**

Thanks to the great support of staff, which allows us to participate in these competitions.

Quiz

March 1st in Ballymany is the venue for this annual quiz..

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 Rathcoffey on 21st March. Thanks to Ms Banks and Mr Rogers for all their hard work. Best of Luck to all involved.

Basketball

Despite a tremendous team effort encouraged by Ms. Hamill and Ms. McCormack our Girls Basketball team just lost out to Castledermot in their final held in Scoil Naomh Uilig, Newbridge. Their attention now turns to the upcoming blitz on Feb. 26th.

FAI Soccer

We have entered a boys and girls team in the FAI 5 a side competition to be held in Leixlip on March 12th.

Credit Union Quiz

Well done to our U/11 and senior quiz teams who recently participated in the annual Credit Union Quiz held in Toughers

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Beatha teanga í a labhairt! 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, Margadh Cáca, (Cake Sale) agus Aiste Gaeilge (Gradam Uí Luineacháin). On March 15th 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 spráúil 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

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

This year the school photos will take place on **Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th of March** in the school.

Registration is essential even if you are only looking for a class photo.

6th class and Junior Infants get a class photo. All children must be registered. Please go to <https://ericmolimard.ie/cns/> to register.

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

A Day out in



As a result of Emily Cramer – OMeara (4th class) winning the overall prize in the Punchestown Art Competition this class were invited to a day out at the racetrack. We were treated royally; getting to ride the horse simulator and having guided tour of the racetrack. We then met a jockey Ricky Doyle who showed us all the equipment used by him and he told the group how he prepares for each race.

Afterwards we went to the parade ring, got to ring the bell for starting and had a phot and autograph session with some well-known jockeys. The next item on the agenda was to view the horses on parade, watch the jockeys saddle up and then see the first race of the day. It was a most interesting day and the children and teachers enjoyed learning all about the general workings of a race day.

Many thanks to Punchestown and Horse Racing Ireland for their kind invitation.

Ben for Barretstown ♥

Ben was a pupil at Caragh National School, a place he loved to be, with many happy memories. The school have always supported Ben for Barretstown in so many ways. We really appreciate the support of the entire school community and the many families who contribute every year. This year, we continue in the proud tradition of remembering Ben and supporting Ben for Barretstown. Children can wear green on this day.

5th Class are busy organising a big bake sale for the whole school on



Friday March 15th.

This is our first bun sale since before Covid and we are very excited. We hope you will support the cake sale generously.

"Barretstown just gives you this confidence. I don't know how they do it, but that's the magical thing about Barretstown. It gives you a piece of yourself back - the piece you lose during your illness" Ben Wallace, 2013.

Caragh National School

February, 2024

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. Should you have any concerns don't hesitate to contact me further.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Hobbins (Principal)

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

CARAGH PARISH - FAMILY MASS

The next family mass will be on Sunday, March 17th at 10am. If you would like your child/children to get involved in the choir or with prayers and gifts, please contact Philly Cassells on (087) 6269244.

Altar Servers

If your child is in 4th class and interested in becoming an Altar Server, please fill in the relevant form that will be given out this week.

Servers are asked to serve at 2 Masses per month. Please return forms to the school office.

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

Caragh National School - Homework Club - 23/24

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



Beauty and the Beast

Congratulations to Alina Kelly whose beautifully created design has become the cover picture for this years Newbridge Panto. As a reward all her classmates got to see the Panto Beauty and the Beast. Well done Alina.

Caragh NS
Easter Camp

Time and Date:
Mon 25th - Thurs 28th
March
10am - 2pm

Pricing:
€80 per Child
€70 per Sibling

Age: Junior Infants - 6th Class Inclusive

Arts and Crafts - Building - Baking - Sports - Lego
Outdoor Games - Storytime - Easter Egg Hunt

Location: Caragh NS

Sign Up:
Application forms available in the school office.

Any Queries: Please contact cns summercamp@gmail.com

St Conleth's Pantomime Troupe
Art Competition 2024
Overall Winner

Alina Kelly
6th Class
Caragh National School

Caragh NS Parents Council

Calendar of Events 2024

The Parents Council is a group of parents that are welcome to attend meetings once a month in the school Library (usually last Thursday of the month 8.30-9.15). It's a good way to meet other parents and keep your finger on the pulse!!

If you can't attend any meetings we are always looking for volunteers for our various events throughout the year.

Jan/Feb

Teas and Coffees on Grandparents Day - volunteers needed

Mar/Apr

Easter Fundraiser coming

Mar

Fun activity organised for Second Class - volunteers needed to hand out treats afterwards

June

Graduation Teas/Coffee : volunteers needed

Organising Uniform Bank - volunteers needed

Sept

1st Day back - Cuddles and Cake for JJ parents - volunteers needed

Decr

Arrange Special visitor to school
Fundraiser to raise money for 6th class hoodies

Parents Council next meeting is Thursday 22nd Feb at 8pm in the school. **(Tonight)**

Agenda items:

1. Next fundraiser
2. Use of phones and smart tech among primary schoolchildren

SAVE THE DATE!



April 14th 2-4

Even Bigger and Better Bingo !!!!!

Easter Baking Camp
26TH, 27TH & 28TH MARCH.
10AM TO 2.30 PM
LUNCH PROVIDED
COST €90
Gingerstown Caragh
Contact Liz
0857116785

Home from Childcare
▼ A home away from home experience ▼
Before & Afterschool Care
Junior Infants to 6th Class
Spacious home with dedicated Playroom
Homework Supervision
Home Cooked Food
For more Contac
Karen 086 3961918

2024

DEE'S DAYCARE

PLACES AVAILABLE!

Register NOW for September 2024

HOME COOKED MEALS

HOME WORK - DONE!

Junior Infants to 6th class

Dee's Day Care 087 289 8368

CARAGH N.S.

KIDS SUMMER CAMP

Fun - Informative - Structured

Now Open for Registration

One Week Only commencing: 1st July.

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
- ✓ Pizza throwing & more...

CALL DEE: 087 289 8368
summer@iserve.ie

Caragh, Naas, Co. Kildare

Thank You FROM 176,615 CHILDREN FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX GIFTS

FROM IRELAND WITH LOVE

Burkina Faso 15,005	Lesotho 8,386
Burundi 15,992	Eswatini 21,404
Albania 26,272	Rwanda 4,500
Kenya 3,000	Transnistria/Moldova 19,854
Romania 24,983	Malawi 13,879
DR Congo 7,539	Ukraine 16,781

TEAM HOPE

Caragh Lego Exhibition 2024

Contact: caraghlegoexhibition@gmail.com

When? Sunday 3 rd March 2-4pm	Where? Caragh Community Centre	Why? For The Jack and Jill Foundation
Donate Search idonate.ie for Caragh Lego Exhibition Bring any old Lego bricks you no longer want on the day	Display Have you any kind of Lego/Duplo build that you're proud of? Let us know and Come and show it off on March 3 rd	



Raheens GAA Nursery



Boys & Girls u6
Football training

(for current junior infant classes and
children starting school in September)

Starting back Friday, April 5th
6.00pm

New Members Welcome



John Gallagher 087 233 6017

raheens.gaa.ie/contact-us



Raheens GAA Nursery



Boys & Girls Nursery
Football training
(for u7 to u10 groups)

Starting back Friday, March 1st 6.00pm

u6s start on April 5th

New Members Welcome



John Gallagher 087 233 6017

raheens.gaa.ie/contact-us



MULTI ACTIVITY SUMMER CAMPS



NAAS - Easter Camp

CBS Naas
25th - 28th March 2024
9.30am - 3.30pm

NAAS - Summer Camp

CBS Naas
1st - 5th July 2024
8th - 12th July 2024
9.30am - 3.30pm



VISIT OUR
WEBSITE

VENUES
NEAR YOU

LET THE
FUN
BEGIN



Checkout our website: www.letsqo.ie

BJAI Indian Community invite everyone to the Festival of colour - Holi. There will be food, music, fun, dance and above all various different colour powders. Holi is about putting colours on each other and painting everyone colourful. The idea behind this is to forget all our differences and embrace each other with love so that we all live together with peace in the community.

Please book your ticket as soon as possible as this will give us time to organise the festival with even better planning.

<https://bjai.eventbrite.ie>



**BIHAR JHARKHAND
ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND (BJAI)**

DJ - Food Stall - Phagua - Holi Colours
Everyone is welcome

Sat, 23rd March
12PM to 6PM



होली मिलन समारोह
**FESTIVAL OF
COLOURS
(HOLI)**

Early Bird Ticket:
€6/ ADT, €4/CHD

Full Price Ticket:
€10/ ADT, €6/CHD
Below 5 yrs free

<https://bjai.eventbrite.ie>



Contact- bjaireland@gmail.com

Venue - Caragh Community Centre, Naas, Co Kildare W91 RV07



