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Volume 26 Issue 9

June 2023

## Principal's Desk

Dear families,

I trust this latest edition of our Newsletter finds you well and enjoying the wonderful weather we are currently having. Here's hoping it lasts and that we get something similar in July and August. Of course, the weather is perfect timing for our week off next week. We ask you to remember that if children are wearing shorts to school, they should be plain navy knee length shorts in keeping with the school tracksuit & uniform. GAA shorts, bicycle shorts or similar are not permitted.

It has been a very busy month. We had our first ever Intercultural Day which was a great success. I'd like to thank those parents who visited our school to talk to the children and they brought some lovely treats with them too. It has been a very active month on the sporting field. The Cumann na mBunscol competitions were in full swing this month with boys & girls' football along with hurling and camogie. We had two teams in finals of the competition also with our senior boys victorious – a fantastic achievement for the school.

May has also been a month for sacraments with Communion and Confirmation ceremonies taking place. Again, we've been blessed with the weather for all these ceremonies. I'd like to thank Fr Joe and Philip Lawlor for all their help. Our choir sang fantastically at all these ceremonies once again this year.

A word of thanks to all our staff for their involvement in all these extra activities that take place during the school year. It is because of their continued efforts that we can offer so much for the children in our school.

At this time of year we start looking over the horizon towards next year – it's not too far away. We are changing our Book rental scheme as you know. We will ask you for a donation towards our running costs. In the coming pages of the Newsletter we have the relevant information for you. Children will no longer receive a Book list from the school. We will ask you to purchase the relevant stationary that the children will need throughout the year, but the school will supply the necessary books and copies. We appreciate your financial support as always in ensuring we offer the best possible learning environment for all the children. End of year reports will be sent out to you the week of the 19<sup>th</sup> June and information about next year's teacher shortly after.

As always if you have any concerns, please contact the school.

Kind regards

Alan Hobbins





The annual Fun Day/Cake Sale Day run by 6<sup>th</sup> class to fund raise for their tour to Delphi Leisure Centre takes place **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June**. Children will get the opportunity to participate in a range of fun activities as well as to indulge in some treats. This is a non-uniform day and please put on plenty of sun screen and wear a hat.

We would greatly appreciate spot prizes, unwanted gifts, good quality toys, cakes – buns, breads, jams, eggs etc.

**BAKE SALE**



Adults can indulge themselves at the 1.45pm cake sale. We are always very fortunate to have so many parents who bake delicious cakes, bread, and tarts for this. *Please Support.*

**Tickets for spot prizes will be on sale.  
on the day. We have some great prizes.**



# Caragh National School

School Year 2023/2024

## Equipment, Art/Craft + Photocopying

	For 1 child	For 2 Children	For 3 or more children
<b>Total to pay</b>	€60	€110	€140

Monies towards Equipment, Art/Craft and Photocopying will continue to be collected by the school. This is a family payment with reduced costs for families with more than one child attending the school. Further details below. Online payment is available, a link will be sent to your email address and is available through Aladdin Connect.

The above payment covers all the following for the entire school year.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• all maths equipment</li><li>• test booklets</li><li>• plastic book bags</li><li>• infant supplies of pencils and crayons</li><li>• Posters – maps etc.</li><li>• class photocopying for the year (including paper)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• all art + craft supplies (paper, paint, clay etc)</li><li>• reports/envelopes + postage</li><li>• homework journal</li><li>• Aladdin</li><li>• Science equipment</li><li>• Some extra curricular activities.</li></ul>
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All the above will be bought by the school and will be available in September.

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### Payment - Equipment, Art/Craft + Photocopying

Payments should be made online through our secure payment facility – this is safer for you and the school. The system will issue a receipt. If online payment is not suitable for you; you can pay at your bank with the following:

**Caragh NS BIC: BOFI IE2D**

**IBAN: IE30 BOFI 9012 3942 8514 01**

Please ensure that you put your child's name as a payment reference, or we will not know who has paid.

If you prefer to pay with cash, please contact the office in September. Any issues online please email [office@caraghns.ie](mailto:office@caraghns.ie) or [principal@caraghns.ie](mailto:principal@caraghns.ie).

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**No booklist this year. Each child should have the below items:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ pencil case with pens (none clicking), pencils, small pritt stick x2, colouring pencils, eraser and parer. Small pack of whiteboard markers.</li><li>✓ From 2<sup>nd</sup> class onwards a 30cm ruler and highlighter</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ 6<sup>th</sup> class will also need a hole punch, reinforcement holes, A4 lever arch binder. They should also keep their English dictionary and Oxford Atlas from 5<sup>th</sup> class</li></ul>
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**Some items may need to be replaced during the year.**

**Please label all items.**

# School Calendar



**June Bank Holiday Week:** June 5<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>  
**Summer Closure:** Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June

Reminder school finishes on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June

**Infants + siblings go home at 11.50am**  
**Rest of school at 12 noon**

## School Closures 2023-2024

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| • Aug 31 <sup>st</sup>                              | School Reopens   |
| • 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   |

## Green School

6th class get to sample some lovely herbs and lettuces from our polytunnel. Throughout the year they sowed, thinned, and watered their plants and watched them grow.

The green school committee were busy during Kildare Biodiversity Week planting lavender plants donated by Caragh Tidy Towns and researching all about bees. They are working on a wall display to teach the students why bees are important, what would happen if bees became extinct and how we can all help the bee population.

**Green tip:** try to eat fruit and veg that are locally grown and in season such as lettuce, spring onions, broad beans, new potatoes, chives, and radishes.

**Did you know?** There are 9 different species of bat in Ireland.



Class	Date	Where	Price
J.I.	June 19 <sup>th</sup>	Caragh Farm + Playball	€10
S.I.	June 21 <sup>st</sup>	Lullymore	€24
1 <sup>st</sup>	June 13 <sup>th</sup>	Sea Life Bray	€22
2 <sup>nd</sup>	June 12 <sup>th</sup>	Castlecomber	€32
3 <sup>rd</sup>	June 20 <sup>th</sup>	Rockfield, Kells	€30
4 <sup>th</sup>	June 1 <sup>st</sup>	Red Hills, Kildare	€36
5 <sup>th</sup>	June 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Tayto Park	€32
6 <sup>th</sup>	June 16 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup>	Delphi	

Price includes bus and entrant's fee. Please bring a lunch, drinks, hat, and sun cream.

Payment to be made on Aladdin. **By paying you are giving consent for your child to go on tour. We will need a disclaimer signed through Aladdin for 4<sup>th</sup> class parents to allow their child to go to Red Hill. Children can not go on tour without this consent.**

**We are aware of the price increase in tours this year and we have tried to keep it to a minimum where possible.**



June 29<sup>th</sup> will be our 6<sup>th</sup> class pupil's graduation from Caragh N.S.

## Parents Council

A huge thanks to everyone for supporting the recent Speedquizzing event. A great night was had and indeed we will run one again (by popular demand). We will be giving €2000 to the school toward the trim trail.

We will also be doing the uniform swap this year. It was a great success last year so keep a watch out for the date once confirmed.

## Tracksuits + Uniforms for next school year.

Parents may purchase uniform items in any store.  
The following suppliers will supply uniform items and crested tracksuits.

All orders should be made directly to the suppliers.  
The school will not be involved in processing orders.

The Back to School Shop, Newbridge 045/449100  
Kidstuff, Georges St., Newbridge 045/486445

### Please Note:

J. Infants – to 2<sup>nd</sup> (inc.) wear tracksuits at all times.

3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> (inclusive) wear school uniform –  
tracksuits on PE days only

*School crests are available online.  
or from the school office at €5 each*

## **School Insurance.**

The school offers a link to a **Pupils Personal Accident Insurance policy** every year. This is an optional extra.

This year the pupil insurance cover is being offered by J.F.Dunne Insurances Ltd. The Application form and summary of benefits is attached to this newsletter. The price this year is **€5.61 per pupil for 24/7 cover** for all activities, including school holidays, and cover starts August 31st, 2023.

Payment can be made through the Aladdin payments page. As soon as you click the option for the insurance cover and pay, this is confirmation of sign-up to the policy and no further paperwork is required. If you choose to pay in cash/cheque, the application form must be downloaded and completed for return to the school, along with your payment.  
Closing date for signing up to the policy is September 30th.

## Cumann na mBunscol

As a hectic term draws to a close, we would like to thank the boys and girls who represented their school in a range of Cumann na mBunscol games.

Although not qualifying for the semi-finals our under 11 hurlers and senior girls' footballers acquitted themselves in Div. 1.

Our U/10 footballers went all the way to the final where they lost out to a strong Scoil Uí Riada team. The boys were thrilled to wear the Caragh School jersey for their first time.

Our camogie has one game to play where a victory will ensure a semi-final spot.

Congratulation to our senior boys' team who were victorious in their Div. 2 final. The boys saved their best performance for the final and certainly gave a great display.

## Active School's Week



June 21<sup>st</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>

Children will sample a range of activities including cricket, frisbe,

tug of war, tennis and duathlon as well team games and sports days.

**Let's hope for fine weather.**

## Delphi

As we acknowledge for the wonderful contribution that 6<sup>th</sup> class have made to Caragh NS throughout their time with us they go to Delphi Adventure Centre for a weekend of activities and fun. We hope they bring back great memories and that the sun shines.

Thanks to teachers who are giving up their weekend to make this possible. We really appreciate the support that our 6<sup>th</sup> class parents group have given to this trip. *Excitement is building .....*

# CONGRATULATIONS



# WOW

Thanks to everyone for bringing in Aldi play rugby stickers. We filled 14 posters and will receive rugby sports equipment for the school.

*Thank You*



If any family is getting rid of a small trampoline like the ones pictured here the school would be grateful to have it for our sensory room.



## SWIM ROTA 2022 - 2023

Please see below our Swim Rota

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

Payment can be made online.

DATES
Ms. Hanly, Ms. Jennings, Ms. Ryan 2 <sup>nd</sup> 28/04, 05/05, 12/05, 19/05, 02/06, 16/06



### 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](mailto:ArtWithCiana@hotmail.com)

Keys found in the Parish field please collect in the school office.

## Reports & Testing

The end of year reports will be released to parents in the coming days and can be viewed on the Aladdin App. We are very proud of the children this year and how hard they have all worked in school. We are still conscious of the impact Covid has had on the teaching & learning and please keep this in mind when reading the reports.

This year all classes from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> completed the Drumcondra Standardised tests. All school complete standardised tests each May and this year we updated some of our tests so that they were more in line with current standards. As a result you may notice a slight change in your child's tests scores. This is to be expected.

Please keep in mind that standardised tests are just a snapshot on a given day of your child's attainment in school. As teachers we are constantly assessing how the children are doing and we are best placed to offer good guidance on their progress each year, as will be explained in the school reports.


Should you have any questions or queries in relation to school reports or testing, please contact the class teacher or myself in the office at [principal@caraghns.ie](mailto:principal@caraghns.ie)

### Understanding the scores


Standard Score	What is Means	% who get this score
130 and above	Very High	2%
120 - 129	High	7%
110 - 119	High Average	16%
90 - 109	Average	50%
80 - 89	Low Average	16%
70 - 79	Low	7%
Below 70	Very Low	2%

Our sincere thanks to Caragh Tidy Towns for the new flower boxes outside the front of the school. They are a fantastic addition to the village and have brought a lovely lease of life to the front of the school. Thanks to John and all the Tidy Towns team.





## Caragh National School - Homework Club - 23/24





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 + Lego.

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

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

For further information, please contact [cnshomeworkclub@gmail.com](mailto:cnshomeworkclub@gmail.com)





**KILDARE ACADEMY OF COMMUNICATION**  
Speech and Drama classes take place on **TUESDAY** afternoons  
in Caragh School  
From September to May  
Limited spaces available for 2023-2024  
For information, please contact  
Eunice Lavelle on  
087 275 0418 or [eunice.lavelle@gmail.com](mailto:eunice.lavelle@gmail.com)

**A few spaces for next week.**  
**Summer Baking Camp.**



**Have fun making your ice cream and picnic food.**



**Gingerstown Caragh.**  
**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June & Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June**  
**10.00am to 2.30pm each day.**  
**Lunch provided.**  
**€90**  
**Phone Liz: 0857116785**




# HOME FROM HOME Childcare

♥ A home away from home experience ♥

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
Contact  
Karen 086 3961918




**5th Kildare Clane**


**Scouting Ireland – 5<sup>th</sup> Kildare Clane Group**  
We are inviting new youth members and adult volunteers

If you want your child to get more friends, enjoy outdoors adventures, learn more life skills, practice leadership, gain confidence and become a member of the international scout movement, contact us now. That would allow us to include you in our recruitment for next year, as we have limited capacity.

Our sections are meeting in the Scout Den in Clane.

	Section	Age	Meetings	
	Beavers	6 – 8 years	Wednesday 6-7 p.m.	
	Cubs	9 – 11 years	Wed 7.15– 8.45p.m.	
	Scouts	12 – 15 years	Friday 7.30-9.30 p.m.	
	Ventures	16 – 18 years	Depending on programme	

To receive the application form, email [5kildareclaneadmissions@gmail.com](mailto:5kildareclaneadmissions@gmail.com)

Any questions regards membership or volunteering as Scouters or Associated Adult members? Contact Group Secretary: 0862370156, [5kildareclaneselector@gmail.com](mailto:5kildareclaneselector@gmail.com)

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

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**STARTING SEPTEMBER 19TH 2023 | 7.00-8.30 PM**  
**8 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 guaranteed**

Further information:

**Clare: 086-1708070 or Noreen: 087-6496915**

Kildare Play Therapy, Unit W91, ~~Ladymore~~ Business Park, Naas, W91E822



**CARAGH N.S.**

# 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

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