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Final Newsletter

June 2020

Dear Parents,

As we reach the last day of the year, it only seems fitting to send out a Newsletter of sorts to mark the end of a very eventful school year. Today should be filled with lots of joy as the children head out the school gates for the summer holidays. There's nothing like that final cheer of relief at the gate on the last day.

It has been a very busy year with Witch Walk, Christmas Carol Service all the sporting events and success and much more besides. The year was certainly getting into the most eventful time and was cut short by Covid.1960

The last few months has been the most unusual of times for all of us. We have all grappled with working from home and home teaching & learning to boot. You have had work being sent out from school and have returned those bits and pieces to us as a school. While this has been a very strange way for us all to engage it has been worthwhile and lovely to see this interaction on a completely new level.

I would like to thank all the teachers who have worked tirelessly in delivering this new type of teaching and learning for all the children. This was all very new to us, but every teacher here in Caragh National School was so eager to keep in touch with the children as best they could. Yes it was difficult with the restrictions, but I hope you'll agree the teachers worked really hard to continue to engage with all the boys and girls.

I think this has been reflected so well by the lovely messages that have been attached to the railings of the school. This was a really fabulous idea and on behalf of all the staff – thank you so much.

Return to School

There is much talk and speculation surrounding our return to school for the new school year. I wish I had a clear answer for you all at this stage. Unfortunately we have not been issued with any guidelines from the Department to date. We have and will be establishing our own Covid 19 Committee as we begin to investigate what protocols and measures will need to be put in place. At all times the health and safety of the children and staff will be at the forefront of all decisions made.

When the new arrangements are finalised we will issue detailed information to you all and in good time also. These details will be emailed to you and will be up on our website also. When we return for the new year, our priority will be the well being of all the children and ensuring they all settle back into school life for a new year.

School reopens on Friday 28th August

Thank You

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff, parents and especially the boys and girls for the lovely welcome to the school this my first year in Caragh NS. I was thrilled to join the school in September and am delighted to be part of the team here. We have a fantastic school with a great staff and great pupils and I am privileged to be Principal here. I would like thank all the staff and members of the parents' council for all their help and guidance this year.

I hope to continue working with you all in partnership as we endeavour to deliver the best of opportunities for all the children here in the school.

For now I wish you all the best for the summer holidays and I hope you all get a lovely break. We all look forward to our return to school which please God it will be as straight forward and 'normal' as possible.

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, Cutlery Rd. Newbridge 045/449100

Kidstuff, Georges St., Newbridge 045/486445 (O'Neill's tracksuits)

Please Note: J. Infants – to 2nd (inclusive) wear tracksuits at all times. 3rd – 6th (inclusive) wear school uniform – tracksuits on PE days only

The crests are available online or from the school office at €5 each in September

Book Lists 2020 - 2021

All classes have received their book lists for the next school year. We have tried to reduce the number of workbooks for all classes and have increased the number available for renting. Parents may purchase Workbooks locally or online, all details are on the book list. Only buy Atlas or Dictionary if you don't already have one.

Book Rental/Art and Craft/Photocopying charges have been reduced to compensate for C19 closures this year.

The DES operates a Book Grant Scheme, for large families, single parent families, those on Social Welfare payments and families experiencing financial difficulties of any kind. If you would like to avail of this part-payment towards book rental, please contact the Principal Alan Hobbins in school office (903091).

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: UI SB IE2D IBAN: IE56 ULSB 98619037 2020 90.

Put your child's name as a reference.

If you must pay with cash, please contact the office in September. Any issues online please email office@caraghns.ie or principal@caraghns.ie. Thank you



