

Carlow Educate Together NS News

Unit 5, Shamrock Business Park, Graiguecullen, Carlow

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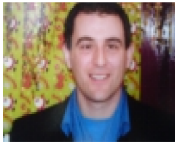


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June 2009



It's hard to believe that the end of our first year has come around already! For me, it has been a brilliant experience and I'm really grateful for all the help and support you have given me in our first year. I think we've established ourselves in the community of Graiguecullen and from listening to locals, people are very happy with us and I'm delighted that we're going to be growing from year to year.

This month the school formed a Parents' Association. The committee held their first meeting on Tuesday, 16th June and they will shortly be affiliated with the National Parents' Council. Every parent in our school is automatically a member of the Parents' Association so keep an eye out for further news. Also in June, we had a very successful school tour, a fundraiser for Down Syndrome and we had a videoconferencing session with the New York Science Museum.

Below are the plans so far for next year. You'll be receiving a pack before we close for the year with everything you need. I hope you and your child(ren) had a great year and we look forward to welcoming you back this September.

Regards,
Simon Lewis
Principal

Our class allocations for the Academic Year 2009 - 2010 are as follows but may change according to enrollments.

Junior Infants
New Teacher
Senior Infants/1st/2nd
New Teacher
3rd / 4th / 5th
Simon Lewis
Learning Support
Aisling Quinn
Outreach Class
Tom O'Shea

A couple of new services will start this September, which you can preview right away - We have our own Facebook page, you can follow us on Twitter and we will have Internet Access for parents. There will also be an After School Club. Please keep an eye on our website www.carloweducatetogether.ie for news over the summer.

If you need anything or have any concerns you can call the school at 059-9179453. Please ensure that we have all your contact details and please advise of any changes to address, home phone numbers and mobile phone number. If we have a mobile number for you we can keep you up to date with regular texts.

With regards to schoolbooks, we will source them again this year. As we are buying in bulk, we receive a discount so this year's bill will come to €100. **This includes all books, assessments, insurance, photocopying and art materials.**



School Tour.

Our School Tour took place on Wednesday 03rd June and we headed to *Lullymore Heritage & Discovery Park*.

We had a wonderful day, the children enjoyed playing in the outdoor playground, we then had a tour of the farm and met some Shetland Ponies, Mini Goats, Llamas, Rabbits and many more. We then went to see the Fairy Fort after which we had lunch in the garden. After lunch we headed to the indoor play area and then went for a trip on the train. All in all it was a wonderful day and enjoyed by everyone.



HB Ice-Cream Day in aid of Down Syndrome Ireland.

On Friday 12th June we were joined by the children from St. Fiacc's NS to celebrate HB Ice-cream day. All money raised goes to Down Syndrome Ireland. We all enjoyed listening to songs and poems from each school then we went outside to play for a while. Then it was time for some yummy ice-cream!



Visit from a Gardener.

Aisling's class learned all about gardening from Doyle's of the Shamrock today. Their gardener came over to help us plant some busy lizzies. A big thank you to Doyle's for donating loads of goodies to us!

Studio III Training

On the 12th – 14th June all staff participated in Studio III training. Studio III provide high quality evidence based training in the specialist field of managing aggressive and challenging behaviour. Studio 3 is renowned for the development of Low Arousal Approaches to managing behaviour throughout the UK and Europe.

Sports Day

Sports Day was a great success. We avoided the rain...just. There were lots of events on all day including all the usual races and some other surprises. The school was divided into 4 teams and they spent the day trying to achieve their best times and scores. This year's winners were the yellow team and they were presented with their prize at assembly the next day. The day finished at 1:30pm. At exactly 31 minutes past one, the rain came tumbling down!

Video Conference with New York Science Museum

We were lucky enough to make contact with Anthony Negrón from the New York Museum of Science. Through a live webcast, we got a virtual tour of the museum and then we got to do a science experiment with bubbles. The coolest thing was we were able to talk to Anthony and he could see and talk to us. We all had great fun!



Dates for your Diary

An Academic Calendar for 2009 – 2010 is now available. If you have not received one please contact Siobhan for a copy and there will also be one available for download.

School will close on Tuesday 30th June at 12pm for Summer Holidays.

School will reopen on Monday 31st August at 8.50 and will finish at 11.00 for Jnr Inf and 12.00 for all other classes

Vaccinations.

School vaccinations will take place next September 2009 – dates will be confirmed in advance.

Standardized Testing.

The standardized testing went ahead and you are welcome to come in and discuss the results with your child's teacher.



Educate Together Second-Level Project

Following on from the meeting of the different local start-up groups from around the country, a postcard campaign took place throughout the week of May 11th in all Educate Together national schools and local communities.

Over 6,000 signatures from parents of pupils in Educate Together primary schools are handed in to the Dáil

If you are interested in:

1. campaigning for an Educate Together second-level school for your area
2. participating in a working group on Educate Together Second-level Education

Please contact Emer Nowlan, Second-level Project manager at emer.nowlan@educatetogether.ie, on 01 429 2500 or on the web site <http://www.educatetogether.ie>

Enjoy your summer everyone! Don't forget to check out our school web site, <http://www.carloweducatetogether.ie>, our Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/cetns> and also our Twitter page: <http://twitter.com/carlowetms> during the summer for news and updates.