



## A BIG Clean Thank You!

A big thank you to all parents and families for volunteering to clean our school while we were in the process of finding a suitable and affordable cleaning service.

The Board of Management asked Paul and Ruth Curtis if they would continue cleaning the school in the evenings and take on the voluntary work that parents have kindly been doing since September.

The Board is happy that Ruth and Paul have agreed to take on this work.

### Coffee Mornings

All parents are encouraged to come along on Friday mornings for a coffee and a chat. Parents are essential to the running of our school. So far, parents have organised our brilliant Halloween/Divali/Samhain fun day and are in the process of organising something for December!

Remember, everyone is welcome—just show up!

## Board of Management

The Board of Management held its first two meetings.

Minutes of meetings will be posted on the Parents' and staff notice-board as soon as possible.

The Board of Management was voted in early October. The members of the Board are:

• Eleanor Peters  
(Chairperson)

### Outreach Class

Our class for children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders was given the official go-ahead by the NCSE.

Sinéad and Lisa have been busy setting up the room and it should be ready in the next few weeks.

We are also hiring a new permanent teacher to teach this class. An advertisement was placed in the Irish Independent and on educationposts.ie. The closing date for the application is in late November and the teacher will begin in December.

Simon gave a talk to parents about the outreach class and the feedback was very positive. If anyone has any concerns or questions, please talk to Simon.

### Teacher and Parent Workshops

Aisling kicked off our series of Teacher/Parent workshops last week as she gave a short talk to

parents on the English and Maths work that's going on in Junior and Senior Infants.

The next talk we'd like to give to parents is to explain our behaviour system. It's based on a set of six rules, which are prominently placed in our foyer called the Golden Rules. All children have agreed to these rules. We aim to explain more later this month—so watch the noticeboard.

### Web Site

Our Web site won the Scoilnet Star Site award this month. Check us out on [www.carloweducatetogther.ie](http://www.carloweducatetogther.ie)



Fun at the Halloween / Divali /Samhain Day

(Community Representative)

Parents who wish to voice any concerns, comments or items for the agenda should speak to either of the parent representatives. The next meeting is going to be held on December 8th 2008 and all items must be given to the Board before 1st December.

- Ciaran Kendellen (Treasurer)
- Simon Lewis (Secretary and Principal)
- Aisling Quinn (Teachers' Representative)
- Aidan Magee (Parents' Representative)
- Emma O'Brien (Parents' Representative)
- John Moran (Community Representative)
- Jennifer Murnane

### 100-square project

We really need your support for this project. If you know of any businesses who would like to sponsor a canvas, please let us know and we'll give you everything you need! We have sold 16 canvases so far so there's 84 to go. If every parents sold just one canvas, we would be half way there!

## A sample morning in the classroom

We're often asked about our routine in the classroom so here's a sample guide to what happens between 8:50 and 9:30 each day!

8:50am—Children come into class to begin their learning. In infants, there is 30 minutes of structured play. Children are given tasks to enhance their fine motor skills, early mathematical skills and social skills. This is one of the most important times of the day. In older classes, children get straight down to blogging! All children in Simon's class write a short piece about themselves for our web site. This often forms the basis of their reading, spellings and comprehension for the week.

By 9:20, children in Aisling's class have tidied their things away and begin their Jolly Phonics. Simon's class have their phonics and reading class around this time.

In the next newsletter, we'll fill you in on the rest of the morning. However, parents are always welcome to chat to the teacher with any questions or concerns they may have.

### HAPPY, SAFE, LEARN!

The vision for our school is that everybody—that's children, parents and staff—have a right to be happy, safe and able to learn.

We have enlisted a volunteer artist to make a mural inside our school with this vision.

If anyone has any ideas for what should be on the mural—let us know ASAP! The work may begin this week.

