

Carlow Educate Together NS News



Unit 5, Shamrock Business Park, Graiguecullen, Carlow

Phone: 059-9179453 | Fax: 059-9134566 | Web: www.carloweducatetogether.ie



February 2009

Quick News

Welcome Tom

Our Outreach Class opened last month with our new teacher, Tom O'Shea. Classes have been going well and you might see him in the local papers this week!

Staff Meeting

A staff meeting will be held on Wednesday, 4th February. All children to be picked up at 12pm.

Work Experience

To support our ethos of reaching out to the community, our school offered work experience to students from local colleges. All students are garda vetted before they come. We welcomed Debbie, Marlene, Damien, Nicky and Miriam to our school.

Spanish Teacher

We were very happy to welcome Ana to our school from Madrid in Spain. Ana will be working in our school for three months taking both Simon and Aisling's classes.

Swimming Classes

Swimming classes began and all children enjoyed them so far. We look forward to seeing how our youngest children get on in the pool this week! Remember children in Group B who do not wish to swim must attend the swimming pool too. All Group B pupils to meet at pool at 8:50am. Group A pupils—classes as usual in school.

Board of Management

The Board had their first training session in January. Their first meeting of 2009 will be held on February 9th.

New Pupils

This month, we welcomed three new pupils: Tobi and Timi to Senior Infants and Lauren to 2nd class. We hope they enjoy being in our school.

Letter from the Principal



Dear parents/guardians,

We are very excited in school this month as the school will have its official opening ceremony on Friday, 6th February. All parents and family members are welcome to join us at 1 o'clock. I want to thank all the people who helped write, post and deliver the invitations and to the parents who are going to be busy baking and making sandwiches for the big event!

Communication between staff and parents is a huge part of how our school runs. We will be hosting our first Parent-Teacher Meetings later on this month. However, there are loads of ways you can keep in touch with what's going on in the school. Read our Parent Teacher Meeting and Communication guide on page 2.

We are always looking for contributions to our newsletter from parents and thanks to Mags McMonagle for hers. Please email your articles or post them in the Suggestion Box and we'll put them in the next issue.

As always, please keep in touch. Don't forget to come in for coffee on Friday mornings.

Kindest regards

Simon

Congratulations! Some Web Sites

A few months ago, we reported that Simon's class had entered the Doodle 4 Google competition. All five children at the time entered and we got some great news this month: Nathaniel was selected for the county final. We are very proud of him and this is the first award our school has received. Well done for all your hard work. Below is Nathaniel's entry.



These web sites will help your child out with English, Irish and Reading:

- www.starfall.com
- www.literactive.com
- www.focal.ie
- pbskids.org
- www.littlefingers.com
- www.dicts.info

Of course, all the latest school news is available on our own web site: <http://www.carloweducatetogether.ie> which is now available in 12 different languages.





Official Opening of Our School

Our school will be officially opened by Mary White, TD on Friday, 6th February. Paul Rowe, the CEO of Educate Together, and MJ Nolan, TD, will also be present.



The ceremony will begin at 1 o'clock and we ask that you try to come as early as possible. Help would also be appreciated on the day. Thanks to Adeline, Ruth, Colin and Collette for offering to bake.

The ceremony should be finished by 2 o'clock and parents are asked to bring children home at this time.

Parents' Section

Parents are encouraged to meet up for coffee and a chat every Friday from 9am.



Almost every morning, the notice-board in the foyer contains important information.

From today, a copy of the notice-board will be posted on the school web site too.

Class News

Aisling's Class (Junior & Senior Infants)

Every morning Aisling's class are busy with activities such as playdough, cutting, reading, and board games. It is very important that your child doesn't miss out on this time so please make sure you get to school in time at 8:50am.



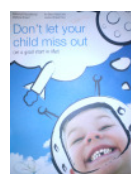
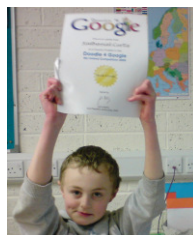
Aisling's Class were also busy going on a bear hunt and learning all about Hansel and Gretel.

Simon's Class (1st to 3rd class)

Ana has been working in Simon's class and has started teaching the children some Spanish. They also learned about the Chinese New Year and tried some Moon Cake. Unfortunately,

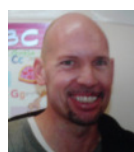


no-one except Simon liked the taste! Nathaniel got to the county final of Google 4 Doodle and we are very proud of him!



Please note that classes begin at 8:50am. Lateness affects children's ability to settle into class and they generally miss some of the most

important parts of the day. The NEWB provide further information for parents on attendance. The school are looking for suggestions to counteract lateness. If you have suggestions, please put them into the Suggestion Box before the 9th February.



Tom's Class

Tom's class have started their year having great fun! Both children join up with Simon and Aisling's classes to play and to learn. If anyone wants to visit Tom's class, they are welcome.

Clare's Class

Clare and her gang have been learning loads of English and are making great progress! Clare has also been busy for our official opening and we hope we will have a nice surprise for you soon.

And Finally...



In each newsletter, we'd like to leave you with something to think about. As it was the Chinese New Year last week, here are a couple of facts: This year was the year of the **Ox**. To wish somebody a Happy New Year in Chinese, you say "**Kung Hei Fat Choy**".

The Lab Theatre Company would like to introduce Lab Kids Drama Classes. Classes will run in our school from Thursday, 26th February for 10 weeks. Contact thelabtheatre@gmail.com or 086-2381825 for more information. A poster will be placed at the entrance of the school.

A new after school club which runs from 7am to 9pm is starting up in Graiguecullen. If interested, please fill in a form going out to you this week.