

Carlow Educate Together NS News



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March 2009

Quick News

Goodbye Marlene & Damien

Marlene and Damien finished their work experience in the school this week. We will all miss them and wish them the very best of luck in their futures.

Staff Meeting

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

Lice Outbreak

There has been another outbreak of lice in school. Please make sure you check your child's hair and treat it if necessary. Your local pharmacy will have a variety of solutions to suit your needs.

Absences

The NEWB is responsible for the welfare of children in Ireland. After 20 days of absences, by law, we must send a report to the NEWB to let them know of these absences. There are a number of children on our rollbook that are close to the 20 days mark. Please ensure your child is in school and make sure you write a note explaining any absences.

Lateness

Lateness affects children's ability to settle into their work at the start of the day. School begins at 8:50am. Please ensure that your child comes to school on time.

New Pupil

This month, we welcomed one new pupil to our school. We hope that Joshua will be very happy in our school.

Enrollments

If you received an enrolment form for September 2009, please ensure you send it back before 14th March.

Letter from the Principal



Dear parents/guardians,

It seems a very short time ago I was writing the February newsletter. The month has really flown by!

The big highlight of this month was our official opening day and I'm sure you'll agree it was a very special day. We're currently in the process of preparing to record our school song, "Learn Together, Live Together" so you should expect a CD in the next few weeks.

Swimming lessons also went well and we're hoping to continue them sometime in the next term. We are currently negotiating with the Talbot Hotel to rent out the entire pool so everyone can swim at the same time.

Outside of school, I was asked to give a presentation at an education conference, where I talked about the latest developments in web design and promoted our school web site in the process. This was followed by a radio interview on the same topic.

Looking forward to March, we hope to get your help so we can take to the streets of Carlow on St. Patrick's Weekend

kindest regards

Simon

Parents Association

At the Board of Management Training in January, we were informed that steps could now be taken to establish a Parents' Association.

It was recommended that the parents of the school contact the National Parents' Council to arrange for a speaker to come to the school for an information evening.

If there is anybody who would like to take on the role of organising this training, talk to Simon and he can point you in the right direction, if necessary,

Read Together

Our Read Together Programme will begin this Thursday, 5th March at 9am. We ask for as many parents as possible to come along to read with the children in Aisling's class.

Everything will be explained to you when you arrive and it's a great way to get to know how your children are getting on in class.

If you want to talk about the Read Together programme or discuss anything about it, please see Simon.



St. Patrick's Day Celebrations

Carlow Town will be hosting a St. Patrick's Weekend festival and we're hoping, as a school, to participate in the parade this year. The parade will be on Sunday the 15th March.



We will be thinking about themes and ideas for the parade and we'd love if some parents would get together to organise the children. Educate Together schools traditionally produce excellent additions to St. Patrick's Day parades and it would be great publicity for our school.

If you'd like to volunteer some time to help out, talk to Simon.

Class News

Aisling's Class (Junior & Senior Infants)

The class are working well. This month we were focussing on the book, "The Very Hungry Caterpillar". We watched a fascinating video online about the life cycle of a butterfly. For Valentine's Day, we made cookies and invited the parents and other classes to join us. We had great fun and thanks to all for their help.



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

This month, we did a project about forests. We went on a trip to Oak Park in Carlow Town. After that we did lots of activities and experiments about forests, animals and habitats. We also made two videos and recorded lots of wildlife sounds. We made some games on the computer and wrote some stories and fact sheets. You'll be able to see our work on the school web site soon.

Tom's Class

The children in class are being supported in mainstream endeavours. They enjoy invitations to Aisling's special events and the sharing of curriculum activities.



Clare's Class

The ESL Class are working very well. This month we were learning prepositions and attributes. We were also learning about Valentine's Day and talking about the people we love.

And Finally...



St. Patrick's Day is coming soon and there's a lot of stories about him. But did you know St. Patrick's Day was actually first celebrated on the Caribbean island of Monsterrat in the 17th Century? Thanks to Oliver Cromwell of England - many Irish went to Monsterrat to escape him!

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.

The Lab Theatre Company held registrations for classes last Thursday. Registration is still open. Classes will run in our school 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 talk to Simon in person or ring him on 087-3128166.

The Board of Management Meeting took place earlier in the month and minutes were posted to the inside door of the school. They are also available for download from our school web site, www.carloweducatetogether.ie. The main issues discussed were:

- Set Up of Parent Association
- ICT Infrastructure
- Enrollment Form and Policy
- Parent-Teacher Meetings
- Garda Vetting for all adults working in the school.
- Advertising of future positions in school
- Health and Safety Audit