

# Carrigeen NS

[www.carrigeenns.com](http://www.carrigeenns.com)

'Promoting full personal, moral and social development in caring Christian communities of learning and teaching.'



**December 2023**

**Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi Mhaise daoibh.**

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As we prepare for Christmas this Advent it gives us an opportunity to pause, reflect and give thanks for the many blessings bestowed upon us.

We have a lot to be thankful for here at Carrigeen NS. Firstly, for our dedicated staff who are central to creating a safe, caring, engaging, and inclusive school community. We are also thankful for the ongoing support from the Board of Management, Parent Association committee and all parents who support us in our work. Most importantly we are blessed for the pupils attending Carrigeen NS. Their unique personalities, kindness and confidence bring a vibrancy to the school that is unequalled elsewhere.

On behalf of the staff of Carrigeen National School, I would like to wish each of you, your loved ones and your families a wonderful and peaceful Christmas and a New year blessed with health and happiness.

Le gach dea-mhéin,  
Sinead Murphy.

## **School Closures**

School Closed on **Friday 15th December** for staff training day in the new Primary Maths Curriculum.

Children finish up for their Christmas break on

**Friday 22nd at 12pm.** Infants will finish at 11.50am to avoid congestion at the gates.

We return to school on **Monday 8th January.**

**Santa Visit:** We have a very important visitor coming to our school on Tuesday, 19th December. He is checking his list now and he is looking forward to seeing all the good boys and girls in Carrigeen. Each child will receive a selection box (courtesy of our PA committee).

**Christmas Cookery/Decorating Workshop:** All children will participate in a Christmas Cookery/Decorating workshop on Wednesday 20th December.

**Christmas Carol Service:** Our Christmas Carol Service takes place on Thursday 21st December at 1pm with all families invited to join us for some festive singing.

**Hot Chocolate Treat:** On Friday 22nd December all children will be treated to a special hot chocolate treat from The Hooftop Cafe. Our Student Council are encouraging pupils to wear Santa hats and festive clothing on this last day of the school term.

**Congratulations** to Mr. Duggan who recently welcomed a baby girl to the world. We wish Mr. Duggan and his family well at this very special time.

Carrigeen National School, Carrigeen, Co. Kilkenny.

[carrigeen.scoil@gmail.com](mailto:carrigeen.scoil@gmail.com)

051-895423

Roll Number-15340i



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## Parents' Association

Our newly elected PA committee is running a Christmas Hamper raffle to fundraise for various events/initiatives that they support throughout the school year. They would greatly appreciate a donation of one item for the hampers from each family.

Ticket cards for the hamper raffle have gone home and cards/money should be returned to the school office by Friday 15th December. The raffle will take place on Monday 18th December and winners will be contacted to collect the hampers.

The PA committee recently funded the bus to the Peace Proms rehearsal and are also organising the Christmas selection boxes for all children. We are very grateful to have their continued support.

## Enrolment

We will be taking enrolments for Junior Infants and our Multiclass from January 2024. If you have a child due to start school in September 2024 please send us your application. Applications can be requested from the office or downloaded on our school website <https://www.carrigeenns.com/enrolment.html>

## After School Clubs

Our school building is an ideal space for before/after school clubs/classes. Rooms are available to rent (at a reasonable cost) outside school hours for suitable activities, either community or commercially based.

We would be very keen to establish a before/after school club for our pupils with an interested outside provider.

If anyone is interested in discussing this further please email [carrigeen.scoil@gmail.com](mailto:carrigeen.scoil@gmail.com)

**Welcome Back!** We look forward to welcoming back Ms. Lydia Phelan after the Christmas break who will be returning to 1st & 2nd class. Sincere thanks to Ms. Shauna Walsh who has been teaching the class since September, it was a pleasure to have her as part of our team, and we wish her the very best in her future endeavors.

**Christmas Shoebox Appeal:** Once again this year, the children brought in a large number of shoe boxes full of gifts for children in less well-off countries. We are sure that the children receiving the shoeboxes will be delighted with their gifts! Thank you all for your generosity.

**Ukulele:** 3rd-6th class have just finished their term of ukulele lessons with Suzanne Rowe. Once again the children have enjoyed it greatly and have continued to develop their musical talents. Thanks to Suzanne for working with the children every Friday since September.

**Soccer Coaching:** Junior Infants- 6th class have really enjoyed Soccer coaching with Kevin Dobbyn and his coaches over the past few weeks. We would like to thank Kevin and the coaches for volunteering their time.

**Debate Team:** We are thrilled to announce that our school debate team has advanced to the third round of the competition! This incredible achievement is a testament to their dedication and hard work. We wish them every success in the quarter finals next week.

## Hot Lunch Programme

We are delighted that our recent application for free hot lunches for all our pupils has been approved. We are hoping to start this new initiative in April 2024. More information will be sent home to parents in the coming months.

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