

June Newsletter 2023

Caherelly N.S.

Scoil Ailbhe



Dear Parents,

As this academic year draws to a close I would like to thank our staff for the hard work, care and attention put into teaching and learning this year. We have a great school with a warm atmosphere where both staff and students enjoy coming to school every day. We are lucky to have a parent body who works with us and supports the work we do for their children.

It's been such a busy year! We've been back full swing at activities and holding events in our school again. It truly is great to be free of restrictions!

Dates to Remember

- Graduation June 22nd at 1:15pm
- Summer Holidays June 26th - closing at 12 noon
- School Reopens Wed Aug 30th

*All school holidays for 23/24 will appear on school website shortly

Teacher Allocation for 23/24

1. Junior & Senior Infants - Ms Sheila Ryan
2. 1st and 2nd Ms Karen Cunniffe & Ms Siobhan Byrne (Job Share)
3. 3rd & 4th Class Mr Darragh Keane
4. 4th & 5th Ms Williams
5. 6th Class Ms Jane Conway

School Events

Art Blast

This year we took part in Art Blast in conjunction with the National Arts Council and Limerick Education Centre. Classes from 3rd to 6th got to take part and their work is currently on display in Lough Gur Heritage Centre. All families have been issued with a ticket which entitles them to free entry to the exhibition. We are so proud of the work they have produced and it has been admired by visitors from far and wide.

<https://www.limerick.ie/discover/living/limerick-news/art-blast-the-folklore-of-lough-gur-co-limerick>

More samples of artwork from the project are on our website

<https://www.caherellyns.com/>

Sport



Boys 9 a side hurling team at finals in Killeely in May 23



Girls 9 a side camogie team in Killeely in May 23

GAA

Cumann na mBunscol camogie & hurling took place over the past weeks. We reached the East Limerick finals in both boys and girls competitions but were unfortunately beaten in both. The experience of being in the finals was great for our pupils and although disappointed they acquitted themselves very well. Thanks to all teachers involved in coaching. Our pupils showed exemplary behaviour and respect for each other, teachers, the opposition and referee at all times. Well done!

Swimming

Pupils from 2nd to 5th had 8 swimming lessons at UL Arena. Great progress has been made in the pool this term. Please be safe around water over the summer.

Thank you to all the swimming instructors in UL for their expertise, kindness and patience. They were particularly kind to our reluctant swimmers and that makes all the difference..

Sports Day

Our school sports day will take place on the week of June 19th. Hopefully the weather will hold out for us! We have lots of activities planned for our pupils.

Inclusive Sports Day at UL Arena

Some of our pupils went to UL to take part in the Sports Day in May. They had such a fabulous day.

Wellbeing

Wellness Week and Gratitude Day

In May we celebrated Wellness Week in all classes. We had collaborative games, mixed class activities, art outside, yoga with Sinéad Garry and other class activities. It was a great success and culminated in a Gratitude Day on Friday. Pupils from 5th and 6th provided the baked goods for the celebration and we invited friends old and new to join us. Fr Walton spoke to the children about the importance of self care, being kind and respectful to others and showing gratitude for what we have. Mrs McGuinness also addressed the children, parents and friends who attended thanking them for their part in making our school the inclusive and happy place it is for our pupils and staff. Volunteers

in our community, past and present were thanked for their part and a special thanks was given to Tom Shanahan of DSM who sponsored our new school jerseys.

Our Green school Committee had a little gift of Sweet Pea seeds for all who attended. A lovely touch!



Yoga with Sinéad



Picnic in the field



Drawing together



New school jerseys modeled by 6th class

Inclusiveness and friendships

As a staff we go out of our way to ensure our children are welcomed in person each morning as they enter the school yard. This was a conscious decision we took as a staff and has positive knock on effects for all, both staff and pupils. We all start our day feeling acknowledged, welcomed and with a sense of belonging.

It is a wonderful sight to see our pupils mingling with different groups and classes again. Our 6th class pupils volunteered to teach games to younger classes at lunch

times this year. This has been a great learning experience for all.

5th & 6th classes took part in 6 weeks of circle time lessons on friendship and social skills. The lessons were fun and the pupils gained confidence and understanding of each other during this time.

Dodgeball has been a firm favourite on the playground this term. Well done and fair play to our pupils for organising themselves in teams independently, playing fairly and being inclusive. Respect is key to this and it is evident during playtime. Well done guys!

Pastoral News

First Communion

Our school First Communion was held in Ballybricken Church on Saturday 13th of May. Thanks to Ms Cuniffe and Fr Walton our Parish Priest for preparing the children so well for this Sacrament. It was the first time we had a school choir since covid closures and what a fantastic bunch they were. Thanks to all for their enthusiasm!

Thanks to Keith Wiseman for the photos.



Our First Communion class 2023



Action Song!



Our Fabulous Choir

Class Based News

Accelerated Reading

All our pupils hit their reading targets in AR this term. With teachers' help they selected a suitable reward and thoroughly enjoyed their water fight in 3/4th & 5th, their own clothes and games day in 6th.

Stepping up Programme

Our 6th class will take part in a transition programme before the end of term to prepare them for the move to secondary school. This programme will be done with pupils from Bohermore NS as is customary for us over the years.

Scratch Coding

5th and 6th class have been doing Scratch coding with Mr Bourke this term. They have really enjoyed it.

Ardnacrusha Visit

Fifth class pupils had the opportunity to visit the ESB hydro-station at Ardnacrusha last week. They thoroughly enjoyed the guided tour and learned so much from the visit.



5th class at Ardnacrusha

Music Workshop

All pupils from Junior Infants to 6th class recently got to take part in a drumming and music workshop with James Algrim. The day was thoroughly enjoyed by all. It ended in a concert where the whole school got to perform together. The highlight was singing the Cranberries 'Dreams' together with all classes. Thanks so much to James for the workshop. There may be some requests for drumkits from Santa this year as a result!!



Music workshop with James

Green Schools

Our Green School Committee had a clothes collection earlier in the year and with the funds raised purchased a composter for the school. Well done!



School Tours

This week we will have school tours for all classes. There is great excitement building. Check out the website at the end of term for pictures. Information will be sent on Aladdin re drop off & Pick up times.

Parents Association

School walk

There was a great turnout to this year's school walk. The proceeds will go towards a defibrillator for the school. We will have training in the new school year.



Face painting by our 5th class on School Walk night



Our new sound system was installed in the school hall last week. Many thanks to the Parents Association for funding this from the proceeds of the Christmas Cake Sale.

New Infant Day

We welcomed our new Junior Infants to the school on June 6th. They are a lovely crew of 15 and we are excited to see them again on August 30th when school reopens after the holidays.

Thanks to our PA who kindly had an ice-cream van on hand to give everyone something nice to cool us down!

Words of Appreciation

Our PA contributes so much through their fundraising, and organising and catering for events. We all benefit from their great efforts. Pupils get to experience classes such as gymnastics and music workshops, etc. , Accelerated Reading and other programmes that would simply be unaffordable for us as a school without the PA contribution. Thanks to all parents who contribute financially and to those who volunteer their time.

We would also like to put a call out at this time to parents who may have expertise in an area or work/business connections which may be able to help our school in any way. Some large corporations offer schemes or events to schools which we may be able to avail of. Please either ring the office or email so that we can make contact in the coming school year.

News From the Office

End of Year Reports

Our school reports were made available on Aladdin on June 9th. Please be reminded

that standardized tests are just a snapshot of your child's performance on a given day, they may not be truly reflective of their ability. Class teachers have made time to contact parents where results are not as expected. This gives parents an opportunity to understand their child's results and offer them a chance to get advice on how to help their child where necessary.

Family Holidays

If any family is in the lucky position of going on holidays before we break up for the summer, please inform Trish in the office, in order that we give back any work held in the classroom they have done during the year and also to ensure they return all rental and library books.

Free Book Scheme

This year the Dept of Education has announced Free Books for all primary pupils. There will be no book list or book rental charge. We will be buying all books and copies for pupils and they will be in school when pupils return on August 30th. There will be a list of sundries set out by each class teacher that parents will need to buy for their children. There will also be a charge for art & craft, photocopying and additional activities which will be similar to other years. These will be uploaded to the website on the week of June 26th.

Traffic and Parking

Thanks to all parents, grandparent and child minders for heeding our previous notice about parking, particularly in the mornings. In the interest of child safety and welfare, please continue to abide by the guidelines we

have in place. Children can be dropped off safely at the parish hall and walk on the footpath to the school gate independently. Alternatively, park in the GAA field and escort your child across the road.

Farewell

We wish a fond farewell to our 6th class as they embark on their new adventure in secondary school. We wish them every success in the future, whatever it may hold.

From myself and all the staff in Caherelly NS, I would like to wish you all a fantastic summer. We would like to thank all parents for their continued support and cooperation. As I've said many times, strong relationships are key to your child's success. We will be looking forward to seeing you all back again on August 30th!

Le gach dea-ghuí

Niamh McGuinness & staff