

OUR SCHOOL

Carriganima National School

CARRIGANIMA National School is situated on the main Macroom/Millstreet road, just six miles from each of these towns.

It is a two-teacher primary school located in a picturesque rural setting. Extra teaching supports are available for children with learning difficulties. There is a Special Needs Programme in place and Educational Assessments are carried out if necessary. Our staff includes two mainstream class teachers, Patsy Dineen and Seán Newman; learning support, Anne Quill; resource teacher, Emer Twomey; special needs assistant, Kay McDonagh; and ancillary staff, Gail, Finbarr and Elizabeth.

The mixed primary school caters for children from Junior Infants to 6th Class. The children get individual attention as there is an excellent pupil/teacher ratio and small class sizes.

The school was founded in 1935. There is a tremendous atmosphere in the school with staff, parents and children all working together in a caring environment.

The work of the school is supported by a diligent and hardworking Board of Management and a progressive and energetic Parents' Association.

In recent years, our school building, playground and car park facilities have been developed and upgraded. A new energy efficient heating system and lighting upgrade were installed; fire, burglar alarm and CCTV systems were fitted. This has been achieved with the support and generosity of the local parish and community.

Our mission: While Carriganima National School is a school with Catholic ethos, it also gives due recognition to all other religious beliefs and none. We encourage the involvement of parents through home/school contacts.

Our school is a co-educational (mixed), Catholic primary school which strives to provide a well ordered, caring, happy and secure atmosphere where the intellectual, spiritual, physical, moral and cultural needs of the pupils are identified and addressed.

We endeavour to enhance the self-esteem of everyone in the community, to imbue in the pupils respect for people and property and to encourage in them the idea of being responsible.

We welcome children from all cultures and encourage learning about other traditions and faiths. We provide children with the opportunity to gain confidence, independence, self-esteem and a rounded education in a safe and structured environment.

Our achievements: In the past few years, we have competed successfully in Cork City Sports, West Muskerry Schools Cross Country and Scór na bPáistí. Our senior classes entered local and national competitions and received awards for Discover Primary Science and Maths Excellence, Muintir na Tíre School Gardens and the Green Schools Programme. Last year we received our first Green Flag for Litter and Waste. We have started work on the second Green Flag which is for Energy.

Plans for the future: This year we have entered four categories in Scór na bPáistí — set dancing, solo singing, music group and ballad group — which will take place in February. The senior classes are working on a business project for the Junior Entrepreneur Programme. We are entering the Active Flag Programme which will encourage the whole school community to live a healthier lifestyle. We have entered the Digital Schools of Distinction Programme, accredited by the Dept of Education and Skills, and are awaiting a validation visit. For more see www.carriganima-n.s.ie.



Teacher Seán Newman, Tadhg Manning, David Konrad, Raphael Roche, Mark O'Leary, Elaine Lucey, Shane McCarthy, Darren Maya, Ryan Roberts and resource teacher Emer Twomey; front from left, Christopher Manning, Robin Konrad, Lydia and Amy McDonagh, Louis and Noah Roche and Timmy Maya. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

We like everything about our school

Our Words

● Amy Rang (6th class) and Christopher Rang (4th class):

Carriganima NS is great because there are small class sizes and team teaching. There is something for everyone like Art, French, PE, dancing, iPads and interactive white boards.

My favourite subject is Irish because I like speaking the national language and we are not far away from the Muscraí Gaeltacht. I like it when Seachtain na Gaeilge takes place and we get to show off our Irish.

The Green Flag competition was great fun. We worked together to get our first Green Flag in litter and waste last year.

Every week we have set dancing lessons and we enter competitions such as Scór na bPáistí. Last year we reached the regional finals on our first time out.

● Dara and Sammy (1st class):

I like my school as we do lots of fun things like Maths and morning work. Our favourite subjects are Irish and Religion. Our friends are Liam, Anna, Seanie, Maya, Owen and Avril. We like to talk about Minecraft and Maya joins in too.

● Owen, Maya and Avril, (2nd class):

My school is a very sporty school. We learn swimming for six weeks in September. We also play football and hurling. A training coach comes from Clondrohid GAA to teach us football and a coach comes from Laochra Óg to teach us hurling. My favourite sport is football.

I love this school because we learn lots about different countries. In Geography we learned about Switzerland last week, and next week our teacher said we will be learning about Belgium, which is where I come from. We have a French teacher called Marie Roche. She is very nice and now I know way more French than before. Marie's children are in my school.

I like PE, Drama, History and iPads. We use the iPads once a week. We have a lot of different apps to use. I like using Toontastic, Maths Splash and matching games. We also have laptops that we use to type out projects, poems and stories. We have great fun and we also learn a lot.

● David and Noah (5th class) and Darren (4th class):

I like everything about this school, it's fun, it's cool. At the start of the year we go swimming for six weeks. My favourite subject at school is History. Every year we go to Cork City Sports. Last year we held a soccer tournament at the school. My favourite part of school is playing soccer at lunch time.

A school with lots of activities like Science, French, Maths and Geography which is my favourite. We play a lot of sport such as soccer, hurling, Gaelic football and basketball. My favourite subject in school is Geography. My favourite part of the day is lunch time.

● Elaina (6th class), Mark (5th class) and Louis (3rd class):

We participate in a lot of com-

petitions from quizzes and handwriting competitions to Sciath na Scoil.

We had great success last year as we got recommended in the Muintir na Tíre school garden competition. We turned some waste ground into a beautiful garden that we can go out and read books in when the weather is fine.

We took part in the Discover Primary Science and Maths programme. It was really fun as we had to spot the different signs of spring such as recording the temperatures and looking for frog spawn. Every week we did science experiments and recorded our results. We held a science fair for the community to display our projects and tell the people what we learned. We received an award for the school for all our hard work. When I grow up I would like to be a scientist.

We have an international school. Our school has pupils from France, Ireland, Wales, Belgium and Germany.

● Raphaël (5th class) and Shane (6th class):

Carriganima National School is a great school with subjects such as Maths, Irish, Geography, History and English. Last November, we had a shoe box appeal for poor children in Africa. We all do Art with our Art teacher Rashika who is an artist based in Macroom. We work with different materials and learn new techniques.

● Robin (3rd class), Tadhg (6th class) and Timmy (3rd class):

We had a soccer tournament last year. Our school had two teams. My team came first and we got a trophy.

We went to the Cork City Sports and we won individual trophies and a cup for coming first in our category.

At the family fun day, we had a game called "Beat the Goalie" where you have to score the most goals to win.

We had lots of different novelty races. I found this school very welcoming when I first came here in second class and it has a great atmosphere.

We take part in a lot of sports in our school such as football, athletics and hurling. We had great fun last year when we took part in the Sciath na Scoil football competition in Kilmichael.

● Keela and Lydia (4th class) and Louis (3rd class):

My favourite time of year is when the Christmas Concert takes place. We include set dancing, singing, instrumental music, an Irish and English play. The music included is piano, violin, cello, tin whistle, accordion and guitar. We sing songs in English, Irish, French, Flemish and German. We have a few sets for set dancing and sometimes we have a poem or rap. Usually the senior classes act an Irish play.

Then both classes do an English play together. Our parents and family members are invited to watch our performance. After the concert we have refreshments. We also have a DVD of each concert. It is really fun!



Did you know?
You can check out Kidz Zone every week in the digital edition of the Evening Echo. Log on to our website at www.eveningecho.ie for further details.

Photo Gallery:
You can see more photographs at www.photosales.eecho.ie



In our picture gallery today are...

1. Anna, David and Robin Konrad of Carriganima National School with the Discover primary science and maths award;
2. Shane McCarthy, Lydia McDonagh and Elaine Lucey enjoying music lessons at the school;
3. Principal Patsy Dineen and SNA teacher Kay McDonagh with pupils Dara Caulfield, Seáníe Kelleher, Owen McCarthy, Liam Roberts, Maya Meulemans, Anan Konrad, Avril Manning and Sammy Murphy ;
4. Set dancers Darren Maya, Owen McCarthy, Avril Manning and Ryan Roberts having fun in the school's playground;
5. Brothers Louis, Noah and Raphaël Roche with the Pride in Our Community, schools' gardening competition award;
6. Dara Caulfield, Sammy Murphy, Anna Konrad, Maya Meulemans, Seanie Kelleher and Liam Roberts on their iPads;
7. Timmy Maya, Amy McDonagh, Christopher and Tadhg Manning showing off the school's sports cups. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

