

# SCIENCE

## SCOIL MHUIRE CARLANSTOWN NOVEMBER CALENDAR & NEWSLETER



WEEK 2020 8<sup>TH</sup> – 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

[WWW.CARLANSTOWNNS.IE](http://WWW.CARLANSTOWNNS.IE)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
01	02 	03	04	05	06 SKIP N ROPE WORKSHOPS OUTSIDE FOR ALL CLASSES	07
08	09 	10	11	12 	13  CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS FOR ENROLMENT FOR SEPTEMBER 2021	14
15	16 	17	18	19  SCHOOL SAVING SCHEME CONTINUES EVERY THURSDAY	20 <b>THE STAY SAFE PROGRAMME</b> WILL BE TAUGHT TO JUNIOR INFANTS – FIRST CLASS EVERY FRIDAY FROM NOVEMBER - FEBRUARY	21
22	23 	24	25	26	27	28 
29	30 	01	WE KINDLY REMIND ADULTS TO WEAR A FACE COVERING WHEN ENTERING THE SCHOOL GROUNDS AND TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING AT ALL TIMES. PLEASE AVOID CONGREGATING IN GROUPS ON THE YARD OR IN THE CARPARK AND TO FOLLOW THE ONE WAY SYSTEM IN OPERATION. THANK YOU FOR CONTINUING TO WORK WITH US TO MAKE OUR SCHOOL A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR THE WHOLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY.			

# NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



Just before Midterm break we received the fantastic news that Ms. Donohoe's Second & Third Class from last year achieved the Discover Science and Maths Award for the 2019/2020 academic year. The class had completed a significant amount of work in Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths before the Lockdown and continued on the programme through their home learning!

Here is some feedback on their Log of Evidence: *Well done! This is a great example of STEM work being carried out in the school. You have completed all the requirements to be awarded a Certificate in STEM. The stem work submitted is excellent with the learners investigating helicopters, making catapults and a marble maze. The playgrounds and paper tables constructed for the step in engineering during the lockdown are really inspiring. I would suggest you might apply for the plaque this coming year. Keep up the good work!*

We are delighted to inform you that Ms. Donohoe is going to lead more classes in the Programme this year in an effort to achieve the next level of the awards! We have lots of exciting projects planned for Science Week!



Thank you to everyone who responded to our recent Technology at Home survey. It has greatly informed our approach to Distance Learning. As you are aware, we have introduced the Seesaw app to all classes over the last couple of weeks. Seesaw is a digital tool which allows pupils to store their work online and gain feedback from their teacher. It can be used on a computer (PC) or tablet or phone.

To develop the children's confidence and competence in using the app, teachers are setting homework tasks to complete via the app each week and are requesting that some elements of homework are returned via the app also. Each teacher will advise their class accordingly in their weekly homework email.

Just to remind all families that you do not need to download the Seesaw app to access it. We are aware that increasing demands are being placed on the devices which are available at home. If you have limited space/memory and cannot download the app simply log in to Seesaw via the website [app.seesaw.me](http://app.seesaw.me) Each child's access code was forwarded via Textparent. If you have misplaced your child's code please do not hesitate to get in touch with us and we can resend the codes.

We are planning to teach the 'Stay Safe' programme to Junior Infants to First Class once a week beginning in November until February. It is part of the SPHE curriculum and is compulsory in all Irish schools. The aim is to teach children personal safety skills so they can look after themselves in situations which could be upsetting or dangerous. It deals initially with common situations which most children will experience at some stage or other e.g. getting lost. The programme also teaches children the safety skills necessary to protect themselves from physical or sexual abuse and emphasises the importance of telling a trusted adult about any problems they have. Full details of the programme will be sent home by letter.



Traditionally we always ran our admission/enrolment processes in the Springtime however in accordance with our new Admission Policy we must now run our enrolment in the Autumn. Our policy, which has been approved by the Patron is available on our school website [www.carlanstownns.ie](http://www.carlanstownns.ie),

**THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS FOR JUNIOR INFANTS 2021 IS FRIDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2020.**

Application forms are available on request by emailing [carlanstownns@gmail.com](mailto:carlanstownns@gmail.com) or by phoning 046 9246803. The Board of Management will consider all applications during November and decisions will be communicated in early December. Please spread the word among friends, family and neighbours that enrolment is now open.



Thank you to everyone who supported our Halloween Fancy Dress fundraiser which raised €204. The money raised was used to buy new basketball stands for the school yard.



This year Parent Teacher Meetings will take place by telephone during November as indicated overleaf. Sixth Class calls will be scheduled for December. Class teachers will contact parents a week in advance by email in to arrange dates and times for the calls.

The purpose of the meetings are to discuss your child's academic and social progress in school to date. Having managed the transition back to school in September we carried out standardised testing in October for 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Class. We also tested our Senior Infants phonological awareness. The children completed the tests with ease as they were reassured that it was an opportunity to 'show off' what they know! Second – Sixth Class completed the Literacy and Numeracy tests that they would have usually completed at the end of last year. For example, Third Class, completed the Second class level which assessed their mastery of skills and content from the Second Class curriculum. This information will be used by teachers to identify the children's strengths & priority areas for development. Teachers will discuss this with you during the call and we are looking forward to speaking with you.