

Cárta and Presents in School

Parents often wish to express their thanks to teachers of their children, particularly at Christmas and also at the end of the school year. In recent years this has often taken the form of a present of some kind.

While everybody likes to receive a gift, and teachers are fully appreciative of the sentiments being expressed, there is a wish on the part of many school staffs to play their part in alleviating the current financial strain felt by everybody.

All teachers will tell you that, however nice a present is, there is nothing to compare with a simple message of appreciation from a pupil in their own words. If it comes on a card that they have made themselves, however rudimentary, it is all the more touching.

Once the scheme has been outlined to parents once, and perhaps displayed for reference, a note to the effect that the members of the school staff hope that any parents and children who wish to extend any sentiments at Christmas will be happy to do so as part of *Cárta*, is all that is necessary. Again, participation is always voluntary.

Thanks to the Principal and Staff of Ballinora NS for kindly hosting the *Cárta* documents on the school's website at www.ballinorans.ie