

## **Diary Dates for January 2012**

9 <sup>th</sup>	Term 2 begins
10 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 7 – Brownlow College Talk
11 <sup>th</sup>	Closing Date for Nursery Applications – 12 noon
12 <sup>th</sup>	Yr 6 and Yr 7 Childline Assembly
13 <sup>th</sup>	Swimming begins – Yr 6 and Yr 7
18 <sup>th</sup>	Closing date for Yr 1 Applications – 12 noon CRED – Yrs 1 and 2 Pupil Council visit to Craigavon Borough Council
19 <sup>th</sup>	CRED – Yr 2
20 <sup>th</sup>	Crazy Hair Day for PTA Funds
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Yrs 6 and 7 Childline Workshops
25 <sup>th</sup>	CRED – Yr 5 Pupil Council Meeting
26 <sup>th</sup>	CRED – Yr 5

## **End of Term Arrangements**

A reminder that pupils do not need to wear school uniform on Monday 19<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2011.

School will finish on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2011 at 12 noon and there will be no dinners on this day.

## **Start of New Term**

Ballyoran Primary School will re-open for pupils on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

## **New Breaktime Snack – Yrs 3 – 7**

You will be aware that the school operates a Healthy Breaks Policy where pupils are not permitted to bring junk food into school for their morning snack. In line with the Department of Education's Nutritional Standards, we are changing the choice of snacks available for children in Yrs 3 – 7 to purchase in school. From Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2012, pupils will be able to buy the following at a cost of 25p per item.

- § Scones
- § Toast
- § Pancakes (2 days per week)
- § Orange Juice
- § Apples
- § Oranges
- § Bananas
- § Crackers and Butter

The Canteen will provide this snack. Nursery and Yr 1 and 2 pupils will continue to have their snack provided for them and will continue to pay £2 per week for the Snack Fund.

## **New Text Alert System**

We sent out a Test Message on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2011. If you did not receive this please inform Mrs Tedford in the office.

## **Pupils Enjoy Christmas Show**

West Midland Theatre paid their annual visit to the school on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2011. Pupils very much enjoyed this year's performance entitled 'The Bluebird'.

### **Santa Wishes**

Santa Claus from High Street Mall visited the school on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2011. He met Nursery and Foundation Stage pupils and collected wishes from all the pupils. Some of these wishes will be made to come true.

### **Christmas Pantomime – Jack and the Beanstalk**

Fee-Fi-Fo-Fun galore! This year's Christmas spectacular at The Market Place Theatre was thoroughly enjoyed by forty five pupils from Yrs 4 – 7 and LSC. There was a wonderful combination of music, dance, colourful costumes and memorable characters.

### **Jo Jingles in Nursery**

Jo Jingles visited the school for the first of three Music and Creative Movement Workshops which took place on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

### **Christmas Dinner**

Pupils enjoyed their Annual Christmas Dinner provided by the Canteen on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2011. All classes made party hats for the occasion. A big thank you to Mrs Campbell and her staff for the beautiful dinner enjoyed by both pupils and staff.

### **Eco Committee**

You were informed on the last News Sheet that the Ulster Bank have generously donated £250 towards a new school Eco Garden. Mrs Bridie Delaney, Deputy Branch Manager, visited Assembly on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2011 to present the cheque to members of the Eco Committee. First Trust Bank have also donated £50 to this Project.

### **Christmas Treat**

Pupils were treated to a selection of Christmas music performed by the South Ulster Community Band on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2011. Nine members of the band, including Mr Hendron, took part playing a range of brass and woodwind instruments. The concert was enjoyed by everyone.

### **Christmas Art**

Ballyoran Primary School was invited to paint some Christmas art on to windows in the new Pastoral Centre. The following 6 pupils, along with Miss Turkington, did an excellent job on the windows on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2011. They have also painted some windows in school.

<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Year 7</b>
Mia McKee	Weronika Czerniak	Brooke McCann
Shannon Hughes	Wiktoria Kania	Zuzanna Baran

### **Busy Week for Choir and Instrumental Ensemble**

Christmas has once again been a very busy time for our Choir and Recorder Group who have had four engagements outside school at Lisnisky Care Home, Bank of Ireland, Tesco Craigavon and Tesco at the Meadows Shopping Centre: this on top of performing at our own '*Christmas Celebration*'. The comments from all of these events have been very favourable. Well done to all our Choir members and Instrumentalists who have, once again, been great ambassadors for the school and a big thank you to Mrs McCreesh-West for all her hard work in preparing our musicians for this busy Christmas programme, ably assisted by Mrs Warke.

### **Yrs 1 – 3 Trip**

On Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2011 Yrs 1 - 3 went on a school trip to Lisburn Linen Centre and Museum. During their visit they had a tour around the Museum and learnt how linen is made. They also made a Christmas plate for Santa. The highlight of the day was visiting Santa Claus in his grotto. Each child got to meet Santa Claus and tell him what they would like for Christmas. They also received gifts from Santa. He assured them that they were all very good boys and girls and he would definitely be visiting Portadown this Christmas.

### **Christmas Celebration**

Thank you to all parents and friends who attended our Christmas Celebration on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2011. The Assembly Hall was well filled and everyone was treated to a celebration of Christmas through music, readings and drama. Every pupil from Nursery to Yr 7 was included and they are to be commended for their efforts. Afterwards parents and friends were invited to stay and join staff for refreshments.

### **Crazy Hair Day**

The PTA are running this as a Fundraiser on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2012. Pupils are encouraged to do something crazy with their hair and are asked to pay £1 to PTA funds. Please note this will be a normal uniform day.

### **Refurbishment Update**

The refurbishment works are progressing well and are on schedule. A reminder that you keep up to date with this on our website where many photographs can be viewed.

### **Nursery and Yr 1 Admissions**

A reminder that application forms are available from the office. The closing date for these are as follows:

<b>Nursery</b>	12 noon on Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2012
<b>Primary</b>	12 noon on Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2012

Please remember a Birth Certificate is required for all applications.

### **Yr 7 Transfer to Secondary School**

The month of January is very important for our Yr 7 pupils as they and their parents make decisions on which Secondary School to transfer to in September 2012. As part of this process, secondary schools visit our Yr 7 pupils and give presentations on their schools. This begins on the second day back – Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2012 with a talk by Brownlow College. Secondary schools will also be having Open Days/Nights in January/February. A list of these will be sent out to all Yr 7 parents with the Transfer Paperwork before Christmas.

### **CRED – Community Relations, Equality and Diversity**

Ballyoran Primary School has once again received funding for a cross-community link with Bocombra Primary School. This is the second year of our link with Bocombra and all classes from Yr 1 – Yr 7 will be involved in a wide range of activities which will take place in Ballyoran and at Bocombra Primary School. More information on this in the New Year.

### **Extended Schools Drama Workshop**

Ten Key Stage 2 pupils have been chosen to take part in a Drama production with other schools in our Extended Schools Cluster. The pupils who were auditioned for this have

been attending practices on Thursday nights at Drumcree College. The Production will take place in the Town Hall in the New Year.

<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Year 7</b>
Pearse McGeough	Niamh Garland	Bianca Guerra
Helena Santos	Zuzanna Osinska	Filipa Santos
Shannon Hughes		Aimee McGuckin
Keelin Brennan		Brooke McCann

### **Car Parking**

Some parents are still entering the car park to drop off and pick up pupils. We would ask, for Health and Safety reasons, that you please refrain from this.

### **Coats**

There has been a big improvement in the number of pupils wearing coats to school and we would ask that this continues during the winter as pupils must wear a coat when in the playground at break and lunchtime.

### **Menu for January 2012**

See back page

### **Thanks and Happy Christmas**

A big thank you to all my Staff for all their hard work during this very busy term.

Thank you also to parents for your continued support and co-operation and to the pupils for making this such an enjoyable term.

A Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year to the entire School Community.

R Woolsey  
Principal

## Menu for January 2012

	09.01.12	16.01.12	23.01.12	30.01.12
Mon	Homemade Pepperoni and Cheese Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Garden Peas or Sweetcorn or Salad or Coleslaw, Chips or Baked Potatoes Rice Pudding and Peaches	Oven Baked Sausages or Vegetable Bake, Gravy, Peas or Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes or Salad and Crusty Bread Wholemeal Biscuit, Fruit and Custard	Shepherds Pie or Chicken and Vegetable Pasta Bake, Gravy, Sweetcorn, Mashed Potatoes or Salad and Crusty Bread Swiss Roll and Custard	Homemade Pepperoni and Cheese Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Peas and Sweetcorn or Salad and Coleslaw, Chips or Baked Potatoes Rice Pudding and Oranges
Tues	Oven Baked Fish Fingers or Bacon and Cheese Tagliatelle with Crusty Bread, Baked Beans or Salad, Mashed Potatoes  Wholemeal Apple Crumble and Custard	Stuffed Bacon Rolls, Gravy, Mixed Vegetables, Mashed Potatoes or Spaghetti Bolognese, Salad and Crusty Bread  Lemon Sponge and Custard	Oven Baked Fish Fingers or Lasagne, Baked Beans or Peas or Salad, Coleslaw and Beetroot, Baked or Mashed Potatoes  Rice Pudding and Two Fruits	Oven Baked Steak Burger, Gravy, Cabbage or Turnip, Mashed Potatoes or Spaghetti Bolognese, Salad and Crusty Bread Strawberry Jelly and Cornflour Sauce
Wed	Savoury Mince or Sweet and Sour Pork with Boiled Rice, Peas or Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes  Strawberry Jelly and Cornflour Sauce	Beef Casserole with Carrots and Onions or Turnip and Mashed Potatoes or Chicken Wrap, Salad, Coleslaw and Baked Potato Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Irish Stew with Carrots and Onions and Crusty Bread or Salmon Fillet, Garden Peas, Boiled Potatoes or Rice  Orange Sponge and Custard	Pork Casserole with Carrots and Onions, Broccoli and Mashed Potatoes or Beef Curry and Rice with Crusty Bread Chocolate Cake and Pink Sauce
Thur	Baked Gammon with Pineapple and Gravy, Cabbage or Baton Carrots, Mashed Potatoes Vanilla Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Roast Turkey, Stuffing and Gravy, Carrots and Parsnips or Sweetcorn, Mashed Potatoes Wholemeal Apple Crumble and Custard	Roast Pork with Apple Sauce and Gravy, turnip or Peas, Mashed Potatoes Shortbread Biscuit, Fruit and Custard	Chicken Pie with Crumble Top, Gravy, Carrots and Parsnips or Cauliflower, Mashed Potatoes Wholemeal Apple Crumble and Custard
Fri	Homemade Vegetable or Cream of Chicken Soup Hot Dog with Sauce or Chicken or Salad or Cheese and Tomato Filled Rolls Wholemeal Biscuit and Fresh Fruit or Fruit Jelly	Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice with Crusty Bread or Fresh Fish in Breadcrumbs, Baked Beans or Beetroot, Salad and Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes Strawberry Jelly and Fresh Fruit Salad	Homemade Vegetable or Cream of Chicken Soup Hot Dog with Sauce or Chicken or Salad or Cheese and Tomato Filled Rolls Strawberry Jelly and Fruit or Fresh Fruit	Fresh Fish in Breadcrumbs or cheese, Ham and Tomato Omelette, Baked Beans or Beetroot, Coleslaw and Salad, Mashed Potatoes  Ice Cream Wafer and Two Fruits

Milk, Water, Bread, Fruit and Yogurt available daily

Menu subject to deliveries

## Advice on Flu

The Public Health Agency has asked us to distribute the following advice about flu.

### ADVICE ABOUT FLU FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS/CARERS WITH CHILDREN AT SCHOOL–DECEMBER 2011

#### What is flu?

Flu is a respiratory illness caused by several strains of Influenza virus. These strains include H1N1 2009 (swine) flu and flu B.

#### Flu Vaccination

This year's seasonal flu vaccination is effective against H1N1 (swine) flu and other strains of flu.

Seasonal flu vaccination is advised for all adults and children with the following conditions:

- a chronic chest condition such as asthma;
- a chronic heart condition;
- chronic liver disease;
- chronic kidney disease;
- diabetes;
- lowered immunity due to disease or treatment such as steroids or cancer therapy;
- a chronic neurological condition such as stroke, multiple sclerosis or a condition that affects your nervous system, such as cerebral palsy.

Pregnant women regardless of their stage of pregnancy, anyone aged 65 or over, anyone living in a residential or nursing home and main carers for an elderly or disabled person should also be vaccinated.

#### What are the symptoms of flu?

The symptoms of flu often start suddenly and include:

- fever
- fatigue
- pains in the limbs or the joints
- coughing
- sore throat
- headache
- runny nose
- some people also have vomiting and diarrhoea.

#### How is Flu treated?

Most people, including children, will recover within a few days.

Resting and taking over the counter preparations such as paracetamol will help. Anyone with flu-like symptoms should stay at home, so as not to infect others, until feeling better. Those with underlying conditions, or if feeling short of breath or very unwell should telephone their GP or GP out of hours service for advice. For these people, antiviral medication may be advised.

The Public Health Agency (PHA) advise it is important that patients do not go to an accident and emergency department unless absolutely necessary and urgent.

Schools have been advised by the PHA, that should a child develop flu-like symptoms at school, arrangements should be made for them to be taken home as soon as possible.

While waiting, they should be placed in a suitable area, such as a medical room or a

small office (in order to reduce the chance of spreading infection to other children), but where they can be kept under observation.

Parents should take their child straight home and if necessary telephone their GP or GP out-of-hours service.

If a child develops flu-like symptoms at home, they should be kept away from school until they recover and parents should, if necessary, seek medical advice.

#### Good Hygiene advice

Parents and schools can help reduce the spread of all viruses by encouraging children to practise good personal hygiene by:

- Washing their hands frequently with soap and water to reduce the spread of virus from their hands to their face or to others;
- Covering their nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing and to use a tissue when possible;
- Disposing of used tissues quickly and carefully;
- Cleaning hard surfaces (e.g. door handles) frequently using a normal cleaning product.

Schools have been advised by the ELBs and CCMS to ensure that adequate supplies of liquid soap, hot and cold water and paper towels or hot air dryers are available for pupils and staff. It is not necessary for schools to provide hand sanitisers, however, should they wish to do so, it is important to note that they are not a substitute for good hand washing facilities.