



News Sheet – September 2013

Diary Dates – October 2013

1 st	Childline Assembly – Years 6 and 7 OT to LSC
2 nd	Year 5 Home Economics/Science Lesson at Drumcree College
7 th – 11 th	Annual Book Fair
9 th	Year 5 Home Economics/Science Lesson at Drumcree College
10 th	Childline Workshop: Years 6 and 7
11 th	Soccer Tournament: Lurgan Junior High School
14 th	Firework Safety Talk by PSNI
15 th	Pupil Council Meeting
16 th	Dental Nurse to LSC
18 th	Year 5 Home Economics/Science Lesson at Drumcree College Special Whole School Assembly – Anti-Slavery Day Road Safety Show
21 st – 25 th	Swimming ends for Years 6 and 7 Parent/Teacher Meeting Week (School closes at 1pm for all pupils)
22 nd	Year 1 Apple Week Trip to Navan Centre
30 th	School Closed - Staff Training Day
31 st – 1 st Nov	School Closed - Half-Term Holiday

Advance Dates

We aim to work in partnership with parents and, with this in mind; we have arranged as many dates as possible for the school year to give parents as much notice as possible.

6 th November	Individual and Family Group Photographs
5 th December	PTA Christmas Fair
17 th December	Christmas Concert
3 rd - 7 th March	Parent/Teacher Meetings
14 th March	St Patrick's Day Celebration and Dancing Festival
7 th – 9 th May	Year 6 and 7 Shannaghmore Residential
12 th – 16 th May	Test Week
3 rd June	Sports Day
7 th June	First Holy Communion
13 th June	Prize Day/Reports Issued
w/b 16 th June	End of Term Trip Week

School Closure: October 2013

Please note that school will be closed from Wednesday 30th October to Friday 1st November 2013 for Half-Term.

Nut Free School

A pupil attending Ballyoran Primary School suffers from a severe nut allergy. This pupil may suffer a severe reaction if she comes into contact with nuts of any type.

Accordingly we ask that **no nuts or nut products, such as peanut butter sandwiches/nut bars etc are sent to school in your child's packed lunch.**

As a result of this I have decided to designate the Primary School a 'Nut Free Zone' with immediate effect. (Please note this does not affect the Nursery)

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation with this matter.

First Aid

Congratulations to Mrs Mackle who has recently received her First Aid at Work Certificate.

Fizzy Drinks

A reminder that as part of our Health Schools Policy, we do not permit pupils to bring fizzy drinks into school.

Lunchbox Leaflet

We encourage parents of pupils who take a Packed Lunch, to ensure it is healthy. Every family will receive a copy of the booklet entitled '*Packing a Healthy Lunchbox*' with this News Sheet.

Free School Meals

Are you aware that many people in Northern Ireland who are entitled to Free School Meals are not claiming them?

If you can answer 'Yes' to any of the following questions, you **may** be entitled to Free School Meals:

Are you in receipt of:

- Income Support?
- Income-Based Jobseeker's Allowance?
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance?
- Guarantee Element of Pension Credit?

If you are **not** receiving one of the above benefits

- Are you in receipt of **Child Tax Credit** and not receiving Working Tax Credit and have an annual taxable income of £16,190 or less?
Are you in receipt of **Working Tax Credit** with an annual taxable income of £16,190 or less?
(This only applies to parents/guardians of pupils who attend full-time nursery schools born on or after 2nd July 2009 and pupils who attend primary or special education schools born on or after 2nd July 2002)

- Are you an Asylum Seeker supported by the Home Office National Asylum Support Service (NASS)?

If you have answered 'Yes' to any of these questions and are not in receipt of Free School Meals, please contact Mrs Tedford in the office for an Application Form.

Flu Vaccine

The Department of Health has decided that all Year 6 pupils will be offered the Flu Vaccine this year. This will be by way of a nasal spray and will be administered in school on 27th November 2013. Year 6 parents have received Consent Forms for this which I ask you to return promptly.

Common Funding Formula Consultation

The Department of Education are currently reviewing the formula used to fund schools. They would like parents and pupils to complete the consultation which can be accessed online at: www.deni.gov.uk

Polish Classes

Our Year 1 – 4 pupils are once again being taught Polish as part of the Department of Education's Primary Modern Languages Programme. Marta, the Polish Tutor, is in school every Thursday morning for this.

After School Clubs

The school continues to offer a varied selection of Extra Curricular Activities to its pupils. We believe that these are an important part of your child's educational experience at Primary School. We would encourage every pupil to attend at least one Club year term. Please see the Club List on page 7. A reminder that all Clubs which begin at 2.00pm finish at 3.00pm. Those Clubs which start at 3.00pm finish at 4.00pm. Please ensure your child is collected promptly after Clubs.

School Uniform

I want to say a big thank you to all our parents for ensuring that your children are in full school uniform every day. Our pupils look so smart in the uniform and we ask that you ensure that these high standards are maintained all year. A reminder that replacement ties and PE bags can be purchased from the office for £3 each.

Please note that hooded tops (hoodies) are not permitted in school.

Pupil Council

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been elected by their classes to serve on the Pupil Council this year.

Class		
Yr 7	Hayley White-Trainor	Niall Wilson
Yr 6	Oliwia Osinska	David Tennyson
Yr 5	Madison Hall	Shay Kelly
Yr 4	Mia Millar	Aodhan O'Connor
Yr 3	Niamh Larkin	Ethan McAlinden
LSC	Amy-Leigh Sterritt	Peter Brown-Lavery

The first meeting took place on Wednesday 26th September 2012 and the Office Bearers for the year were elected as follows:

Chairperson:	Niall Wilson
Vice Chairperson:	Hayley White-Trainor
Secretary:	David Tennyson

Parent/Teacher Meetings

These will take place from 21st – 25th October 2013. To facilitate these, school will close at 1.00pm each day. These meetings are a vital part of our home/school partnership and we would ask that you make the effort to attend. As last year, one letter will be going out to the eldest pupil in each family. We would ask that you complete the reply to include all family members and return it to school with the eldest pupil.

House System

The school continues to operate the House Competition. All pupils have been placed into one of three houses:

Bann
Lagan
Foyle

Points are awarded to pupils for a range of things, (e.g. good manners) and the points are displayed in the Assembly Hall each week with a monthly House Cup presented to the House with the most points.

Congratulations to the following Yr 6 and 7 pupils who have been elected as Captain and Vice Captains this year.

House	Captain	Vice Captain
Bann	Keelin Brennan	Oliwia Osinska
Foyle	Emma dunbar	Danica Hall
Lagan	Mia McKee	Joao Paulo Ferreira

Pupil Information and Consent Forms

A big thank you to everyone for completing these forms so promptly and returning them to school. It is your responsibility to inform the office immediately if your address or telephone number change during the year.

Morning and Afternoon Arrangements

A reminder that all pupils must be dropped off outside school in the mornings. We ask that parents do not enter the school building. This is to ensure the smooth operation of the school first thing in the morning. If you wish to speak to your child's teacher, you must report to the Office in the first instance.

You are reminded to wait outside the red gate at home time until child is dismissed by their teacher. We ask that parents do not come in to remove their child/children or call them out until they have been dismissed.

Thank you to the vast majority of parents who respect the above requests.

Car Parks

A reminder that the car parks must not be used for dropping off or collecting pupils. Parents and pupils are asked to refrain from entering the car park for Health and Safety reasons. Again, thank you to the vast majority of parents who respect this.

European Day of Languages

On Thursday 26th September we celebrated European Day of Languages. As we have a number of children in our school who speak another language we saw this as an important and special day to acknowledge and celebrate this. Each class decided on a country to learn about throughout the day. The day also provided the opportunity for children to teach their own class another language.

Mrs Mallon

Mrs Amy Mallon has retired after 17 years as a faithful Member of the Board of Governors of Ballyoran Primary School. Being a School Governor is a voluntary and vitally important role and I wish to put on record my thanks to Mrs Mallon for her support, commitment and dedication to this school over the years.

Attendance/Punctuality

We recognise and stress the importance of the learning and teaching within the classroom. Regular attendance and systematic learning go hand in hand and children whose attendance is poor will have difficulty in reaching their full potential. Children should be at school at all times unless prohibited by illness or medical appointments. Each month the School's EWO (Educational Welfare Officer) carries out an Attendance Audit with the Principal. Pupils whose attendance falls below 85% will be identified. In this case, if there is not a genuine reason for absence, a letter will be sent out to you. If there is no improvement, a second letter will be sent out. If, after the second letter, there is still no improvement, the Principal will make a Referral to the Education Welfare Service.

Due to Department of Education Guidelines, a present mark can only be given if a pupil is in school.

Just as Attendance is important, Punctuality is also very important. School begins at 9.00am therefore, pupils should be seated in class when the 9.00am bell rings. We would ask all parents to help ensure this is the case. If pupils are late, the class is disrupted and valuable teaching time is lost. **Please note that Pupils arriving in class after the 9.00am bell will be marked as late.**

Drumcree College Links

Ballyoran Primary School is proud of the links that we have with Drumcree College. This year, to strengthen these links further, pupils from Ballyoran will visit the College to take part in Classes/Activities that Primary Schools are unable to deliver. The first of these links has commenced with Year 5 taking part in a 4-week Home Economics Course at the College which the pupils are enjoying greatly.

School Website

Please keep up to date with what is going on in school by visiting our website on www.ballyoranps.com. The school website is currently being redesigned and will shortly be relaunched.

PTA

The Annual General Meeting of the Ballyoran Primary School PTA (Parent/Teacher Association) was held on Tuesday 24th September 2013 with the following persons elected for the 2013/2014 school year.

Chairperson	Mrs Dunbar
Vice Chairperson	Mrs Mackle
Secretary	Mr Woolsey
Treasurer	Mrs Garland

At this meeting it was decided to change the name from Ballyoran PTA to **Friends of Ballyoran**. The Friends of Ballyoran is open to anyone in the community who is a friend of the school. New Members will be made welcome.

Extra Curricular Activities - Term 1

(See page 7)

Menu for October

(See back page)

R Woolsey
Principal



Extra Curricular Activities

2013/2014 Term 1

Club	Day	Dates	Time	Class	Staff	Location
Kids' Club	Monday – Thursday		2.00 – 3.00	Yr 2	Mrs Donnelly Mrs Breen	Room 6
Homework Club	Monday – Thursday		3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 4 - 7	Mrs Bell	Room 6
ICT Suite Open	Monday - Thursday		3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 5 - 7	Mrs Breen	ICT Suite
Hockey	Monday	7 th , 14 th Oct, 4 th , 11 th , 18 th & 25 th Nov	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 5 - 7	Mrs McGuire	Hall
Choir	Tuesday	5 th , 12 th , 19 th , 26 th Nov, 3 rd & 10 th Dec	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 4 – 7	Mrs McCreesh-West	Hall
Recorders	Wednesday	2 nd , 9 th , 16 th Oct, 6 th , 13 th , 20 th Nov	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 5 - 7	Mrs Mulholland	Nursery 1
Soccer	Wednesday	11 th , 18 th , 25 th Sept, 2 nd , 9 th , 16 th Oct, 6 th , 13 th , 20 th , 27 th Nov, 4 th & 11 th Dec	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 5 - 7	Ambassadors In Sport	Pitch/ Playground/ Hall
Irish Dancing	Wednesday	9 th , 16 th Oct, 6 th , 13 th , 20 th , 27 th Nov, 4 th & 11 th Dec	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 4 – 7	Mrs Heaney	Hall
Gaelic	Thursday	12 th , 19 th , 26 th Sept, 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th Oct, 7 th , 14 th , 21 st , 28 th Nov, 5 th & 12 th Dec	2.00 – 3.00	Yrs 2 - 3	Paul Carvill Stephen McCann	Pitch/ Playground/ Hall
Gaelic	Thursday	12 th , 19 th , 26 th Sept, 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th Oct, 7 th , 14 th , 21 st , 28 th Nov, 5 th & 12 th Dec	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 4 - 7	Paul Carvill Stephen MCann Mr Hendron	Pitch/ Playground/ Hall
Art Club	Thursday	3 rd , 10 th , 17 th Oct, 7 th & 14 th Nov	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 6 - 7	Mrs Barkley	Room 11

Please note there will be no Clubs during the following weeks:

1. Parent/Teacher Meeting Week: 21st – 25th October 2013
2. Half term week: 28th October – 1st November 2013
3. Last week of term: 16th – 20th December 2013

Menu for October

	Week commencing 30.09.13	Week commencing 07.10.13	Week commencing 14.10.013	Week commencing 21.10.13	Week commencing 28.10.13
Mon	Chicken Nuggets or Tuna Wraps, Chips, Sauces, Peas, Coleslaw Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Pork Burgers or Chicken Pasta Bake, Turnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Vanilla Sponge and Custard	Shepherd's Pie or Chicken Tagliatelle, Carrots, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Lemon Cake and Custard	Fish Fingers or Lasagne, Sweetcorn, Coleslaw, Salad, Mashed Potatoes Rice Pudding and Peaches	Homemade Pepperoni Pizza, Peas, Sweetcorn or Filled Salad Ciabatta Rolls (Tuna or Salad), Baked Potatoes, Coleslaw, Salad Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce
Tues	Savoury Mince or Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice, Carrots, Pasta, Mashed Potatoes Chocolate Cake and White Sauce	Homemade Pizza or Salad Baguettes, Chips, Coleslaw, Baked Potato Rice Pudding and Oranges	Oven Baked Sausages or Beef Curry, Boiled Rice, Peas, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Lemon Cake and Custard	Bacon and Stuffing or Chicken Curry and Rice, Turnip, Peas, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Chocolate Cake and White Sauce	Pork Burgers or Chicken and Pasta Bake, Turnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Swiss Roll and Custard
Wed	Sausages or Stuffed Bacon Rolls, Mashed Potatoes, Peas, Sweetcorn, Gravy Rice and Two Fruits	Fish Fingers or Lasagne, Mashed Potatoes, Beans, Sweetcorn, Salad, Coleslaw, Bread Jelly and White Sauce	Crumbed Fish or Spaghetti Bolognese, Beans, Sweetcorn, Salad, Crusty Bread, Mashed Potatoes Rice Pudding and Oranges	Savoury Mince, Potatoes, Broccoli, Crusty Bread, or Pasta, Tomato and Vegetable Pesto, Salad, Coleslaw Ice Cream, Fruit and Wafer	School Closed Staff Training
Thurs	Baked Gammon or Chicken Pasta Bake, Turnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Jelly and Fruit Salad	Chicken Crumble or Macaroni Cheese, Carrots and Parsnips, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Ice Cream, Fruit and Wafer	Roast Turkey and Stuffing or Ham and Cheese Pasta Bake, Turnip, Carrots, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Biscuit. Fruit and Custard	United Nations Day Indian Chicken Tikka Massala, Naan Bread, Mediterranean Pizza, French Fries, Petite Pois, Tossed Salad German Biscuit and Custard	School Closed Half-Term Break
Fri	Fresh Fish in Breadcrumbs or Spaghetti Bolognese, Beans, Salad, Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes Apple Crumble and Custard	Homemade Vegetable or Chicken Soup Hot Dog, Filled Rolls (Chicken/Salad), Sauces Frozen Mousse, Raisin Cookie	Homemade Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Peas, Salad, Coleslaw, Chips, Baked Potato Jelly and Fruit Salad	Homemade Vegetable or Chicken Soup Filled Rolls (Chicken/Salad), Sauces Shortbread Biscuit and Fruit Salad	School Closed Half-Term Break

Milk, Water, Bread, Fruit and Yogurt available daily

Menu subject to deliveries