



News Sheet – November 2013

Diary Dates – December 2013

- 3rd Year 6 Science Lesson 3 at Drumcree College
- 4th Years 4 – 7 Christmas Pantomime – Market Place Theatre
- 5th Nursery Extended Schools *Santa's Little Helpers Workshop* – selected pupils only
Christmas Fair: 1.30 – 3.30pm
School finishes at 2.00pm for all pupils
- 6th Year 7 to St Catherine's College Christmas Show
- 10th Year 1 – 3 Trip to Lisburn Linen Centre
Year 6 Science Lesson 4 at Drumcree College
- 11th Canteen Christmas Dinner
Choir Singing at Craigavon Area Hospital Cardiac Association Christmas Draw:
7.00pm
- 12th Choir/Musical Ensemble to Rosemount Care Home
- 13th Swimming ends for Years 4 and 5
- 17th Christmas Celebration at 10.00am
Years 4 – 7 Christmas disco
- 18th Christmas Treat with south Ulster Community Band
Choir/Musical Ensemble to Tesco, Meadows: 1.30 – 2.30pm
- 19th Nursery – Year 3 Christmas Parties
Choir/Musical Ensemble to Tesco, Craigavon: 1.30 – 2.30pm
- 20th Last day of term. School finishes at 12 noon. No uniform, no dinners

Christmas Holidays

A reminder that school will close at 12 noon on Friday 20th December 2013 and re-open for the Spring Term on Monday 6th January 2014.

Coats

As the weather has been turning colder in recent weeks, we have been advising pupils to bring a warm coat to school. From Monday 2nd December 2013, any pupils who do not bring a coat to school will have to remain inside at break and lunch time.

Christmas Cards

These should have been returned if you wish to have your child's card printed before Christmas.

Christmas Draw

The Draw will take place at the Christmas Fair on Thursday 5th December 2013. All ticket stubs, money and unsold tickets should already have been returned to school. If there are any outstanding, please return them immediately.

Christmas Fair

This will take place in the Assembly Hall and Canteen on Thursday 5th December 2013. The Fair will include: Craft Stalls, Face Painting, Nail Art, Balloon Modelling, Tuck Shop, Chocolate Fountain, Tombola, Guess the Name of the Doll, Tea/Coffee, Christmas Draw and

much more. Entrance is £1 for adults, children are free. **Please note school will finish at 2.00pm for all pupils on this day.**

If anyone is able to help out at the Fair, please contact the Office.

Christmas Celebration

This is an annual event and will take place in the Assembly Hall on Tuesday 17th December 2013 at 10.00am. All pupils from Nursery to Year 7 will take part and it will be followed by refreshments in the Dinner Hall.

Choir/Musical Ensemble

As you will see from the Diary, the Choir and Musical Ensemble have another very busy Christmas calendar of events to perform at. Please support as many of these as you can (apart from Rosemount Care Home).

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Parent/Teacher Meeting in October. The overall uptake was 85% which is very pleasing indeed.

Advance Notice – Confirmation

Confirmation will take place on Sunday 9th March 2014 at 3pm in St John's Church.

Admissions Paperwork

The Admissions paperwork for Nursery and Year 1 applications for September 2014 will shortly be released by the SELB. We will inform you when this happens.

Homework

Homework Club finishes for Term 1 on Thursday 5th December 2013. It will resume again after Christmas. Pupils will not receive homework after Thursday 5th December 2013.

After School Clubs

Please note that there will be no After School Clubs on the last week of this term – 16th – 20th December 2013.

Year 2 Young Enterprise

Year 2 pupils have taken part in the Young Enterprise Programme 'Ourselves'. The pupils worked with a business volunteer from the local community who opened their eyes to the exciting world of enterprise. The 'Ourselves' programme took the pupils on an engaging story based journey exploring the world of work, saving, earning, decision making and teamwork. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the experience and gained a lot from the programme.

Years 4 and 5 Art Workshops

On Monday 4th November, Year 4 attended Armagh Museum for an Art Workshop with Belfast based artist Anushiya Sundarlingamwill.

In order to engage with the Museum's collection, the children sketched costumes and artefacts on an A4 sheet.

Afterwards, the children chose one of the artefacts (a ship) and in groups, constructed their 3D models by cutting, folding and manipulating construction straws with masking tape.

On Friday 8th November 2013, Year 5 attended a similar Art Workshop with the same artist and made observational drawings of various birds which were displayed throughout the

Museum. The pupils had to focus on adding lines of detail to their sketches and then decide which drawing they would use to make their 3D model. They had to shape newspaper with their hands to make the body, head, tail and feet of the bird. Once the children were happy with the shape it was secured with masking tape.

The 3D models made by both Year Groups were very impressive and the children thoroughly enjoyed the whole creative experience, learning and developing a range of new skills.

Year 2 Visits and Visitors

Children in Year 2 are currently learning about the Emergency Services. As part of this topic the Police visited our classes on Thursday 14th November 2013. The Police spoke to the children about keeping safe and not talking to strangers. The children then got to sit in the Police van. Following this on Wednesday 20th November 2013, Year 2 had a trip to Portadown Fire Station. They really enjoyed their visit and got to learn all about the Fire Service and also about Fire Engines. Finally we had a visit from two Paramedics who told us about their job and taught the children some First Aid! Year 2 really enjoyed this topic and photos will be displayed on the website soon!

Year 7 Brownlow Multi-Cultural Day

On Tuesday 5th November 2013, Year 7 were invited to attend "Multi Cultural Awareness Day" in Brownlow Integrated College. They were collected by bus on the morning of the event and returned for home time. A themed lunch was provided for all. The pupils got the opportunity to experience crafts, music, dance and sport from around the globe and everyone had great fun. It was nice to have a senior pupil from Brownlow College leading the way for us and even better still, it was David Mulholland one of our past pupils. Huge thanks to Brownlow College for providing such an interesting variety of experiences for the Year 7s who all agreed they learned a lot and had a great time too.

Eco Committee and Switch Off Fortnight

A new Eco-Committee has been elected for this year. Two pupils from Years 3-7 were chosen from each class. They are:

Year 3	Shea Edgar, Kassie Blanton
Year 4	Sean Coyle, Olivia Dunbar
Year 5	Callum Mulholland, Grace O'Connor
Year 6	Joao Paul Ferreira, Reghan McKinstry
Year 7	Karla Eadie, Mia McKee
LSC	Peter Brown-Lavery

Our first project was taking part in 'Switch Off Fortnight' which ran from Monday 18th to Friday 29th November 2013. The Eco Club presented an assembly to the school on how to save energy. They also organised a competition in which all classes were monitored by the Eco Club members on how much energy they were wasting. The class which saved the most energy will be rewarded at the end of the fortnight.

Mackey Eye Care Visit Nursery

On Monday 18th November 2013 Michelle and Caroline from Mackey's Eye Care visited the Nursery. They encourage eye tests for all children of Nursery age.

Year 1 Visit Tesco

Year 1 children from Mrs Mackle's and Mr Hendron's classes went to visit Tesco Supermarket on Tuesday 19th November 2013. On arrival, the children enjoyed a lovely breakfast and

afterwards had the opportunity to explore different areas of the supermarket. They sampled food from the Deli Counter and watched a demonstration of fresh fish being prepared. The highlight of the visit was when the children were allowed to add sugar to a doughnut and take it home to enjoy. Finally, the children were allowed to scan items at the till. An enjoyable morning was had by all.

School Photographs

If you missed the deadline for returning your school photo order, you can still order them online.

Anti-Bullying Week: 18th – 22nd November 2013

The theme for Anti Bullying Week this year was '*I See, I Hear, I Feel*'. All classes participated in activities aimed at supporting pupils to understand their role and responsibility in tackling bullying. The clear message was that we can all emphasise that such behaviour is unacceptable by challenging negative stereotypes and reinforcing anti-bullying messages.

Shoe Box Appeal

We would like to thank all Ballyoran pupils and parents for supporting our Drop Inn Ministries Christmas Shoebox Appeal. The Pupil Council helped to pack the van recently with shoeboxes and other presents which will go to children in Latvia, Ukraine and Belarus. Well done everyone.

People's Millions Lottery Funded Project

We are very proud to have played our part in Tir na nOg's successful bid to receive a grant of £50,000 from the People's Millions Lottery Funded Project. The Club will now be able to build an outdoor fitness facility which can be used by the whole community. A huge thank you to anyone who voted for the '*Get Fit Stay Fit*' bid on Tuesday, especially if you voted more than once!

Drumcree College Prize Day

Mr Woolsey attended the Drumcree College Prize Day recently and it was great to see so many former Ballyoran pupils winning top awards.

Car Parks

Over recent weeks we have been having difficulties with a small minority of parents using the school car parks as follows:

1. For drop off and collection of pupils
2. To enter and exit the school on foot

These parents are placing their own safety and the safety of their children at risk. I would remind you that school car parks are for the use of staff and visitors only. This decision has been taken on health and safety grounds.

The only point of entry and exit for parents and pupils to the school site is the pedestrian gate.

I continue to be very grateful to the vast majority of parents who respect our policy on the car parks and would ask the small minority of parents involved to respect this policy also.

Contingency Planning - Winter

As the winter is fast approaching, the school has been reviewing its contingency plans should the school need to close due to bad weather. Once again, we will be using our Text Alert system, the school website and local media to inform parents should a closure be necessary.

Christmas Card Competition 2013 Winners

Class	Winner	Runner Up
Year 1	Clodagh Coyle	Julia Osinska
Year 2	Oliwia Rybak	Aine Gorman
Year 2	Ellie McNeice	Rafaela Chainho
Year 3	Aras Bajarkevicius	Jessica Serrador
Year 4	Aodhan O'Connor	Evie Judge
Year 5	Madison Hall	Grace O'Connor
Year 6	Oliwia Osinska	Nathan Campbell
Year 7	Mia McKee	Keelin Brennan
LSC	Robert Kerr	Peter Brown-Lavery

Overall Winner of **Ballyoran Competition**: Mia McKee

Card chosen for **SELB Competition**: Aodhan O'Connor

Card chosen for **NI. Assembly Competition** (Key Stage 2): Madison Hall

Card chosen for **Lord Mayor's Competition** (Year 7): Keelin Brennan

Menu for December

See last page

	Week commencing: 02.12.13	Week commencing: 09.12.13	Week commencing: 16.12.13	Week commencing: 23.12.13
Monday	Fish in Breadcrumbs or Ham and Cheese Tagliatelle, Beans, Sweetcorn, Coleslaw, Salad, Mashed Potatoes Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Pork Burgers or Chicken and Pasta Bake, Turnip, Broccoli, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes Lemon Sponge and Custard	Shepherd's Pie or Ham and Cheese Tagliatelle, Carrots, Peas, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Apple Crumble and Custard	School Closed – Christmas Holidays
Tuesday	Savoury Mince or Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice, Carrots, Pasta, Mashed Potatoes Rice Krispie Bun and Custard	Sauages or Spaghetti Bolognese, Cabbage, Peas, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Fish in Breadcrumbs or Lasagne, Beans, Sweetcorn, Salad, Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes Chocolate Cake and White Sauce	School Closed – Christmas Holidays
Wednesday	Chicken Pie or Sweet and Sour Chicken and Boiled Rice, Carrots and Parsnips, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Rice and Fruit	Christmas Dinner Roast Turkey, Stuffing, Cocktail Sausages, Carrots, Peas, Brussel Sprouts, Roast or Mashed Potato, Gravy Choc Ices, Fresh Fruit Salad	Gammon or Macaroni Cheese, Cabbage, Turnip, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Rice Krispie Bun and Custard	School Closed – Christmas Holidays
Thursday	Chip Shop Day Chicken Nuggets, chips, Sauces Tubs of Ice Cream and Fruit	Homemade Pepperoni Pizza or Macaroni Cheese, Sweetcorn, Chips, Peas, Sauces, Baked Potato Jelly and Fruit	Cocktail Sausages or Tuna Wraps, Chips, Peas, Sauces, Sweetcorn, Coleslaw, Baked Potatoes Ice Cream and Fruit	School Closed – Christmas Holidays
Friday	Home Made Vegetable Soup or Chicken Soup Hot Dog, Sauces or Filled Salad or Chicken Rolls Frozen Mousse or Raisin Cookie	Fish Fingers or Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice, Beans, Sweetcorn, Mashed Potatoes, Salad Rice & Oranges	School Closes at 12 noon No Dinners	School Closed – Christmas Holidays

Milk & Water available daily

Fruit and Yoghurt available daily

Menu subject to deliveries