



## News Sheet – March 2014

### Diary Dates for April 2014

1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 4 First Confession: 6.00pm – St John's Church
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Soccer Festival: Lurgan Junior High School, 12.30pm
4 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery Admissions letters posted from school
7 <sup>th</sup>	Brownlow Entrance Test: Year 7 pupils Year 6 Alcohol and Drugs: Session 4
8 <sup>th</sup>	Soccer Tournament – Brownlow College: 10.00am – 2.00pm
9 <sup>th</sup>	Pupil Council Meeting
11 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 and Year 5 Swimming ends Movie Night – 6.45pm
14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Alcohol and Drugs: Session 5
16 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of term: no uniform, no dinners
28 <sup>th</sup>	Term 3 begins
30 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Admissions letters posted from school

### End of Term Arrangements

School will close at midday for all pupils on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2014. To avoid congestion at the gate, pupils will be dismissed as follows:

Years 1 - 3	11.50am
Years 4 – 7	Midday

### School Closure – April 2014

Please note that school will be closed from Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2014 for the Easter holidays.

### School Vision

Thank you to those parents who responded to our Consultation on the new School Vision. The following Statement of Vision has been adopted by the Board of Governors.

*As a welcoming Inclusive School we aim to provide a safe, happy, caring and stimulating learning environment which will enable each child to develop to his or her full potential - academically, socially, emotionally, physically and spiritually, in preparation for becoming responsible citizens.*

*We celebrate each person as an individual and as a valued member of our school and wider community.*

*In an atmosphere of tolerance and trust, we actively encourage respect, self-worth, independence, team spirit, imagination, creativity and fun.*

## **Parents and Friends of Ballyoran**

### Easter Squares

These are now on sale in every classroom. Squares cost 50p each and a winner will be drawn out of each class and will receive an Easter Egg as a prize. The draw will take place on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

### Easter Basket Draw

One of our parents, Mrs S Clarke, has kindly made and donated a basket full of Easter goodies. This will be raffled on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2014. The basket will be sent round all the classes each day and pupils may buy tickets at £1 each.

### Movie Night

This will take place on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2014 at 6.45pm. It is open to all pupils from Year 1 – Year 7. Tickets priced at £1 will go on sale very soon. Pupils in Years 1 – 3 **must** be accompanied by an adult. **This event is for Ballyoran pupils only.** The Pupil Council will decide what the movie is.

### **Coats**

As we have now moved into Spring and the weather is a bit milder, we are no longer enforcing the coats rule at break and lunch. We would, however, encourage you to ensure your child/children come to school with a coat on a wet or cold day.

### **Golden Table**

We have adopted a new positive behaviour initiative in the Dinner Hall at lunchtime. This is called '*Golden Table*' and each day a class is awarded a token for good manners, behaviour, lining up, clearing the tables, etc. At the end of each month the class with the most tokens gets to have their lunch at a '*Golden Table*' for one day. This means they get a table cloth on their table, are given juice to drink and have their dinner served to them. This initiative is very popular with the pupils. Year 3 and Year 7 won the '*Golden Table*' last month.

### **40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Ballyoran Primary School is currently in its 40<sup>th</sup> Year and to celebrate this, a number of events have been planned for the month of June.

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2014: Anniversary Concert at 7.00pm. All welcome

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2014: 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party and Fun Day for all pupils

As well, a Special 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary School Magazine is being printed which will include something from every child in the school. Mr Gilpin and Miss Calvert, former Principals, are also writing a short history of their time at Ballyoran.

Also a special evening is being organised for current and past staff.

More details will follow on all of these events and we would encourage you to join with us as we celebrate this important milestone in our school's history.

## **Gaelic Matches:**

### Ireland v Portugal

Sunday 2nd of March saw a unique International GAA fixture take place at Seagoe 3G arena, organised by the Tir na nOg Club. A group of players originally from Portadown took on a team which consisted of Portuguese children who go to local schools in Portadown, including Ballyoran Primary School. All of the players involved have benefited greatly from the coaching provided by members of the Tir na nOg club and the tournament gave them a chance to showcase their talent. The atmosphere at the event was helped by the huge turn out from parents and family.

### Armagh v Laois

On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2014, two of our year 7 pupils, Peter Brown-Lavery and Keelin Brennan had the privilege of playing at half time during the National League game between Armagh and Laois at the Athletic Grounds in Armagh. Cumann na Bunscoil had organised half time games for both boys and girls for pupils from all parts of the county. For Keelin and Peter, it was a tremendous experience to play in front of several thousand people and both of our pupils certainly rose to the occasion, playing extremely well.

## **World Book Day**

Celebrating World Book Day began on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014 when author/storyteller Liz Weir visited Nursery, Year 1 and Year 2. In each class Liz entertained the children by storytelling and reading books. In our library we have a selection of books which have been written by Liz. On World Book Day which was Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March, pupils and staff dressed up as their favourite book character. Year 5 and Year 6 pupils got the opportunity in the morning to work with the Armagh Rhymers creating a drama sketch. After break, the drama sketch was performed for the whole school and the atmosphere was electric! Music, dance and storytelling were all part of the performance which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The Armagh Rhymers also put on a show for our Nursery pupils. On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March, a storyteller from Asda, dressed as Snow White, visited our Year 2 class and displayed the collection of World Book Day books which are redeemable with World Book Vouchers. The Nursery visited the local Library.

## **Board of Governors Parent Representatives**

Mrs C Dunbar and Mr K O'Connor will continue as Parent Representatives on the newly reconstituted Board of Governors.

## **Confirmation**

Year 7 pupils made their Confirmation on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2014 in St John the Baptist Church. The Celebrant was His Eminence Cardinal Sean Brady DCL, who was assisted by Father Sheehan and Father Carvill. Some children participated in the ceremony. Everyone looked very smart in their new clothes and enjoyed the celebration.

## **Jo Jingles visit to Nursery**

Jo Jingles visited the Nursery on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2014. It was a morning of fun, music and movement.

## **Nursery CRED Link with Hart Memorial**

The Nursery concluded their link with Hart Memorial with a Nursery Celebration in Craigavon Civic Centre on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March for family and friends. It was a very enjoyable morning for both adults and children.

## **Young Enterprise: Year 4 and Year 6**

### Year 4

On Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March, Year 4 children participated in a Young Enterprise afternoon. This was a fun afternoon that gave the children the opportunity to explore different aspects of life in their local community. We examined how everyone in a community has a role to play in making our communities a good place in which to live and work. The children had a glimpse into the world of work and were given jobs in the community and paid for working. They learned a little about paying tax on the money they had earned and why we need to do this. The children really enjoyed this experience and felt rather grown up for the afternoon!

### Year 6

Year 6 enjoyed a visit from Young Enterprise on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2014. They were given the opportunity to think about 'Our Nation' and were introduced to the concept of the supply chain and how businesses have to work together in order to be successful. As a follow-up, the children were very creative in designing their own apple juice containers. A very worthwhile experience for all involved.

## **St Patrick's Day Irish Dancing Festival**

On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2014, a group from Year 3 – Year 7 took part in our 12<sup>th</sup> Folk Dancing Festival. The adjudicator, Miss Orla McCann, praised all the dancers for their behaviour and performances. She added that this was her first visit to Ballyoran and she was very impressed with the standard of all the dancers. A group of local musicians added to the atmosphere with a selection of Irish Traditional tunes. In addition, Keelin Brennan, one of our Year 7 pupils, did an exhibition dance called, "The Blue-eyed Rascal". The major prize-winners were: Catriona Mackle (Year 4), Danica Hall (Year 6), Courtney Sharpe (Year 6) and Helena Santos (Year 7). A big well done to all the team for dancing to the best of their ability, especially those who were on stage for the first time!

## **Pupil Council visit Craigavon Civic Centre**

Mr Skeffington and members of the Pupil Council visited Craigavon Civic Centre on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March. This visit granted the children the opportunity to meet with the local Mayor. The children received great hospitality from the staff and Mayor. They gained a great insight into the role and responsibility of the Mayor. This was a very insightful and enjoyable outing for the Pupil Council.

## **Year 5 Gaelic Tournament**

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> of February the Year 5 class participated in the Gaelic tournament hosted by St John's Primary School. The children played several mini games against children from St John's and Portadown Integrated Primary. It gave the children the opportunity to show case the skills they had developed within their 6 week coaching session in the school. Well done to all Year 5's who took part.

Special congratulations go to Kathlyn Paulino and Steven Ferreira who each received a medal for their sporting endeavour on the day.

### **Year 6 Alcohol and Drugs Sessions**

Year 6 are completing five sessions with Jeanie Graham (from the Temperance Society). They have been thinking about topical issues such as making the right choice with regards to alcohol, drugs and smoking and how they should act before they face difficult real life situations.

### **Parent/Teacher Meetings**

A big thank you to parents for attending the Parent/Teacher Meetings at the beginning of March. These are a vital part of our home-school partnership and we are delighted with the very pleasing level of attendance.

### **Menu for April 2014**

(See next page)

R Woolsey  
Principal

## Menu for April 2014

	<b>Week commencing 31.03.14</b>	<b>Week commencing 07.04.14</b>	<b>Week commencing 14.04.14</b>	<b>Week commencing 21.04.14</b>	<b>Week commencing 28.04.14</b>
Monday	Pork Burgers or Spaghetti Bolognese, Turnip, Peas, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Rice Pudding and Oranges	Pepperoni Pizza or Chicken Wraps, Chips, Peas, Salad, Sweet Corn, Sauces Lemon Cake and Custard	Roast Turkey, Stuffing, Carrots, Creamed Potatoes, Gravy or Ham and Cheese Tagliatelle Chocolate Cake and Custard	School Closed	Ham and Cheese Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Chips, Baked Potatoes, Peas, Salad, Coleslaw Icecream and Chocolate Sauce
Tuesday	Pepperoni Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Peas, Sweet Corn, Coleslaw, Salad, Chips, Baked Potatoes Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Savoury Mince or Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice, Carrots, Pasta, Mashed Potatoes, Crusty Bread Apple Crumble and Custard	<u>Chip Shop Day</u> Cocktail Sausages or Tuna Wraps, Chips, Sauces, Peas, Coleslaw Tubs of Ice Cream	School Closed	Fish in Breadcrumbs or Spaghetti Bolognese, Beans, Sweet Corn, Mashed Potatoes, Salad Vanilla Cake and Custard
Wednesday	Shepherds Pie or Oriental Pork with Noodles, Carrots, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Jelly Whip and Fruit	Fish Fingers or Lasagne, Beans, Sweet Corn, Salad, Mashed Potatoes Ice Cream, Fruit and Wafer	School Closes at midday No dinners served	School Closed	Pork Burgers or Stuffed Bacon Rolls, Cabbage, Carrots, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes Apple Crumble and Custard
Thursday	Baked Gammon or Tomato Pesto Bake, Cabbage, Carrots, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Flakemeal Biscuit and Custard	Chicken Crumble Top or Macaroni Cheese, Carrots and Parsnips, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Jelly and Fruit Salad	School Closed	School Closed	Shepherds Pie or Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice, Turnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Rice Pudding and Fruit
Friday	Fish in Breadcrumbs or Bacon and Cheese Quiche, Sweet Corn, Coleslaw, Salad, Mashed Potatoes Chocolate Cracknel and Custard	Homemade Vegetable or Chicken Soup, Hot Dogs, Sauces, Filled Rolls (Chicken/Salad) Frozen Mousse or Fresh Fruit	School Closed	School Closed	Homemade Vegetable or Chicken Soup, Hot Dogs, Sauces, Filled Rolls (Chicken/Salad) Jelly or Frozen Mousse

**Milk, Water, Bread, Fruit and Yoghurt available daily**

**Menu subject to deliveries**