



## **News Sheet – March 2013**

### **End of Term Arrangements**

School will finish at midday on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2013. Pupils do not need to wear uniform and there will be no dinners on this day.

### **Easter Holidays**

School will be closed for the Easter break from Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2013 until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2013. School re-opens for the Summer Term on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013.

### **Diary Dates for April**

- 8<sup>th</sup> Summer Term begins
- 10<sup>th</sup> Nursery Acceptance Letters posted
- 11<sup>th</sup> Portadown Irish Dancing Festival – Civic Centre
- 12<sup>th</sup> Years 6 and 7 Swimming begins
- School Nurse Medicals
- 16<sup>th</sup> School Nurse Medicals
- PTA Meeting at 8.00pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> Year 1 Acceptance Letters posted
- 22<sup>nd</sup> School Nurse Medicals
- 24<sup>th</sup> School Nurse Medicals
- Pupil Council Meeting
- 26<sup>th</sup> Brownlow 6-A-Side Soccer Tournament

### **School Uniform**

A big thank you to parents for ensuring your children are in full school uniform every day. We are very proud of how our pupils look.

From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013, pupils may wear the summer uniform. This is a blue checked dress and white socks for the girls or shorts for the boys.

Please note footwear must be black in school.

### **Coats**

From 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013, our winter coats rule will be relaxed for the Summer Term. It will be up to you and your child whether they bring and wear a coat to school each day.

## **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 which was 86%.

## **Advance Notice – Staff Training Days**

Each year we have 5 School Development Days to take. These are days when pupils are off but staff are in school for training. We have taken 3 of these so far and the final 2 have been arranged as follows:

- Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2013
- Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2013

## **Staffing**

We said farewell to Miss Pauline King recently who has been working as an Assistant in the LSC. She has been replaced by Mrs Jill Ryans who we welcome to the school.

We welcome Miss Kylie-Ann McVeigh who has recently joined the Cleaning Staff of the school.

## **First Aid**

Congratulations to Mrs Stewart our First Aid Co-ordinator who recently passed her First Aid at Work Refresher training.

## **Confirmation**

Year 7 pupils were confirmed on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2013 in St John the Baptist Church by the Rt Rev Dean Calum Curry, VG. Ballyoran pupils from Years 6 and 7 contributed to the beautiful music during the ceremony.

## **World Book Day**

This year Ballyoran Primary School celebrated World Book Day on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. We had some fantastic outfits and it was clear that the children had thought long and hard about who they would be and had made a great effort to look the part. Throughout the day children were entertained by Steve Lally, a well known story teller. A big thank you to the parents for helping the children to make our World Book Day so successful.

## **Fair Trade Assembly**

On Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2013, to mark Fairtrade Fortnight, Mrs Barkley talked in assembly about Fair Trade. The children were reminded that Fair Trade guarantees that workers and farmers get a fair price for what they produce. Pupils were able to list a lot of Fair Trade products, e.g. bananas, oranges, tea, coffee, sugar, chocolate. Mrs Barkley encouraged them to buy Fair

Trade chocolate, when they are choosing sweets at the sweet shop - Kitkat, Cadbury's Dairy Milk, Buttons or Maltesers. She told a true story, 'Chaga and the Chocolate Factory', about a ten year old boy from Africa who was kept as a slave in a cocoa plantation. The assembly finished with everyone reading a quotation from Mother Teresa:

*What we are doing is just a **drop in the ocean**.  
But if that **drop** was not in the **ocean**,  
I think the **ocean** would be less  
Because of that missing **drop**.*

### **Diocesan RE Visit**

Sister Elizabeth Wall, the Diocesan Advisor, visited the classes of Years 4 and 7 on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2013. She was very impressed with the children's knowledge of the Sacraments.

### **Moy Park Challenge**

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2013 Year 6 was invited to the Seagoe Hotel to participate in the Moy Park Challenge. There were about 10 schools there. The aim of the morning was to think about healthy living, develop team building skills and gain an understanding of entrepreneurship.

The pupils were put into mixed teams with pupils from other schools. The first challenge was to design a creature from junk material. The creature had to display a healthy lifestyle. Each team had to name their creature and give a brief description of his lifestyle. Break followed, with delicious fruit platters.

The second challenge was to design a new chicken product for Moy Park. The pupils had to think about marketing their product with an eye catching poster and snappy slogan. They had to draw up a business plan which included costing their product, thinking about suitable packaging and the target market.

The tasks were judged. Well done to Serena, Keelin, Emma, Catherine, Kubus and Peter who all came home with prizes. Photos are available in the Year 6 Class Page on the school website.

A fun and energetic morning was had by all.

Many thanks to Moy Park and Young Enterprise for providing worthwhile activities and of course the lovely lunch!

## **CRED**

Years 3 and 5 travelled to our partner school to participate in Craft and Football activities.

Year 3 took part in a Craft day. The theme of their day was St Patrick. The children made and decorated Shamrocks, Pots of Gold and Leprechauns. The children thoroughly enjoyed their day.

Year 5 had the opportunity to develop their own skills and learn new football skills. The children played ice breaker games and divided into mixed groups from each school to participate in various activities. They too had a great experience.

## **Dancing Festival**

On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2013, our Annual Folk Dancing Festival was held alongside our St. Patrick's Day celebrations. The adjudicator was Miss Carolyn McGinnell who was making her second appearance at the event. She is a past pupil of Ballyoran Primary School and agreed that, 'Everyone enjoys their dancing.'

The event was encouragingly supported by friends and family of the school and guest performers included Ms McCreesh-West, the school recorder group and Keelin Brennan from Year 6 who performed a set dance called, 'The Blue-Eyed Rascal'.

Everyone who took part in the Festival received a medal and the major prize-winners included Niamh Garland, Catarina Sa and Hollie O'Neill. A huge thank you to all who helped to make the day a success.

## **Year 4 Prepare for First Holy Communion**

As part of their preparation for First Holy Communion, Year 4 pupils participated in a Penance themed Mass on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2013. The pupils also made their First Confession on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

## **Extended Schools Drama**

Five pupils from Ballyoran Primary School took part in a performance of '*Jungle Book*' at Drumcree College on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2013. Our pupils have been practising for this for many months along with pupils from other local schools. This project was part of our Extended Schools Cluster. Well done to the following pupils who were involved:

Reghan McKinstry, Year 5	Oliwia Osinska, Year 5
Emma Dunbar, Year 6	Mia McKee, Year 6
Helena Santos, Year 6	

## **School Meals Survey**

Thank you to everyone who completed and returned the School Meals Survey. The results of this will be published soon.

## **Beef Burgers Back on Menu**

Please note that the SELB have received verifiable and robust assurances, coupled with certified test analysis, confirming that no equine DNA has been found in beef burgers supplied to School Meals Kitchens. Catering Supervisors have therefore been advised that they may re-introduce beef burgers to school menus.

## **PTA Easter Draw**

A big thank you to everyone who supported the PTA East Squares Draw. The total amount raised was £132. The winners were as follows:

N1	Ben Wilson	N2	Joab Silva
Yr 1M	Alfie Freeburn	Yr 1B	Declan Lucas
Yr 2	Humberto Marinho	Yr 3	Evie Judge
Yr 4	Steven Ferreira	Yr 5	Ryan McGeown
Yr 6	Niall Wilson	Yr 7	Carla Neill
LSC	Peter Brown-Lavery		

## **Vouchers**

Please send in Tesco and Sainsbury Vouchers which we are currently collecting.

## **You, Your Child and Alcohol**

We have been asked to distribute the above booklet on Alcohol.

## **Holidays for 2013/14**

See next page

## **Menu for April 2013**

See last page



## **Term Dates & School Holidays 2013/2014 Year**

All dates are inclusive

### **Term 1**

#### **Term Dates**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2013

#### **Holidays**

- Staff Training: Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2013
- Half Term: Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2013

**Christmas Holiday: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2013 – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2014**

### **Term 2**

#### **Term Dates**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2014

#### **Holidays**

- Half Term: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2014
- St. Patrick's Day Holiday: Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2014

**Easter Holiday: Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2014**

### **Term 3**

#### **Term Dates**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2014

#### **Holidays**

- May Bank Holidays: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2014

School will finish at midday on the last day of each term.

**Please note a further 2 School Development Days for Staff training have yet to be confirmed.**

Note: Removing pupils during term time is not recommended; please try not to book holidays or other trips during the school term. Staff cannot prepare work in advance for children who are on holidays and very often these children miss vital work during their absence. The school is also required to inform the SELB when a child is removed from school for a holiday. This information is recorded and may be used by the SELB in appropriate situations, i.e. Special Educational Needs Assessments or Child Protection issues.

We hope this information is of use to you as you attempt to plan family holidays for the year ahead.

## Menu for April

	<b>Week commencing 08.04.13</b>	<b>Week commencing 15.04.13</b>	<b>Week commencing 22.04.13</b>	<b>Week commencing 29.04.13</b>
Mon	Homemade Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Peas, Sweet Corn, Sauces, Chips or Baked Potatoes  Rice Pudding and Peaches	Shepherds' Pie or Chicken Talianelle, Carrots, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy  Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Fish Fingers or Lasagne, Beans, Sweet Corn, Side Salad, Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes  Vanilla Sponge and Custard	Oven Baked Steak Burger or Spaghetti Bolognese, Turnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes  Rice Pudding and Oranges
Tues	Fish Fingers or Lasagne, Beans, Sweet Corn, Coleslaw, Salad, Mashed Potatoes  Jelly and Fruit Salad	Oven Baked Sausages or Filled Chicken or Salad Baguettes, Side Salad, Mashed Potatoes, Peas, Sweet Corn, Gravy  Strawberry Cake and Custard	Homemade Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Peas, Sweet Corn, Sauces, Chips or Baked Potatoes  Rice Krispie Bun and Custard	Fish Fingers or Chicken Pasta Bake, Beans, Sweet Corn, Coleslaw, Salad, Mashed Potatoes  Chocolate Muffin and Pear Cake and Custard
Wed	Savoury Mince or Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice, Peas, Pasta or Mashed Potatoes, Naan Bread  Biscuit, Fruit and Custard	Crumbed Fish or Spaghetti Bolognese, Beans, Sweet Corn, Salad, Chips or Potatoes  Rice Pudding and Oranges	Roast Turkey or Macaroni Cheese, Turnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy  Jelly and White Sauce	Homemade Pizza or Chicken Wraps, Peas, Coleslaw, Salad, Chips or Mashed Potatoes  Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce
Thurs	Roast Pork with Stuffing or Vegetable Pasta Bake, Carrots, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy  Pineapple Sponge and Custard	Baked Gammon or Sweet and Sour Chicken and Boiled Rice, Cabbage, Turnip, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy  Biscuit and Fruit Salad	Shepherds' Pie or Vegetable Pasta Bake, Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Peas, Gravy  Ice Cream and Fruit and Wafer	Roast Turkey with Stuffing, Carrots and Parsnips, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy or Filled Ciabatta Rolls, Salad or Turkey, Side Salad, Coleslaw Jelly and Fruit Salad
Fri	Homemade Vegetable or Chicken Soup Hot Dog, Sauces, Filled Rolls, Chicken/Salad  Frozen Mousse or Raisin Cookies	Chicken Pie with Crumble Top or Bacon and Cheese Pasta Bake, Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Peas, Gravy  Jelly and White Sauce	Homemade Vegetable or Chicken Soup Hot Dog, Sauces, Filled Rolls, Chicken/Salad  Biscuits or Fresh Fruit	Bacon and Stuffing or Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice, Mixed Vegetables, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy  Flakemeal Biscuit, Fruit and Custard

Milk, Water, Bread, Fruit and Yogurt available daily

Menu subject to deliveries

