



## News Sheet – February 2013

### Diary Dates for March

4 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup>	Parent/Teacher Meetings Years 4 & 7 Assessment Week
7 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day
8 <sup>th</sup>	Diocesan RE Visit – Years 4 and 7 7-A-Side Soccer Tournament – Lurgan Junior High School
12 <sup>th</sup>	Moy Park Challenge – Year 6 – Seagoe Hotel
13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 CRED – Craft Day – Bocombra Primary School
15 <sup>th</sup>	St Patrick's Celebration and Irish Dancing Festival – 1.30pm – 4.00pm
18 <sup>th</sup>	School Holiday
19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 First Confession – 6.15pm - St John the Baptist Church
20 <sup>th</sup>	Pupil Council Meeting
21 <sup>st</sup>	Year 5 CRED - Football Skills – Bocombra Primary School
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Nursery Trip to Tannaghmore Farm Year 6 CRED – Football Skills – Bocombra Primary School Years 4 and 5 Swimming ends
25 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup>	No After School Clubs this week
26 <sup>th</sup>	Year 7 CRED – Art Day – Ballyoran Primary School PTA Movie Night – 6.45pm
27 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of term: no uniform, no dinners. School finishes at midday

### Holidays

School will be closed as follows:

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2013 – St Patrick's Day Holiday

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2013 – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2013 – Easter Holidays

School re-opens for the Summer Term on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2013

### After School Clubs

Please note there will be no After School Clubs during Parent/Teacher Meeting week or the last week of term.

### Confirmation

This will take place on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2013 at 3pm in St John's Church. We wish all our Year 7 pupils well as they take this very important step in their life.

### First Holy Communion

A reminder that this will take place on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at 11am in St John's Church. The Service will be followed by refreshments in the Pastoral Centre to which everyone is invited.

### **Parent/Teacher Meetings**

These will take place from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2013 and are a vital part of our home/school partnership. Everyone should have received their appointment time by now. To facilitate these meetings, school will close at 1pm for all pupils from Tuesday to Friday of this week. Please note Monday will be a normal school day. There will be no After School Clubs during this week also.

### **End of Key Stage Assessment Week: 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

This is a very important week for Year 4 and Year 7 pupils, forming part of the teachers' assessment in Communication and Using Maths. Please ensure that Year 4 and Year 7 pupils are in school every day of this week.

### **World Book Day – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2013**

World Book Day is a day set aside every year to celebrate reading, books, authors and illustrators. It is marked in more than 100 countries around the world. Pupils are asked to come to school dressed as their favourite Book Character on this day. Storyteller Steve Lally will be in school and all pupils will receive a £1 Book Token which can be redeemed at Tesco or Easons. We would encourage all our pupils to enter the spirit of this day as we celebrate books and reading.

### **Diocesan RE Visit**

This was to take place in February but had to be postponed. Sister Elizabeth will now be in school meeting with Year 4 and Year 7 pupils on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

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

This will take place in the Assembly Hall on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2013 from 1.30pm – 4pm. This is a new event this year and we would encourage you to support it. Please note you are free to come and go as you please during the event.

### **PTA News**

#### Winter Draw

This took place during Assembly on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2013. Well done to the following Prize Winners:

1 <sup>st</sup> Emma Larkin	Celtic Tickets
2 <sup>nd</sup> Morgan Eadie	£50
3 <sup>rd</sup> Ellie Delaney	£25

A big thank you to everyone who bought and sold tickets. The total amount raised was £472.

#### 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.

#### Movie Night

This will take place on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2013 at 6.45pm. in the Assembly Hall. This is open to all Primary age pupils. Year 1 and Year 2 pupils **must** be accompanied by an adult. Pupils may bring a friend or relative with them who does not attend Ballyoran but they must be of Primary School age. Tickets for the Movie Night will go on sale shortly, costing £1 each.

## Finance

One of the aims of the PTA is fundraising for the good of the school. The money raised by recent events will be used to buy new outdoor play resources for the Foundation Stage.

## **Credit Union Quiz**

Well done to the following 4 pupils who represented the school at the recent Credit Union Quiz held in the Pastoral Centre, coming 4<sup>th</sup>.

Year 6	Emma Dunbar	Year 7	Zuzanna Oskinska
	Keelin Brennan		Charlie Larkin

## **Internet Safety Day**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2013 was Internet Safety Day. As a school we felt it was important to mark this day as the internet plays such a large part of our pupil's lives. This year the theme was 'Connect with Respect'. Children learned about how to behave sensibly when talking to their friends online and what to do if they are ever in a situation they feel uncomfortable with when using the internet. Children in KS2 received a talk organised by the PSNI who brought a representative from Microsoft to speak to the children. They discussed the dangers of using the internet and how to use the internet safely.

## **CRED**

Years 1, 2 and 4 joined with our Partner School (Bocombra Primary) for various activities during the month of February.

Year 1 participated in a fun day led by the 'Armagh Rhymers'. All the children enjoyed listening to the story of 'Finn McCool' and taking part in the drama and music activities.

Year 2 participated in a French Day. They had the opportunity to learn different words and phrases in French and to practise them with their friends from Bocombra Primary School.

Year 4 pupils travelled to Bocombra Primary School where they were introduced to different musical instruments. They were also given the opportunity to experiment and compose some pieces of music.

The children thoroughly enjoyed their activities and look forward to meeting up with their friends again.

## **Year 7 Prepare for Confirmation**

As part of their preparation for Confirmation, Year 7 pupils attended a Ceremony of Light on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2013 in St John the Baptist Church. They also participated in a 'Holy Spirit' themed Mass on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2013. Children were given an opportunity to participate in a 5 week Parish Project called '*The SHYNE Programme.*'

## **Video Conferencing**

Children from Year 7, Mrs Heaney, Mr Woolsey and Mrs McGuire joined an exciting live video conference with Marita Conlon-McKenna (Author of Under the Hawthorn Tree) from the Ulster American Folk Park in Omagh on Tuesday 5th February 2013. The children asked Marita questions about her books live using the chat text facility with Elluminate. Over one hundred primary schools from across Northern and Southern Ireland participated in this video conference. Have a look at Year 7's Class Page on the school website to see pictures of the children taking part.

### **Jo Jingles in Nursery**

The children really enjoyed their recent visit from Jo Jingles on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2013. It was a morning of fun, music and movement

### **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics)**

This February and March, Ballyoran is one of a number of schools, taking part in a STEM project, whereby a series of 4 lessons on the topic of 'Materials' is delivered by a primary trained Science teacher.

Year 2, Year 3 and Year 7 classes have already enjoyed lesson one in the series and are enthusiastically looking forward to further exciting lessons during the month of March. The aim of the project is to increase the pupils' interest and awareness of Science and to provide stimulating ideas for the teachers. All resources used during the lessons will be given to the school for use in future years.

### **Healthy Living Day**

As our current Eco topic is Healthy Living, the Eco Club organised a 'Healthy Living Day' for the children on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2013. A coach from the IFA came to do activities with the children throughout the day on eating a balanced diet and living a healthy lifestyle. Children also took part in various activities in their classroom and the day finished with a Gaelic tournament for Years 3 - 7 in the afternoon led by Paul Carville.

### **Missing Reading Books**

We have a significant number of reading books that are missing. If you have any of our reading books hiding at home please send them into school. Your support is much appreciated.

### **Beef Burgers**

You will be aware of the recent publicity surrounding horse meat in the food chain. As a precautionary measure, the SELB have removed beef burgers from the menu in all school canteens, pending checks by their suppliers. We will keep you informed of future developments in relation to this situation.

### **School Meals Survey**

We are carrying out a parental survey in relation to School Meals. We would encourage as many people to complete this on the back page, detach it and return to school by **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2013.**

### **New Road Crossing**

You will have noticed that new traffic lights have been placed at the junction of Garvagh Road and Ashgrove Road. These are a new type of crossing called '*Puffin Crossings*' and Roads Service have asked us to distribute some information on these which we have included with this News Sheet. Please read it and go over it with your children.

## Menu for March

	<b>Week commencing 04.03.13</b>	<b>Week commencing 11.03.13</b>	<b>Week commencing 18.03.13</b>	<b>Week commencing 25.03.13</b>
Mon	Fish Fingers or Filled Baguettes (Salad or Tuna), Beans, Salad, Mashed Potatoes Ice Cream, Pears and Chocolate Sauce	Homemade Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Peas, Sweetcorn, Salad, Chips, Baked Potatoes  Rice Pudding and Peaches	School Closed Bank Holiday	Fish in Breadcrumbs or Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice, Beans, Sweetcorn, Salad, Mashed Potatoes Fruit, Ice Cream and Wafer
Tues	Savoury Mince or Sweet and Sour Chicken and Boiled Rice, Pasta, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes  Pineapple Cake and Custard	Roast Turkey and Stuffing or Chicken Tagliatelle, Carrots, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy  Strawberry Cake and Custard	Lasagne or Fish Fingers, Beans, Mixed Vegetables, Salad, Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes Ice Cream, Oranges and Chocolate Sauce	Cocktail Sausages or Tuna Wraps, Chips, Peas, Sauce, Salad, Baked Potato  Frozen Mousse and Fruit
Wed	Bacon Slice and Stuffing or Spaghetti Bolognese, Turnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy Rice Pudding and Oranges	Homemade Vegetable or Chicken Soup, Hot Dogs, Filled Rolls (Chicken, Salad)  Biscuit, Frozen Mousse	Shepherds Pie or Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice, Turnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy Vanilla Sponge and Custard	No Dinners School finishes at midday
Thurs	Baked Gammon and Stuffing or Vegetable Pasta Bake, Cabbage, Peas, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy  Jelly and Fruit Salad	Chicken Pie with Crumble Top or Ham and Cheese Pasta Bake, Carrots, Parsnips, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy  Ice Cream, Fruit and Wafer	Roast Turkey, Stuffing or Macaroni Cheese, Peas, Carrots, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy Rice Pudding and Mandarin Oranges	School Closed Easter Holidays
Fri	<u>International Food Day</u> New York Hot Dog with Manhattan Dressing, Shanghai Chicken Curry with Oriental Rice, Surfer Salad Bar, Mexican Wedges German Biscuit with Crème Anglaise	Fish in Breadcrumbs or Spaghetti Bolognese, Beans, Sweetcorn, Salad, Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes  Jelly and White Sauce	Chicken Nuggets or Tuna Baguettes, Peas, Sweetcorn, Coleslaw, Salad, Chips or Baked Potatoes  Jelly and Fruit Salad	School Closed Easter Holidays

Milk, Water, Bread, Fruit and Yogurt available daily

Menu subject to deliveries



## School Meals Survey

Please detach and return to school by Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2013

1. How often does your child take School Meals?  
(Please tick)

- Every Day
- 3 – 4 times a week
- Once or twice a week
- Less than once a week
- Never (Go straight to Question 5)

2. Are you entitled to Free School Meals?  
(Please tick)

- Yes
- No

3. Are you happy with the meals provided by the canteen generally?  
(Please tick)

- Yes
- No

Please give reasons

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4. Please rate each of the following headings 1 – 5 (1 being poor, 5 being excellent)

- (a) Quality of Food
- (b) Variety on Menu
- (c) Daily Choice
- (d) Value for Money

5. If your child does not take School Dinners, why is this?

- Cost
- Variety on Menu
- Daily Choice
- Quality of Food
- Other   
(Please state)

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6. What do you think would improve School Meals?

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7. Any other comments/suggestions

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*Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.*