



News Sheet – September 2012

Welcome Back

A very warm welcome back to school. I especially welcome our 51 new Nursery pupils and 33 new Year 1 pupils and hope that you will soon settle into your new classes. I also give a special welcome to 4 new pupils who have started Ballyoran in other classes and hope that you will soon settle into the school.

I give a special welcome to three new members of Staff who join the team this year: Mrs Baxter who is teaching Year 1, Miss King who is a Classroom Assistant in the LSC and Mrs Breen who has returned as a Lunchtime Supervisory Assistant.

Congratulations to Mrs Good who was appointed by the Board of Governors in August as the new Nursery Assistant replacing Mrs McConville.

I wish the entire school community a pleasant 2012/2013 school year. It has been a very smooth start to the new year and I would like to thank the entire school community for their part in this.

Diary Dates for October 2012

1 st – 5 th	Book Fair in the new Library
1 st	Yr 5 Computer-based Assessment
2 nd	PTA Annual General Meeting – 8.00pm
3 rd	Photographer in School: Individual and Family photos
4 th	Pupil Council visit to Craigavon Civic Centre
8 th	Yr 4 complete Based Assessment
10 th	Yr 7 Trip to the NI Assembly at Stormont
11 th	Opening of Community Learning Centre
14 th	Enrolment Ceremony – Yr 4 pupils – St John's Church at 11.30am
16 th	Yr 1 Trip to Tannaghmore Gardens
17 th	Pupil Council Meeting
19 th	Jo Jingles in Nursery and LSC
22 nd – 26 th	Parent/Teacher Meetings (School finishes at 1pm for all pupils Tues – Fri)
30 th	Rainbow Day for Charity
31 st – 5 th Nov	Half Term – School closed

Half Term

School will be closed for Half Term from Wednesday 31st October to Monday 5th November 2012. Please note an extra day has been added on here – Monday 5th November 2012 will be a Staff Training Day.

Farewell to Mrs McConville and Mrs Noble

Ballyoran Primary School sadly said farewell to Mrs McConville who retired as a Nursery Assistant at the end of August after 22 years and wish her a long and happy retirement.

We also say farewell to Mrs Noble, a cook in our Canteen who leaves our school after 11 years service to take up another post. We thank her for looking after us all at dinner time over these years and wish her well in her new job.

School Meals Price Rise

A reminder that school meals have risen by 10p from 1st September 2012. The new prices are as follows:

Nursery	£2.20 per day
Yrs 1 – 7	£2.30 per day

Breakfast Club

A reminder that the Breakfast Club operates every morning from 8.15am to 8.45am in the Dinner Hall. The Club costs 60p per day and is open to all pupils in Yrs 1 – 7. It is staffed by Mrs Huddleson and Mrs Donnelly. The earliest that pupils attending Breakfast Club should be in school is 8.15am as there is no supervision before this time. New pupils are welcome.

Homework Club

The Homework Club is open to Yr 4 – Yr 7 pupils and operates 4 days each week: Monday – Thursday in Room 6. It is staffed by Mrs Huddleson and Mrs Stewart. New pupils are welcome.

Daily Snack

Nursery and Yr 1 and Yr 2 pupils are asked to contribute £2 each week to the Snack Fund. This covers the cost of the daily snack. We ask that this money is paid every Monday morning and is sent in an envelope. Yr 3 – Y 7 pupils can order their snack each day from the Canteen. The cost of the snack is 25p per item.

Extra Curricular Activities

The school continues to offer an exciting and varied programme of extra curricular activities each week. The Clubs List for Term 1 has been included on this News Sheet. Please note the dates and times of your child's club. A reminder that there are **no** clubs during Parent/Teacher Meeting week 22nd – 26th October 2012, during half-term week 29th October – 5th November 2012 and the last week of term, 17th – 21st December 2012.

Year 3 Clubs

A reminder that Yr 3 pupils are now being given the opportunity to attend an After School Gaelic Club each Thursday from 2.00 – 3.00pm, coached by Mr Paul Carvill from Tir an nOg. To facilitate this, Kids Club for Yr 3 has moved to Friday 2.00 – 3.00pm. Please note that Yr 2 Kids Club is unaffected by this and continues to meet every Tuesday 2.00 – 3.00pm.

Pupil Council

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been elected by their classes to serve on the Pupil Council this year. This year we decided to elect 2 representatives from each: one girl and one boy.

Class		
Yr 7	Niamh Garland	Charlie Larkin
Yr 6	Emma Dunbar	Adam Millar
Yr 5	Courtney Sharpe	Reghan McKinstry
Yr 4	Emma-Rose White-Trainor	Victor Guerra
Yr 3	Evie Judge	Tiernan Brennan
LSC	Shola Heath	William Shortland

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

Chairperson:	Niamh Garland
Vice Chairperson:	Charlie Larkin
Secretary:	Emma Dunbar

Extended Schools Cluster

ICT Course – Three parents were successful in gaining places on the ICT Course at the Hart Memorial Primary School

Surestart In Tune Programme

Surestart have relocated one of their In Tune (2 Year Old Programmes) to the Community Learning Centre at Ballyoran Primary School. Ballyoran Primary School has always had strong links with Blossom Surestart and we are excited about this new partnership. We give a warm welcome to the Surestart Team to Ballyoran Primary School. Any queries regarding the new Two Year Old Programme should be directed to Blossom Surestart.

Yr 7 Victorian Talk

Year 7 were visited by a Victorian-style farmer who brought a selection of artefacts for them to investigate. They discussed the differences between living now and in a Victorian farm cottage. Also whether they would prefer living now or in Victorian times. Some of the artefacts were difficult to identify but we got there in the end. All Year 7s were very glad the 'tin bath' was not used any more, modern bathrooms were a winner!

Young Enterprise

On 26th September, Year 7 pupils took part in a seminar entitled, "Our World" led by Helen Fitzpatrick. They worked in groups investigating imports and exports around the world, playing their own trading game and had an international marketing challenge to tackle. Everyone agreed it was a fun way to learn and a few discovered a bit of an entrepreneur within!

Advance Notice of Dates

5 th December	Open Afternoon
18 th December	Christmas Concert
11 th May 2013	First Holy Communion

Parent/Techer Meetings

These will take place from 22nd – 26th October 2012. To facilitate these, school will close at 1.00pm each day except Monday 22nd October 2012 which will be a normal school day. These meetings are a vital part of our home/school partnership and we would ask that you make the effort to attend. There will be a slight change to the administration of these meetings this year with just one letter 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.

Temporary Staff

We wish to update our list of temporary cleaners, kitchen staff and lunchtime supervisors. If you would be interested in having your name on this list, please contact Mrs Tedford in the office.

Charity

We are in the process of choosing charities to support this year in school. A reminder that the school continues to collect money for the Parish Romanian Orphan Project. Please continue to send your 'coppers' into school. Our first Charity project of the year is a '*Ranbow Day*' to support the *Children's Rainbow Charity* which brings fresh water to children in Africa. Instead of uniform, pupils may wear rainbow colours and give £1 to this very worthy charity.

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.

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	Cloda Girvan	Courtney Castles
Foyle	Niamh Garland	Shannon Hughes
Lagan	Zuzanna Osinska	Helena Santos

A Parents Guide to Facebook

Facebook has become a major part of life for many of our children and young people but unfortunately, many parents are unaware of the potential dangers for children using this social networking site. A document entitled '*a Parents' Guide to Facebook*' has been placed on the school website as a guide for parents and it will hopefully help keep your child safe online. We would encourage you to read this.

Pupil Information and Consent Forms

A big thank you to everyone for completing these forms so promptly and returning them to school. This form will now be sent home every September as it is vital that we have up to date information on your child. 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 Wednesday 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. Two Year 7 children read stories in Polish to Years 1 and 2. We also had a themed lunch which was enjoyed by all.

Severe Food Allergy

A pupil in our Nursery has a severe allergy to nuts and eggs. As a result of this we have designated the Nursery a 'Nut and Egg Free Zone'.

Primary Modern Languages Programme

Ballyoran Primary School has joined the Primary Modern Languages Programme this year whereby a Language Teacher comes in each week to teach our Year 1 – Year 4 pupils a new language. Our language this year is *Polish* and our language teacher *Marta* visits the school every Thursday and all Year 1 – Year 4 pupils have a half hour session with her. This session includes lots of fun and games as the language is taught in a fun way.

School Website

Please keep up to date with what is going on in school by visiting our website on www.ballyoranps.com. A new link has been placed on the Homepage called Class Pages. This will allow you to keep in touch with what is going on in your child's class with photographs, etc.



Extra Curricular Activities

2012/2013 Term 1

Club	Day	Dates	Time	Class	Staff	Location
Kids' Club	Tuesday	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	2.00 – 3.00	Yr 2	Mrs Glavin Mrs Donnelly	Room 6
Choir	Tuesday	16 th Oct, 6 th , 13 th , 20 th & 27 th Nov, 4 th & 11 th Dec	3.00 – 3.45	Yrs 5 – Yrs 7	Mrs McCreesh- West	Hall
Soccer	Wednesday	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 5 - Yrs 7	Robert Cuthbert (Ambassadors In Sport)	Pitch/ Playground/ Hall
Irish Dancing	Wednesday	10 th , 17 th Oct, 7 th , 14 th , 21 st , 28 th Nov, 5 th & 12 th Dec	3.00 – 3.30	Yrs 4 – Yrs 7	Mrs Heaney	Hall
Gaelic	Thursday	27 th Sept, 4 th , 11 th & 18 th Oct, 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29 th Nov, 6 th & 13 th Dec	2.00 – 3.00	Yr 3	Paul Carvil (Tir an nOg)	Pitch/ Playground/ Hall
Gaelic	Thursday	20 th & 27 th Sept, 4 th , 11 th & 18 th Oct, 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29 th Nov, 6 th & 13 th Dec	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 4 - 7	Paul Carvil (Tir an nOg) Mr Hendron	Pitch/ Playground/ Hall
ICT Club	Thursday	11 th & 18 th Oct, 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29 th Nov,	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 4 - 5	ICT Suite	ICT Suite
Art Club	Thursday	11 th & 18 th Oct, 8 th , 15 th , 22 nd Nov	3.00 – 4.00pm	Yrs 6 - 7	Mrs Barkley	Room 11
Netball	Friday	12 th & 19 th Oct, 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd & 30 th Nov, 7 th 14 th Dec	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 6 - 7	Miss Turkington	Hall
Kids' Club	Friday	28 th Sept, 5 th , 12 th & 19 th Oct, 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd & 30 th Nov, 7 th 14 th Dec	2.00 – 3.00	Yr 3	Mrs Glavin Mrs Donnelly	Room 6

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

1. Parent/Teacher Meeting Week: 22nd – 26th October
2. Half term week: 29th October – 2nd November
3. Last week of term: 17th – 21st December

Menu for October

	01.10.12	08.10.12	15.10.12	22.10.12	29.10.12
Mon	Steak Pie with Potato Top, Gravy, Carrots & Parsnips, Mashed Potatoes or Sweet & Sour Chicken with Boiled rice and Crusty Bread Wholemeal Biscuit, Fruit and Custard	Stuffed Bacon Rolls, Gravy, Turnip or Peas, Mashed Potatoes or Spaghetti Bolognese with Salad and Crusty Bread Ice Cream Wafer, Fruit	Shepherds Pie and Gravy, Carrots or Sweetcorn, Mashed Potatoes or Chicken and Broccoli Bake, with Salad and Crusty Bread Rice Pudding and Peaches	Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza or Lasagne, Peas or Salad and Coleslaw, Chips or Baked Potatoes Swiss Roll and Custard	Homemade Pepperoni and Cheese Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Garden Peas or Sweetcorn or Salad or Coleslaw, Chips or Baked Potatoes Rice Pudding and Peaches
Tues	Homemade Ham & Cheese Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Peas and Sweetcorn or Salad, chips or Baked Potatoes Jelly and Fresh Fruit Salad	Oven Baked Sausages, Gravy, Carrots or Sweetcorn, Mashed Potatoes or Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice with Crusty Bread Rice Pudding and Oranges	Homemade Pepperoni and Cheese Pizza or Salmon Fillet , Mixed Vegetables or Peas, Chips or Boiled Potatoes Strawberry Jelly and Ice Cream	Oven Baked Steak Burger, Gravy, Cabbage or Turnip, Mashed Potatoes or Tuna Wraps, Salad and Baked Potato Rice Pudding and Two Fruits	Oven Baked Fish Fingers or Bacon and Cheese Tagliatelle with Crusty Bread, Baked Beans or Salad, Mashed Potatoes Wholemeal Apple Crumble and Custard
Wed	Fresh Fish in Breadcrumbs or Bacon and Cheese Tagliatelle, Salad, Beetroot and Coleslaw or Baked Beans, Mashed Potatoes Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Savoury Mince with Carrots and Onions, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes or Ham and Cheese Omelette, Salad and Baked Potato Strawberry Cake and White Sauce	Oven Baked Fish Fingers or Lasagne, Baked Beans or Salad, Beetroot and Coleslaw, Mashed or Baked Potatoes Wholemeal Biscuit and Fresh Fruit Salad	Irish Stew with Carrots and Onions, Broccoli or Sweet and Sour Chicken with Boiled Rice and Crusty Bread Pineapple Sponge and Custard	School Closed -Half Term
Thurs	Baked Gammon with Pineapple and Parsley Sauce or Gravy, Cabbage or Turnip, Mashed Potatoes Rice Pudding and Peaches	Roast Turkey, Stuffing and Gravy, Carrots and Parsnips, Mashed Potatoes Wholemeal Apple Crumble and Custard	Beef Casserole with Carrots and Onions, Turnip, Mashed Potatoes or Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice Lemon Sponge and Custard	Chicken Pie with Crumble Top, Gravy, Carrots and Parsnips or Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes Jelly and Fresh Fruit Salad	School Closed - Half Term
Fri	Homemade Vegetable or Cream of Chicken Soup Hot Dog with Sauce or Filled Chicken or Salad or Cheese and Tomato Rolls Homemade Biscuit and Fresh Fruit or Frozen Yogurt	Fresh Fish in Breadcrumbs or Lasagne, Baked Beans or Beetroot, Salad and Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes Orange Jelly and Fresh Fruit Salad	Homemade Vegetable or Cream of Chicken Soup, Hot Dog with Sauce or Filled Chicken or Salad Rolls or Tuna Wraps Biscuit and Fresh Fruit or Fruit Jelly	Fresh Fish in Breadcrumbs or, Chicken Pasta Bake, Baked Beans or Beetroot, Coleslaw and Salad, Mashed Potatoes Wholemeal Apple Crumble and Custard	School Closed – Half Term

Milk, Water, Bread, Fruit and Yogurt available daily

Menu subject to deliveries

Term Dates & School Holidays - 2012/2013 Year

All dates are inclusive

Term 1

Term Dates

Monday 3rd September – Friday 21st December 2012

Holidays

- School Development Day (Staff Training): Friday 21st September 2012
- Half Term: Wednesday 31st October – Monday 5th November 2012

Christmas Holiday: Monday 24th December 2012 – Friday 4th January 2013

Term 2

Term Dates

Monday 7th January – Wednesday 27th March 2013

Holidays

- Half Term: Monday 18th – Tuesday 19th February 2013
- St. Patrick's Day Holiday: Monday 18th March 2013

Easter Holiday: Thursday 28th March – Friday 5th April 2013

Term 3

Term Dates

Monday 8th April – Friday 28th June 2013

Holidays

- May Bank Holidays: Monday 6th and Monday 27th May 2013

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

Please note a further 3 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.