



## News Sheet – May 2017

### Diary Dates for May 2017

1 <sup>st</sup>	School Closed – Bank Holiday
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Assessment Fortnight begins
10 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 & 4 – Shared Education Sessions
11 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 & 4 – Shared Education Sessions
15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 – Shared Education Session
	Year 1 Induction Meeting for September 2017 – 3pm
16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 School Nurse Reviews
	Year 2 – Shared Education Session
	Nursery Induction Meeting for September 2017 – 2pm
17 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 School Nurse Reviews
	Year 3 & 4 – Shared Education Sessions
	Pupil Council Visit to ABC Council at the Civic Centre
18 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 & 4 – Shared Education Sessions
19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 7 Post Primary Acceptance letters posted from EA
20 <sup>th</sup>	First Holy Communion at 11am at St John's Church, followed by refreshments at the Pastoral Centre
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 2 – Shared Education Session
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 2 – Shared Education Session
24 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 School Nurse Reviews
	Year 3 & 4 Shared Education Sessions
	Pupil Council Meeting
25 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 School Nurse Reviews
	Year 3 & 4 – Shared Education Sessions
26 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup>	School Closed for Staff Training & Bank Holiday
31 <sup>st</sup>	Year 3 & 4 - Shared Education Session

### School Closures – May 2017

School will be closed as follows in May:

- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May: Bank Holiday
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May – Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May: Staff Training & Bank Holiday

### First Holy Communion

We wish our Year 4 pupils well for their First Holy Communion on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 11am in St. John the Baptist Church. This is an important date in our school calendar and we would ask as many people as possible to support our Year 4 pupils by attending the service which will be followed by refreshments in the Pastoral Centre.

### Parents & Friends Easter Draws & Disco

A big thankyou to everyone who supported our Easter draws and disco this year. The total raised was £557.

### MUSFA April Soccer Festival

The school football team took part in the MUSFA Spring Soccer Festival at Drumgor PS on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April. Despite not qualifying for the knock out stages, the team played with great determination and showed a positive attitude throughout. Well done to everybody who took part.

## **Nursery News**

### **Football Coaching**

On Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April the children in the Nursery enjoyed their third visit from Coach Chris. We developed our football skills and look forward to his next visit.

### **Year 4 First Confession**

As part of their preparation for First Holy Communion, Year 4 pupils received the Sacrament of Penance in John the Baptist Church on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April. The ceremony was conducted by Canon Michael Toner and Father Michael Shehan.

### **Year 7 Fun Run**

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April, Year 7 participated in a Fun Run at Lurgan Park. This was organised by Paul Carville as part of the Healthy Kids initiative. A large number of children from many of the local primary schools took part. Everyone made it around the course and all the children were rewarded with a piece of fruit to replenish energy at the end of the event. Well done to all those who took part.

### **Year 6 Living for Sport Celebration**

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April, some Year 6 pupils were invited to a Living for Sport Celebration held at St John the Baptist College. The pupils from St John the Baptist College have been practising their sports coaching skills and they certainly put them to good use that morning organising about 100 pupils from a variety of local schools. Our Year 6 pupils had a great morning experiencing a variety of physical activities which included bench ball, team building games and the highlight of the morning was the orienteering course around the school grounds. It certainly gave the pupils a taster of what is available at the college and it was lovely seeing former past pupils of Ballyoran Primary helping out with the coaching.

### **Year 7 Post Primary Letters to Parents**

These will be posted to parents by the Education Authority on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2017. The EA have put contingency arrangements in place for parents who do not receive their letter on the Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2017. If you do not receive your letter please call any of the following numbers between 3.30pm and 5pm on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May: 028 3751 2520 or 028 3741 0084.

### **Attendance**

As you are aware your child's attendance at school is closely linked to their academic attainment. Every month we will inform you of the whole school attendance percentage for the previous month and who won our class competitions. The overall attendance for the month of March 2017 was **94.2%**. The Foundation/Key Stage 1 class with the highest attendance was **Yr 4** with **97.1%**. The Key Stage 2 class with the highest attendance was **Yr 5 McK** with **95.9%**.

### **Summer Uniform**

Pupils may come to school wearing the summer uniform as follows:

- Boys may wear grey shorts
- Girls may wear a blue checked dress and white socks

We continue to be very proud of how smart our pupils look in their uniform.

### **Picking Pupils Up**

A significant number of pupils are not being picked up at the end of the school day on time. It is vital that parents are punctual when collecting their children otherwise they get anxious. If you are running late we would ask that you phone the office and inform us of

this. If a child is not collected and we are unable to make contact with parents/carers we have no option but to phone Social Services and/or the Police.

### **Emergency Contact Details**

It is vitally important that we hold up to date emergency contact details for our pupils. An increasing number of parents are not informing us when they change their mobile phone numbers. This is unacceptable and leaves us in a very difficult position if for example we needed to contact you if your child was seriously ill. I cannot stress the importance of this enough, please keep us up to date. Again as with late pick up, if we are unable to contact a parent/carer in the event of an emergency we will have no option but to refer this to Social Services.

### **Holidays 2017 - 2018**

(See page 4)

### **Clubs Term 3**

(See page 5)

### **Menu for May 2017**

(See page 6)

R Woolsey  
Principal



## **Term Dates & School Holidays 2017/2018 Year**

All dates are inclusive

### **Term 1**

#### **Term Dates**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2017

#### **Holidays**

- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 – Half Term

**Christmas Holiday: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2017 – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018**

### **Term 2**

#### **Term Dates**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2018

#### **Holidays**

- Monday 12<sup>th</sup> - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2018 – Half Term
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018 - St. Patrick's Day Holiday

**Easter Holiday: Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

### **Term 3**

#### **Term Dates**

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2018

#### **Holidays**

- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2018 – May Bank Holiday
- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2018 – May Bank Holiday & Staff Training Day

Further School Development Days have still to be confirmed

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

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 EASR when a child is removed from school for a holiday. This information is recorded and may be used by the EASR in appropriate situations, i.e. Special Educational Needs Assessments or Child Protection issues.



## Extra-Curricular Activities 2016/2017 Term 3

Club	Day	Dates	Time	Class	Staff	Location
ICT	Monday - Thursday	weekly	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 5 - 7	Mrs Glavin	ICT Suite
Gaelic	Monday	8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 5 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> June	2.00 – 3.00	Yr 2	Paul Carvill Stephen McCann	Pitch/ Playground/ Hall
Gaelic	Monday	8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> & 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 5 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> June	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 3 - 7	Paul Carvill Stephen McCann	Pitch/ Playground/ Hall
Soccer	Tuesday	9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> , May 6 <sup>th</sup> & 13 <sup>th</sup> June	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 5 - 7	Ambassadors In Sport	Pitch/ Playground/ Hall
Drama	Tuesday	Running for 4 weeks: 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> , 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 4 - 7	Miss Carbery	Hall/Classroom
Cycling Proficiency Scheme	Wednesday - Thursday	17 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup> , 31 <sup>st</sup> May & 1 <sup>st</sup> June	3.00 – 4.00	Yr 7	Mrs McGinnell	

All after school clubs for this year will finish on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017