



News Sheet – January 2017

Merry Christmas

Winning Design for School Christmas Card Competition
by
Bianca Pinto (Year 5)

End of Term Arrangements

Monday is Christmas Jumper Day. This is a non-uniform day and pupils should come to school wearing a Christmas Jumper. Pupils are asked to bring £1 each for Save The Children.

School will finish at midday on Tuesday 20th December 2016. Pupils do not need to wear uniform on this day and there will be no dinners served.

Start of New Term

Ballyoran Primary School will re-open for pupils on Thursday 5th January 2017.

Diary Dates for January 2017

- 5th Term 2 begins
- 6th Year 6 & 7 Swimming begins
- 9th 'The Active Child' Parents Talk by Maggie Redmond (Community Paediatrics)
- 10th Year 6 Alcohol & Drugs Session 1
- 11th Year 6 Shared Education Day – Bocombra
Year 7 Shared Education Day – Ballyoran
Closing date for applications for Nursery & Primary 1 for September 2017 – 12 noon
Pupil Council Meeting
- 12th Year 6 & 7 Story Telling Festival
Year 7 Alcohol & Drugs Session 1
- 13th Year 7 Transfer Talk: St John The Baptist's College
- 17th Year 6 Alcohol & Drugs Session 2
- 18th Year 6 Shared Education Day – Bocombra
Year 7 Shared Education Day – Ballyoran
- 19th Year 7 Alcohol & Drugs Session 2
- 24th Year 6 Alcohol & Drugs Session 3
- 25th Year 6 Shared Education Day – Ballyoran
Year 7 Shared Education Day – Bocombra
- 26th Year 7 Alcohol & Drugs Session 3
- 27th Credit Union Quiz – Seagoe Parish Centre
- 28th GL Assessment Results out
- 31st Catholic Schools Week Mass – St John's Church at 11am
Year 6 Alcohol & Drugs Session 4

School Meals Price Increase

We have been informed by the Education Authority that the following staged increase to school meal prices will take place.

	From 1 st January 2017	From 1 st September 2017
Nursery	£2.45	£2.50
Primary	£2.55	£2.60

Jo Jingles in Nursery

Jo Jingles visited the Nursery on Friday 9th December. It was a morning of fun, music and movement.

Year 1 – 7 Christmas Pantomime Outing

On Monday 12th December 2016, pupils from Years 1 -7 enjoyed a trip to the Market Place Theatre in Armagh for this year's pantomime 'Cinderella'. The story sparkled as never before as the larger than life cast told the tale of glass slippers, glistening carriages and glamorous

gowns. The children watched in amazement as a little bit of romance and a lot of magic combined to create mayhem at midnight.

A Meeting for Parents from Year 1 -7

On Monday 9th January 2017 at 1.30pm, Maggie Redman (ADHD Nurse) will be in school to talk to parents about The Active Child. Maggie is an experienced nurse who has worked for the Health Trust for many years. She will outline behavioural symptoms, causes and offer possible strategies that may be implemented to support children. Please come along as this will be a very informative meeting.

Parents and Friends Christmas Draw & Christmas Squares

Thank you all for supporting our Parents and Friends Christmas Draw and Christmas Squares. We raised a total of £806.92 which will be used to buy resources for the pupils to use in school.

The winner's from our Christmas Draw were: 1st Prize £100 cash, Joe Hall
2nd Prize £50 Toy Voucher from Judges, Sinead McCann
3rd Prize £25 Meat Voucher from Charlie Mallon Butchers, Elaine Floyd

Christmas Squares Winners

Nursery 1 Aoibhinn Connolly
Nursery 2 Hannah Woolsey
Year 1M Meabh Reynolds
Year 1C Stephen Lynn
Year 2/3 Rory Maguire
Year 3 Ben McKee
Year 4 Blathnaid Moylan
Year 5G Stephen Millar
Year 5M Lucia Gutterres
Year 6 Cliona Neill
Year 7 Dakota Wilson
LSC Jamie Campbell

Christmas Dinner

Our pupils enjoyed a really tasty Christmas dinner in school on Friday 2nd December 2016. A big thank you to Mrs Donna Campbell and her team in the kitchen for providing this.

Busy Christmas for Choir and Musical Ensemble

Once again, it has been a busy time for the Choir/Instrumentalists who performed Christmas Carols at Rushmere, Craigavon on Wednesday 7th December 2016, Mahon Hall Care Home on Friday 9th December 2016, we wish to thank those parents and friends who came along to these events to support our pupils. They also took part in our School Christmas Celebration on Thursday 15th December 2016 and a Carol Service at John's Church on Thursday 15th December 2016. A big Thank You and well done to all loyal Choir members and Instrumentalists!

Years 1 – 7 Christmas Disco

Pupils in Years 1 – 7 will enjoy a Christmas Disco paid for by the Parents and Friends of Ballyoran on Monday 19th December 2016. Every pupil will receive a Selection Box from the Parents and Friends.

Nursery and Year 1 Admissions

A reminder that application forms are available from the office. The closing date for all applications is 12 noon on Wednesday 11th January 2017. Please remember a Birth Certificate is required for all applications.

Year 7 Transfer to Post Primary School

The month of January is very important for our Year 7 pupils as they and their parents make decisions on which Secondary School to transfer to in September 2017. As part of this process, secondary schools visit our Year 7 pupils and give presentations on their schools. Secondary schools will also be having Open Days/Nights in January/February.

Coats

Thank you to all parents for ensuring that your children are in school every day with a coat. Please ensure this continues throughout the winter. It is also important that your child's name is on all clothing.

Seasonal Flue Advice

Please see the School Website www.ballyoranps.com for further information.

Sickness

Please do not send your child to school if they are sick as they will spread their sickness to other pupils and staff. The Public Health Agency advises that pupils should be kept at home for 48 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea. Further guidance on these matters is available from your GP.

Contingency Planning – Winter

The school has been reviewing its Winter contingency plans. Should the school need to close due to bad weather. Once again, we will be using our Text Alert system, the school website and local media to inform parents should a closure be necessary.

School Carparks

A serious incident recently happened in one of our carparks. A parent drove in and parked in the front carpark, left his car and went into school. While he was doing this, his unattended car rolled across the carpark and crashed into three staff cars, damaging them. It was very fortunate that no-one was seriously injured as the car could easily have struck an adult or child walking across the carpark. Our school policy is very clear, carparks are for staff and visitors only. Parents and pupils must not be in them at any time. All parents must park on the road and enter the school via the Pedestrian Gate. This is for health and safety reasons. In the light of what happened I would again ask all parents to adhere and respect this policy and stay out of the school carpark.

Year 2 Visit to Portadown Fire Station

Year 2 went to visit Portadown Fire Station on Monday 5th December. They discovered that the people who work at the Fire Station had many jobs. They learned about fire safety in the home – check your smoke alarm weekly, never leave a candle unattended, always switch off all lights and close all doors before going to bed. The highlight of the trip was going for a run in the Fire Engine and turning on the siren. The children all had a go at using the hose. It was a great trip which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

Programme for Government - Child friendly questionnaire

We have been asked by the Executive Office to make you aware of a child friendly questionnaire that they would like children to complete in relation to the Programme for Government. The questionnaire can be accessed at the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ChildFriendlyPfG>

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.

Christmas Gifts

This year we are asking that instead of buying presents for staff that you consider donating food or toys to the St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal. Boxes will be placed in the foyer to receive your kind donations.

Menu for January 2017

See last page

Thanks and Happy Christmas

A big thank you to all my Staff for all their hard work during this very busy term.

Thank you also to parents for your continued support and co-operation and to the pupils for making this such an enjoyable term.

A Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year to the entire School Community.

R Woolsey
Principal

Menu for January 2017

	Week commencing 02.01.17	Week commencing 09.01.17	Week commencing 16.01.17	Week commencing 23.01.17
Monday	Bank Holiday School Closure	Cottage Pie or Macaroni Cheese, Baked Potato, Mashed Potato, Carrots, Gravy Rice Krispie Square & Custard	Chicken Pasta Bake or Steak Burger, Cabbage, Carrots, Mashed Potato Ice cream Wafer & Fruit	Chicken Curry & Rice or Irish Stew, Carrots, Baked Potato, Crusty Bread Carrot Cake & Custard
Tuesday	School Closed Staff Training	Homemade Pizza or Chicken Wrap/Roll, Sweetcorn, Baby Boiled Potato, Chips, Mashed Potato Apple Crumble & Custard	Chicken Curry & Rice or Fish Finger, Chips, Baby Boiled Potatoes, Peas, Sweetcorn, Pasta Rice Pudding & Fruit	Italian Pasta Bake or Homemade Pizza, Chips, Mashed Potato, Baked Potato, Peas, Sweetcorn Flakemeal Biscuits, Fruit & Custard
Wednesday	School Closed Staff Training	Sweet & Sour Pork with Rice or Fish Fingers, Baked Beans, Baked Potato, Mashed Potato, Peas, Sweetcorn Ice cream, Chocolate Sauce & Fruit	Roast Turkey & Stuffing or Pasta Bolognaise, Turnip, Peas Mashed Potato, Gravy Jelly & Cornflour Sauce	Beef Curry & Boiled Rice or Roast Pork, Stuffing, Mashed Potato, Carrots, Gravy Ice Cream & Chocolate Sauce
Thursday	Homemade Pizza, Chicken Wrap/Roll, Chips, Mashed Potato, Baked Potato, Peas, Sweetcorn Rice Pudding & Fruit	Chicken Pasta Bake or Gammon, Stuffing, Carrot, Parsnip, Cauliflower, Mashed Potato, Gravy Jelly Whip & Cornflour Sauce	Sweet & Sour Chicken with Rice or Baked Gammon, Broccoli, Carrots, Mashed Potato, Stuffing, Gravy Flakemeal Biscuit, Fruit, Custard	Chicken Pasta Bake or Chicken Crumble Pie, Carrots, Parsnip, Mashed Potato, Gravy Jelly & Fruit
Friday	Fish Finger or Macaroni Cheese, Baby Boiled Potatoes, Mashed Potato, Baked Beans, Mixed Salad Ice cream Wafer & Fruit or Custard	Chicken Crumble or Salmon Fishcake, Carrot, Parsnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potato, Gravy Semolina & Fruit	Chicken Soup, Hot Dog, Chicken or Tuna Roll, Mashed Potato, Crusty Bread Raisin Cookie, Frozen Mousse, Fruit	Chilli Chicken Wrap or Fish Fingers, Mashed Potato, Peas, Sweetcorn Rice Pudding & Fruit

Milk and Water Available daily

Fruit and Yoghurt available daily

Menu subject to deliveries

Cost of school meals from 1st January 2017: Nursery £2.45 per day/£12.25 per week

Primary £2.55 per day/£12.75 per week

For further information on allergenic ingredients, please contact the school