



News Sheet – October 2016

Diary Dates – October 2016

3 rd	School Closed – Staff Training
4 th	LSC Rugby Session
5 th	Year 5 Fire Safety Talk
6 th	Book Fair Begins
7 th	Gaelic Blitz – English
10 th	Flu Vaccination
11 th	Parents Training – ‘Managing Anxiety’
	LSC Rugby Session
12 th	Pupil Council Meeting
14 th	Special Assembly – Anti-Slavery Day
18 th	LSC Rugby Session
21 st	Year 6 & 7 Swimming Ends
	Non Uniform Day – Stand up For Cancer
24 th - 28 th	Parent/Teacher Meetings – school finishes at 1pm for all pupils
25 th	Nursery Football Coaching Session
	LSC Rugby Session
26 th	Dental Nurse in LSC
31 st	Half Term Week begins

Advance Dates

We aim to work in partnership with parents and, with this in mind; we have arranged as many dates as possible for the school year to give parents as much notice as possible. These can be found on the Calendar on our website www.ballyoranps.com.

School Closure: October 2016

Please note that school will be closed on Monday 3rd October for Staff Training and from Monday 31st October to Friday 4th November 2016 for Half Term.

Book Fair

This will take place from Thursday 6th – Thursday 13th October 2016. Please see flyer already sent home. Please give this your support.

First Aid

Our 5 First Aiders are:

- Mrs N Fusco (Co-ordinator)
- Mrs E Mackle
- Mr R Hendron
- Mrs L Molloy
- Mrs L Baxter

Fizzy Drinks

A reminder that as part of our Healthy Schools Policy, we do not permit pupils to bring fizzy drinks into school.

Lunchbox Leaflet

We encourage parents of pupils who take a Packed Lunch, to ensure it is healthy. Leaflets are available from the Office.

Free School Meals

Are you aware that many people in Northern Ireland who are entitled to Free School Meals are not claiming them?

If you can answer 'Yes' to any of the following questions, you **may** be entitled to Free School Meals:

Are you in receipt of:

- Income Support?
- Income-Based Jobseeker's Allowance?
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance?
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit?

If you are **not** receiving one of the above benefits

- Are you in receipt of **Child Tax Credit** or **Working Tax Credit** and have an annual taxable income of £16,190 or less?
- Are you an Asylum Seeker supported by the Home Office National Asylum Support Service (NASS)?

If you have answered 'Yes' to any of these questions and are not in receipt of Free School Meals, please contact Miss Doran in the office for an Application Form.

Flu Vaccine

The Department of Health has decided that all Year 1 – 7 pupils will be offered the Flu Vaccine again this year. This will be by way of a nasal spray and will be administered in school on 10th October 2016. Parents have received Consent Forms for this which I ask you to return if you have not already done so.

After School Clubs

The school continues to offer a varied selection of Extra Curricular Activities to its pupils. We believe that these are an important part of your child's educational experience at Primary School. We would encourage every pupil to attend at least one Club year term. Please see the Club List on page 6. A reminder that all Clubs which begin at 2.00pm finish at 3.00pm. Those Clubs which start at 3.00pm finish at 4.00pm. Please ensure your child is collected promptly after Clubs.

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.

Please note that hooded tops (hoodies) are not permitted in school.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

These will take place from 24th – 28th October 2016 for all parents. To facilitate these, school will close at 1.00pm each day. As these meetings are a vital part of our home/school partnership we would ask that you make the effort to attend. As last year, one letter will be 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. A reminder that there will be no after school clubs during this week.

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	Laura Matos Gomes Cande	Niamh Larkin
Foyle	Mia Millar	Antoni Gorgol
Lagan	Paul Hendron	Leah Gibson

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. Unfortunately it will not be possible for you to speak to your child's teacher in the morning as they are busy preparing and supervising. If you have an urgent message, please go to the Office. A reminder that supervision does not begin until 8.45am, therefore your child/children should not be on the premises before this unless they are attending Breakfast Club.

You are reminded to wait outside the red gate at home time until your 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/Parking

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. Traffic congestion continues to be a problem in Ballyoran Park and we would ask that you respect local residents by parking sensibly. Please also respect other drivers and pupils. No-one should park on the yellow hazard lines or block the gates.

Gaelic Blitz

Ballyoran PS Gaelic team took part in a tournament at St John the Baptist's College on Thursday 22nd September. Playing with great determination, we won our first three matches by a big margin against St John's 'B', Presentation 'B' and a Year 8 team from St John the Baptist's College. The group decider was against St John's Derrytrasna and in a very tight game, we emerged as winners by just one point. This brought us into the final of the tournament against St Mary's Maghery. Despite taking an early lead, St Mary's proved to be too strong and deservedly won by a margin of 3 points. We are very proud of the squad for the way they played and behaved during the day. Many thanks to St John the Baptist's for hosting the tournament and for their excellent hospitality.

Portadown Panthers Rugby

LSC have been very fortunate to have established a link with Portadown Rugby Club through the Portadown Panthers. A coach will come into school over the next 5 weeks to provide rugby coaching and take part in some fun activities to promote enjoyment of the game.

European Day of Languages

On Monday 26th September we celebrated European Day of Languages. Children spoke in lots of different languages and had fun learning new songs and games.

School Attendance – Every School Day Counts

Every single day a child is absent from school equates to a day of lost learning. Sometimes attendance percentages can be misleading – as a whole school in 2015/16 we had an average attendance of 93.9%. From the Department of Education guidance detailed below you can see that this falls into the 'Poor' category. As a whole school we would like your cooperation in improving our rate of attendance and in turn reducing the days of lost learning. Form your child's summer report you will find the rate of attendance for 2015/16 and make comparisons with the table below. Please note that rates of attendance are reviewed monthly with the Educational

Welfare Office (EWO) and those children falling below 85% are automatically referred to the EWO for intervention. Thank you for your help in this matter. The Department of Education booklet '**School Attendance Matters - A Parent's Guide**' is available on the school website and from the Office.

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed	Excellent
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Satisfactory
90% Attendance	19 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Poor
85% Attendance	28 Days Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Very Poor
80% Attendance	38 Days of Absence 7 Weeks and 3 days of Learning Missed	Unacceptable
75% Attendance	46 Days of Absence 9 Weeks and 1 Day of Learning Missed	Unacceptable

Due to Department of Education Guidelines, a present mark can only be given if a pupil is in school.

Just as Attendance is important, Punctuality is also very important. School begins at 8.55am therefore; pupils should be in school when the 8.55am bell rings. We would ask all parents to help ensure this is the case. If pupils are late, the class is disrupted and valuable teaching time is lost. **Please note that Pupils arriving in class after the 9.00am bell will be marked as late. If a pupil is late twice in one week, you will receive a letter from the teacher. If this happens again in the same half-term, you will receive a second letter and be referred to the Principal.**

School Website

Please keep up to date with what is going on in school by visiting our website on www.ballyoranps.com

PFBPS

The Annual General Meeting of the Parents and Friends of Ballyoran Primary School was held on Tuesday 27th September 2016. More parents and friends are urgently needed to help with organising events this year. If you are interested, please speak to Mrs Mackle.

Board of Governors

Mrs McKeown and Mr O'Connor have stepped down as members of our Board of Governors and I wish to thank them for serving in this vitally important role over the years. As Mr O'Connor was a Parent Representative this now leaves us with a vacancy to be filled. A meeting to elect a new Parent representative will be held in school on Thursday 6th October 2016 at 2pm. All parents are welcome to attend this meeting.

Fair Processing Notice

Your child, as part of their education at Ballyoran Primary School, will have access to a range of electronic resources designed to enhance their learning experience and allow them to collaborate with their peers. In order to facilitate this, the School may need to share some limited personal information with the relevant Education Authority and the Department of Education. This will allow user accounts to be set-up and managed, enabling services to be integrated. Any data sharing is kept to a minimum and when your child leaves the School the information will be permanently deleted from such systems. At times, the School may also share personal information with the Education Authority to support the direct delivery of educational services. Examples include the Authority's Special Education and Educational Psychology Services. All sharing will be conducted under the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998. If you would like to know more, please feel free to contact the Principal.

'Amazing The Space Event'

On Wednesday 21st September 2016, Mr Woolsey, Mrs Walker and 3 Year 7 pupils: Evie Judge, Olivia Dunbar and Noah McCann attended the 'Amazing The Space' event at the Eiken Exhibition Centre at the Maze/Long Kesh site near Lisburn. This event was organised by Co-operation Ireland to mark UN World Day of Peace. Our pupils joined together with 3,500 pupils from all over Ireland for this event. Each school involved was asked to draft a Peace Pledge, all of which have been engraved onto leaves of a specially designed Peace Tree Sculpture. BBC Presenter Bara Best was the MC for the event which was also attended by the Deputy First Minister Martin McGuinness. The Ballyoran PS Peace Pledge was written by Evie Judge and is as follows:

I pledge:

- To only use my words to be kind to my peers.
- To make sure that no-one sheds a tear.
- To reject all things that include violence or harm.
- To unite all people, arm in arm.
- To never laugh at anyone's mistakes.
- To be kind and helpful to everyone - as long as it takes.
- To never hold ridiculous grudges against my friends.

I hope the determination to bring peace and love to the world never ends!

Money Reminder

Thank you to everyone who has already been sending all money into school in an envelope. Parents are reminded that teachers will no longer be accepting loose coins. All money coming into school must be the correct amount, in an envelope labelled with the child's name, the amount and what it is for. Also where there are more than one pupil in the school, a separate envelope should be sent for each child. This will ensure that teachers have more time for teaching. Thank you for your co-operation on this matter.

Nut Free School

Ballyoran Primary School continues to be a nut free school. We would ask that no nut products are sent into school. Thank you for your co-operation on this matter.

Food Allergies

New legislation means that the school kitchen must be aware of any pupils with food allergies. Whilst most special dietary requirements and food allergies should have been made known to the school already through the Medical Register forms, it is of vital importance to inform us if you have not done so already or if your child becomes allergic to something during the school year. Our school kitchen will in turn make appropriate adjustments to their menus.

Daily Mile

As you have previously been notified all our pupils are taking part in the 'Daily Mile' initiative in conjunction with the Southern Health Trust. This includes 15 minutes of walking or running each day, over and above normal PE lessons. Further information is available on the school website.

Extra Curricular Activities - Term 1

(See page 6)

School Holidays 2015/2016

(See page 7)

Menu for October

(See back page)

R Woolsey
Principal

Extra-Curricular Activities 2016/2017 Term 1

Club	Day	Dates	Time	Class	Staff	Location
ICT	Monday - Thursday	weekly	3.00 - 4.00	Yrs 4 - 7	Mrs Glavin	ICT Suite
Gaelic	Monday	17 th , 24 th Sept, 1 st , 8 th , 15 th Oct, 5 th , 12 th , 19 th , 26 th Nov 10 th Dec	2.00 - 3.00	Yr 2	Paul Carvill Stephen McCann	Pitch/ Playground/ Hall
Gaelic	Monday	17 th , 24 th Sept, 1 st , 8 th , 15 th Oct, 5 th , 12 th , 19 th , 26 th Nov 10 th Dec	3.00 - 4.00	Yrs 3 - 7	Paul Carvill Stephen McCann	Pitch/ Playground/ Hall
Soccer	Tuesday	20 th , 27 th Sep, 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 5 - 7	Ambassadors In Sport	Pitch/ Playground/ Hall
Irish Dancing	Wednesday	12 th , 19 th Oct, 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th Nov, 7 th & 14 th Dec	3.00 - 4.00	Yrs 4 - 7	Mrs Heaney	Hall/Dinnerhall
Recorders	Wednesday	21 st , 28 th Sept, 5 th , 12 th , 19 th Oct, 9 th Nov	3.00 - 4.00	Yrs 3 - 7	Mrs Mulholland	Nursery 1
Choir	Thursday	10 th , 17 th , 24 th Nov, 1 st & 8 th Dec	3.00 - 4.00	Yrs 4 - 7	Mrs McCreesh- West	Classroom 7
Board Games	Thursday	6 th , 13 th , 20 th Oct, 10 th , 17 th , 24 th Nov	3.00 - 4.00	Yrs 4 - 7	Mrs Wells	Nursery 2
Cookery	Thursday	22 nd , 29 th Sep, 6 th , 13 th , 20 th Oct, 10 th Nov	3.00 - 4.00	Yrs 4 - 7	Mrs McGuire	Staff Room
Healthy Kids £1.00 per week	Thursday	22 nd , 29 th Sep, 6 th , 13 th , 20 th Oct, 10 th Nov	2.00- 3.00	Yrs 2 - 3	Paul Carvill Stephen McCann	Hall
Healthy Kids £1.00 per week	Thursday	22 nd , 29 th Sep, 6 th , 13 th , 20 th Oct, 10 th Nov	3.00- 4.00	Yrs 4 - 7	Paul Carvill Stephen McCann	Hall

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

1. Parent/Teacher Meeting Week: 24th - 28th October 2016
2. Half term week: 31st October - 4th November 2016
3. Last week of term: 19th - 21st December 2016

Term Dates & School Holidays 2016/2017 Year

All dates are inclusive

Term 1

Term Dates

Thursday 1st September – Tuesday 20th December 2016

Holidays

- Friday 30th September & Monday 3rd October 2016 – Staff Training Days
- Monday 31st October – Friday 4th November 2016 – Half Term

Christmas Holiday: Wednesday 21st December 2016 – Tuesday 3rd January 2017

Term 2

Term Dates

Wednesday 4th January – Wednesday 12th April 2017

Holidays

- Monday 13th - Friday 17th February 2017 – Half Term
- Friday 17th March 2017 - St. Patrick's Day Holiday

Easter Holiday: Thursday 13th – Friday 21st April 2017

Term 3

Term Dates

Monday 24th April – Friday 30th June 2017

Holidays

- Monday 1st May 2017 – May Bank Holiday
- Monday 29th & Tuesday 30th May 2017 – May Bank Holiday & Staff Training Day

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.

Menu for October 2016

	Week commencing 03.10.16	Week commencing 10.10.16	Week commencing 17.10.16	Week commencing 24.10.16
Mon	School Closure	Savoury Mince or Chicken Curry & Rice, Mixed Vegetables, Mashed Potato, Crusty Bread Rice Krispie Square & Custard	Sweet & Sour Chicken & Rice or Pork Casserole, Broccoli, Peas, Carrots, Mashed Potato Ice cream Wafer & Fruit	Roast Turkey & Stuffing or Spaghetti Bolognese, Turnip, Peas, Mashed Potato, Gravy Jam Sponge & Custard
Tues	Lasagne, Oven Baked Sausages, Chips/Mashed Potato, Peas, Sweetcorn & Pasta Rice Pudding & Fruit	Chilli Chicken Wrap or Chicken Nuggets, Sweetcorn, Mashed Potato, Baby Boiled Potato, Chips Meringue, Fruit & Custard	Homemade Pizza, Tuna Wrap/Baguette, Chips, Mashed Potato, Peas, Sweetcorn, Baby Boiled Potato, Rice, Pasta Rice Pudding & Fruit	Beef Curry & Rice or Chicken Nuggets, Chips, Mashed Potato, Peas, Sweetcorn, Mixed Salad Ice cream & Jelly
Wed	Macaroni Cheese, Fish Fingers, Mash Potato, Baked Beans, Sweetcorn Egg Sponge & Custard	Steak Burger or Tuna Pasta Bake, Carrot, Parsnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potato, Gravy Swiss Roll & Custard	BBQ Chicken & Noodles or Cottage Pie, Carrots, Mashed Potato, Gravy Chocolate Sponge & Custard	Salmon Fishcakes or Irish Stew, Pasta, Carrots, Crusty Bread Flakemeal Biscuit, Fruit & Custard
Thurs	Roast Turkey and Stuffing, or Sweet & Sour Chicken & Rice, Mash Potato, Gravy, Turnip, Peas Ice cream & Chocolate Sauce	Thai Sweet Chilli Chicken or Roast Pork & Stuffing, Cabbage, Carrots, Mashed Potato, Gravy Jelly & Fruit	Baked Gammon or Chicken & Broccoli Bake, Broccoli, Carrots, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Jelly & Cornflour Sauce	Chicken Pie (Scone Topping), Macaroni Cheese, Carrot, Parsnip, Mashed Potato, Gravy Rice Krispie Square & Custard
Fri	Steak Burger & Bap, Chicken Soup, Tuna Roll, Chicken Roll, Crusty Bread, Mash Potato Frozen Mousse & Fruit	Chicken Wrap/Roll, Fish Bites, Sweetcorn, Baked Beans. Mash Potato Apple Crumble & Custard	Chicken Soup, Hot Dog, Tuna Roll, Leek & Potato Soup, Mashed Potato, Crusty Bread Flakemeal Biscuits & Fruit	Chicken Lasagne, Fish Fingers, Peas, Sweetcorn, Baked Beans, Mashed Potato Rice Pudding & Fruit

Milk, Water, Fruit and Yogurt available daily

Menu subject to deliveries

For further information on allergenic ingredients, please contact the school