



News Sheet – April 2016

Diary Dates for April 2016

11 th	Term 3 begins
12 th	Brownlow College Soccer Tournament
13 th	Pupil Council Meeting Year 4 First Confession – St John's: 6pm
15 th	Nursery Acceptance letters for September 2016 posted from school Soccer Festival – Drumgor PS
19 th	Waterbus: Years 5 – 7
26 th	Parents Meeting for Shannaghmore residential: 3.30pm
27 th	Year 1 Acceptance letters for September 2016 posted from school

End of Term Arrangements

Thursday 24th March 2016 is the last day of term. There will be no uniform, no dinners and school will finish at 12noon. To reduce congestion at the gate, dismissal times will be as follows:

- Years 1 – 3: 11.50am
- Years 4 – 7: 12noon

Easter Holidays

Please note that school will be closed from Friday 25th March to Friday 8th April 2016 for the Easter Holidays. School reopens for the Summer Term on Monday 11th April 2016.

Parents & Friends Easter Draws

Thankyou to everyone who supported our Easter Draws. The amount raised was £353. The winner of the raffle who will receive the lovely Easter Basket was Rory Maguire Yr 1.

The winners of the 100 Square Draws in each class, who received an Easter Egg are:

- Nursery 1: Dualta Brown
- Nursery 2: Ryan Hamilton
- Yr 1: Corey McCartan
- Yr 2: Miley Eadie
- Yr 2 B: Nadia Knop
- Yr 3: Emma Breen
- Yr 4 McCW: Alisha Griffin
- Yr 4 McK: Mark McGeown
- Yr 5: Owen Donnelly
- Yr 6: Sophie Griffin
- Yr 7: Kathlyn Paulino
- LSC: Cliona Neill

Parent/Teacher Meetings

A big thank you to parents for attending the Parent/Teacher Meetings at the beginning of March. These are a vital part of our home-school partnership and we are delighted with the very pleasing overall attendance of 83%.

Summer Uniform

After the Easter Holidays, 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.

Coats

As we have now moved into Spring and the weather is a bit milder, we are no longer enforcing the coats rule at break and lunch. We would, however, encourage you to ensure your child/children come to school with a coat on a wet or cold day.

World Book Day

We had a brilliant time on World Book Day! We dressed up as our favourite book character and engaged in lots of reading activities. Also, we went to Assembly and we saw all the fantastic costumes from Year 1 to Year 7. Thank you to all the pupils and staff for dressing up on World Book Day. Thank you also to the parents and grandparents who went out of their way to make sure the children looked fabulous. Well done!

Nursery News

Jo Jingles

Jo Jingles visited the Nursery on Monday 7th March. It was a morning of fun, music and movement.

Gathering Drums

The Nursery concluded their link with Hart Memorial Nursery with a Music Session with The Gathering Drum on Tuesday 8th March. It was a very enjoyable morning.

Eco Update

The school is currently in the process of renewing the Green Flag Award. The Eco Committee have been working hard to keep the Eco Garden clean and tidy. After Easter they will take part in the ABC Council Adopt-a-Street campaign. The children will litter pick around the school and Ballyoran estate.

Bryson House Visit

Year 5 and 7 children took part in a Bryson Energy Efficiency Schools Programme. They covered topics such as where we get energy from and why we need to save energy. All of the children enjoyed taking part in the programme.

Confirmation

Year 7 pupils made their Confirmation on Saturday 19th March in St. John the Baptist Church. The Celebrant was His Eminence Archbishop Eamon Martin assisted by Very Rev. Michael Toner, Rev Michael Sheehan and Father Frank Brady SJ. Pupils from Ballyoran PS led by Mrs McCreesh-West participated in the ceremony by providing some beautiful instrumental music. Everyone looked very smart in their new clothes and enjoyed the celebration.

The Amazing Journey

On Monday 14th March, all classes enjoyed 'The Amazing Journey' Programme. This is a Bible Presentation using creative storytelling, colourful displays and bible characters to introduce children to the key stories, events and the message of the Bible.

'Bee Safe'

On Monday 14th March, Year 6 pupils went to 'The Hub', Craigavon to complete a series of workshops on keeping safe. They had talks from The Fire Service, Translink, the PSNI, Power NI and NI Railways. The focus of the day was safety. As part of their activities, the pupils had to identify hazards in the kitchen and around the house. Pupils were told about how dangerous button batteries are and the fact that if they are swallowed or put into their body, they must seek medical attention urgently. They must be seen by a doctor within 2 hours to avoid any serious damage. Pupils were also encouraged to use a bicycle helmet and shown how to check the condition of their helmet. The Fire Service talked about having an escape plan. They encouraged the children to get their parents to check that they had a working smoke alarm in the house and to check it on a weekly basis. The pupils were reminded about how they should behave in and around buses and trains. There was also an emphasis on 'Stranger Danger'. The afternoon was finished off by giving each child a 'goody bag'. The pupils conducted themselves very well and participated eagerly during the activities. Please talk to your child about what they learned.

Visit to Rosemount Care Home

On Monday 14th March 2016, some of the Irish Folk Dancing Club were invited to Rosemount Care Home to perform for the residents. Pupils from Year 5 and Year 7 enjoyed a walk up in the sunshine and danced beautifully as the men and women smiled and clapped along. Liz Redpath, events coordinator at Rosemount, said it was a pleasure to have the young people visit and hoped to see them again. One of our Year 7 pupils, Grace O'Connor was even persuaded to sing as well as dance. Well done to all these pupils:

Year 7 – Grace, Megan, Kathlyn and Ellie, Year 5 – Alisha and Jessica.

St Patricks Day Irish Dancing Festival

On Wednesday 16th March, a group of Yr 3 – 7 pupils took part in our 14th Folk Dance Festival/Celebration. The adjudicator, Miss Katie Girvan, praised all the dancers for their behaviour and performances. She added that this was her first visit to Ballyoran and she was very impressed with the standard of all the dancers. A group of local musicians, Clanbrassil Comhaltas, added to the atmosphere with a selection of Irish Traditional tunes. In addition, Megan Stewart and Grace O'Connor, two of our Year 7 pupils treated us to an exhibition Treble Reel as well as a Single Jig Couples which they had choreographed themselves. Major prize-winners were Kathlyn Paulino Yr 7, Ellie Delaney Yr 7, Mia Millar Yr 6, Olivia Dunbar Yr 6 and Caoimhe O'Connor Yr 3. A special thank you to those who helped organise the event and those who came to support our celebration, our largest audience ever, and a big well done to all the team for dancing to the best of their ability, especially those who were on stage for the first time!

Galway Match

Our school was represented during the half time game of the recent Armagh v Galway league match by Year 6 pupil Tiernan Brennan. Tiernan thoroughly enjoyed the experience, playing in front of a very large attendance at the Athletic Grounds in Armagh. For part of the game, Tiernan played in goals and one save in particular drew gasps of admiration from the crowd. Well done Tiernan!

NSPCC Cheque Presentation

On Friday 11th March, Alison Daly from NSPCC visited school for the cheque presentation. Thanks to everyone's hard work and effort, the children raised a very impressive £1021.85 through sponsorship for their 'Dance-a-thon'. On behalf of the NSPCC and the school, we would like to express our thanks and appreciation.

Contact Details

It is vital that you keep us informed of any changes to telephone numbers and addresses during the school year. This is particularly important if we need to contact you in an emergency.

Menu for April 2016

(See last page)

Website

Remember to keep up to date with everything that is going on in school by logging on to our website: www.ballyoranps.com

Finally, I would like to thank all members of the school community for their support during another very busy term and wish everyone a happy and relaxing Easter break.

R Woolsey
Principal

Menu for April 2016

	Week commencing 04.04.16	Week commencing 11.04.16	Week commencing 18.04.16	Week commencing 25.04.16
Monday	School Closed – Easter Holidays	Fish Fingers or Chicken and Broccoli Bake, Beans, Sweet Corn, Salad, Mashed Potatoes Rice Pudding and Peaches	Shepherd's Pie or Chicken Pasta Bake, Carrots, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Lemon Sponge and Custard	Steak Burgers or Stuffed Bacon Rolls, Turnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Ice Cream, Fruit and Chocolate Sauce
Tuesday	School Closed – Easter Holidays	Homemade Pepperoni Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Chips, Baby Boiled Potatoes, Salad, Peas, Coleslaw Vanilla Sponge & Custard	Oven Baked Sausages, Gravy or Spaghetti Bolognese, Peas, Cabbage, Mashed Potatoes Jelly Fruit and Cornflour Sauce	Chicken Curry with Boiled Rice or Fish Fingers, Beans, Salad, Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes Swiss Roll and Custard
Wednesday	School Closed – Easter Holidays	Chicken Curry with Boiled Rice, or Savoury Mince, Peas, Pasta, Crusty Bread, Mashed Potatoes Biscuit, Fruit and Custard	Fish Fingers or Sweet Chilli Chicken Wraps, Salad, Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes, Beans Apple Crumble and Custard	Tomato and Cheese Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Peas, Salad, Coleslaw, Chips, Baked Potatoes Bread and Butter Pudding
Thursday	School Closed – Easter Holidays	Roast Turkey and Stuffing, or Macaroni Cheese, Carrots and Parsnips, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Jelly and Fresh Fruit Salad	Gammon, Gravy, Turnip, Cabbage, Mashed Potatoes or Sweet and Sour Chicken with Boiled Rice Rice Pudding and Oranges	Chicken Crumble Top Pie or Vegetable and Cheese Tagliatelle, Carrots, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Jelly, Fruit and Cornflour Sauce
Friday	School Closed – Easter Holidays	Homemade Vegetable or Chicken Soup Hot Dog or Filled Rolls, (Chicken/Salad), Sauces Frozen Mousse or Raisin Cookie, Fresh Fruit	Homemade Pizza, Chips, Peas, Sauces, Lasagne, Salad Ice Cream, Fruit and Wafer	Homemade Sweet Potato and Bacon Soup or Chicken Soup Hot Dog or Filled Rolls, (Chicken/Salad) Biscuit, Fruit and Mousse

Milk, Water, Bread, Fruit and Yoghurt available daily

For further information on allergenic ingredients, please contact the school

Menu subject to deliveries