



News Sheet – February 2016

Diary Dates for February 2016

1 st	Credit Union Quiz – Pastoral Centre – 7pm
2 nd	'Building blocks for Development' – Parent Session 1 for Nursery to Year 2 parents – Hart Memorial PS 10am -12noon Year 6 Alcohol and Drugs Workshop
3 rd	Year 5 Young Enterprise Workshop – 'Our City'
4 th	NSPCC Assembly : Years 1 – 7
5 th	Nursery Cross Community Day with Hart Memorial Nursery
9 th	Safer Internet Day 'Building Blocks for Development'- Parent Session 2 for Nursery to Year 2 parents – Hart Memorial PS 10am-12noon Year 6 Alcohol and Drugs Workshop
12 th	Year 6 and 7 NSPCC Workshops
15 th -19 th	Half Term – School Closed
23 rd	'Building Blocks for Development'- Parent Session 3 for Nursery to Year 2 parents – Hart Memorial PS 10am-12noon Year 7 Service of Light - St John's Church 7pm
24 th	Diocesan RE Visit Pupil Council Meeting
26 th	NSPCC Charity Day 5 A Side Football Tournament
29 th	Parent / Teacher Meetings begin School closes at 1pm No After Schools Clubs

School Closures – February 2016

A reminder that school will be closed for a full week for Half Term from Monday 15th to Friday 19th February 2016.

Office Hours

Please note the office hours are as follows:

Monday – Thursday: 8.15am – 4pm

Friday: 8.15am – 3.45pm

The office is closed daily between 10.50am and 11.05am and 1.05pm and 1.35pm. We would be very grateful if you did not call at the office or phone the school during these times unless there is an emergency as there will be no-one available to speak to you.

'Building Blocks for Development' Parent Workshops

These will be held on three Tuesdays in February from 10am until 12noon at Hart Memorial Primary School and are open to parents of pupils in Nursery, Year 1 and Year 2. We would encourage you to attend these sessions which will focus on Sleep, Resilience and Self Esteem, Behaviour, Language and Communication, Sensory Skills and Diet.

NSPCC Sponsored Event

Each year at Ballyoran Primary School we do one major sponsored event for charity. This year we are supporting NSPCC through a sponsored dance. This will be launched at a Special Assembly on Thursday 4th February 2016. Also as part of this assembly there will be two separate talks to our pupils from the NSPCC on keeping safe. You will letter receive a letter about these. Our Year

6 and 7 pupils will then attend a workshop on Friday 12th February which will explore the keeping safe message in greater detail and parents have already been given information on this.

More information and Sponsorship Forms for our Sponsored Dance will be sent out in due course.

Year 7 Transfer to Post Primary School

Over the past month Year 7 pupils have had visits from various Post Primary Schools and have attended Open Days and Nights as they prepare to choose a school to move to next year. We wish our Year 7 pupils well as they make this very important decision.

A reminder that the completed Transfer Report Form must be returned to school by Friday 5th February 2016.

Safer Internet Day

This will take place on February 9th. This is an important event which we celebrate each year. As a school we recognise the importance of teaching our pupils to enjoy the internet but also to stay safe online. The theme this year is 'Play your part for a better internet'. We will begin our day with a special assembly on internet safety and this will be followed up by activities in the classroom discussing how each child can play their part in creating a better internet environment.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

The second Parent / Teacher Meetings of the year will take place on the week beginning Monday 29th February 2016. School will close at 1pm for all pupils this week and there will be no after school clubs. More information will be sent out soon regarding these in due course. We would encourage you to attend as they are an important of our partnership with parents.

Credit Union Poster Competition

Congratulations and well done to the following pupils who have been successful in the Annual Credit Union Poster Competition. They will receive their prizes at a Special Award Ceremony on May:

- Donald Lucas - 1st
- Nathan Sochan – 2nd
- Ryan Lee Flynn – 3rd
- Jamie Campbell – 1st
- Amy-Leigh Sterritt – 2nd
- Malachy Kofa – 3rd
- Grace O'Connor – 2nd

Applications for Nursery and Year 1 for September 2016

The closing date for these has passed but if you have an application which has not been submitted please send it into the office as soon as possible.

Year 6 and 7 Alcohol and Drugs Workshop

Year 6 and 7 are completing five sessions with Jeanie Graham (from the Temperance Society). They have been thinking about topical issues such as making the right choice with regards to alcohol, drugs and smoking. They have been thinking about how they should act before they face difficult real life situations.

Year 2 Winter Workshop

On Thursday 14th January Year 2 visited the Millennium Arts Centre. They had a tour of the current Art exhibition and went on a hunt for winter animals in the 'Winter Wonderland.' They then got to make a picture using clay. Both classes really enjoyed the trip.

Year 7 Taster Day at Brownlow College

On Monday 18th January, Year 7 pupils got the chance to experience a taster day in Brownlow College. They integrated with pupils from two other local schools and moved from class to class like proper Year 8 students. The Maths class was very busy, solving problems and sharing methods and answers. The English lesson involved writing a short story and the teacher was so impressed with the creativity of our pupils he asked to keep their work. Of course, a free lunch from the canteen and a huge playground were two of the highlights. Well done to all our Year 7s who represented the school so brilliantly.

Nursery Football Coaching

On Tuesday 19th January, the children in the Nursery enjoyed their first visit from Coach Chris. We developed our football skills and look forward to his next visit.

Catholic Schools' Week Mass

On Tuesday 26th January, some pupils from Years 4 and 7 attended a Diocesan Prayer Service to celebrate Catholic Schools Week in St. John the Baptist Church. Many schools from the northern part of the diocese were represented at the ceremony. Archbishop Eamon Martin officiated at the ceremony.

Year 6 Reward Trip to Armagh Planetarium

On Thursday 28th January 21 Year 6 pupils had the chance to visit Armagh Planetarium. This trip was a prize won by Aodhan O'Connor who came first in their Christmas Card Competition. On the day pupils went straight into the Observatory where they watched a presentation on the Planets and Stars, How to be an Astronaut and at the end we had the chance to travel on Armageddon: the virtual space roller coaster. They then handled a real meteorite and saw a rocket replica. The pupils also enjoyed a rocket workshop where they made rockets and fired them outside using water and air pressure as rocket fuel. Team TT, Thomas and Tiernan managed to go the furthest. It was all fantastic.

Breakfast Club

A reminder that this is now open to all pupils from Nursery to Year 7. It runs from 8.15am to 8.45am in the Dinner Hall and costs 50p per day. New pupils are always welcome.

Homework Club

A reminder that this now runs Monday to Wednesday only from 3 – 4pm in the Dinner Hall for Year 4 – 7 pupils.

Illness

A large number of pupils have gone home sick over this past couple of weeks. We would encourage you not to send your child / children to school if they are unwell as the sickness will spread to other pupils and staff. The Public Health Agency recommends that pupils are kept at home for at least 48 hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea.

Parents and Friends Valentine's Raffle

Each family will have received a book of 5 Tickets for the Parents and Friends Valentine's Raffle. We would encourage you to support the Parents and Friends and sell as many as you can. We ask that all ticket stubs and money are returned to school by **Wednesday 10th February 2016**. The draw will take place in assembly on Friday 12th February.

Advance Notice: St Patrick's Day Irish Dancing Festival

This will take place on Wednesday 16th March 2016 from 1.30pm and we would encourage you to support this.

Polling Station

The Electoral Office have asked if the School can be used as a Polling Station again for Elections and the Board of Governors have agreed to this. The next scheduled election is for the NI Assembly on Thursday 5th May 2016. This means Ballyoran Primary School will now be closed on this date.

Menu for February 2016

(See final page)

R Woolsey
Principal

Menu for February 2016

	Week commencing 01.02.16	Week commencing 08.02.16	Week commencing 15.02.16	Week commencing 22.02.16
Monday	Fish Fingers or Macaroni Cheese, Beans, Sweetcorn, Salad, Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes, Boiled Potatoes Rice Pudding & Peaches	Shepherds Pie or Stuffed Bacon Rolls, Carrots, Broccoli, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Salad, Coleslaw Ice-cream, Fruit, Chocolate Sauce	Half-Term Holiday School Closed	Homemade Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Peas, Sweetcorn, Coleslaw, Salad, Chips, Baby Boiled Potatoes Rice Pudding & Fruit
Tuesday	Oven Baked Steak Burgers or Lasagne, Turnip, Cabbage, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy or Salad & Coleslaw Lemon Sponge & Custard	Chicken Nuggets or Tuna Wraps, Peas, Sweetcorn, Salad, Coleslaw, Chips or Baked Potatoes Rice Pudding & Oranges	Half-Term Holiday School Closed	Fish Fingers or Spaghetti Bolognese, Beans, Coleslaw, Sweetcorn, Salad, Mashed Potatoes, Boiled Potatoes Ice-cream, Fruit, Chocolate Sauce
Wednesday	Savoury Mince, Carrots, Pasta, Mashed Potatoes, Crusty Bread or Chicken Curry & Boiled Rice Ice-cream, Fruit, Chocolate Sauce	Chicken Curry & Boiled Rice or Fish Fingers, Beans, Salad, Sweetcorn, Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes, Crusty Bread Vanilla Sponge & Custard	Half-Term Holiday School Closed	Chicken Curry & Boiled Rice or Savoury Mince, Carrots, Pasta, Crusty Bread, Mashed Potatoes Chocolate Cake & Custard
Thursday	Roast Pork, Stuffing or Chicken Tagliatelle, Carrots, Broccoli, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes Apple Crumble & Custard	Roast Turkey & Stuffing or Vegetable Pasta Bake, Turnip, Broccoli, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Salad, Coleslaw Jelly & Fruit Salad	Half-Term Holiday School Closed	Chicken Crumble Top Pie or Macaroni Cheese, Carrots, Broccoli, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes Jelly & Fruit, Cornflour Sauce
Friday	Homemade Tomato & Cheese Pizza, or Chilli Chicken Rolls, Peas, Coleslaw, Tomato Sauce, Chips, Baby Boiled Potatoes Strawberry Jelly & Fruit	Homemade Sweet Potato Soup or Chicken Soup, Hotdogs, Sauces, Filled Chicken or Salad Rolls Frozen Mousse or Fruit	Half-Term Holiday School Closed	Homemade Vegetable Soup or Chicken Soup, Hotdogs, Sauces or Filled Chicken or Salad Rolls Raisin Cookie, Mousse & Fruit

Milk, Water, Bread, Fruit and Yoghurt available daily

Menu subject to deliveries

For further information on allergenic ingredients, please contact the school