



News Sheet – December 2015

Merry Christmas



Winning Design for School Christmas Card Competition
by
Madison Hall (Year 7)

End of Term Arrangements

School will finish at midday on Friday 18th December 2015. 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 Tuesday 5th January 2016.

Diary Dates for January 2016

- 5th Term 2 begins
- 7th Year 7 Alcohol & Drug Workshop Session 1
- 8th Swimming begins Year 6 & 7
- 12th Year 6 Alcohol & Drugs Workshop Session 1
- 13th Closing date for Nursery & Year 1 Applications 12noon
- 14th Year 7 Alcohol & Drugs Workshop Session 2
- 19th Nursery Football Coaching Session
Year 6 Alcohol & Drugs Workshop Session 2
- 20th Pupil Council Meeting
- 21st Year 7 Alcohol & Drugs Workshop Session 3
- 26th Catholic Schools Week Mass- St. Johns
Year 6 Alcohol & Drugs Workshop Session 3
Year 7 Alcohol & Drugs Workshop Session 4
- 29th Swimming Ends - Year 6 & 7

Mrs Tedford

As you were informed in last month's News Sheet, Mrs Tedford retires on 18th December 2015 after 27 years as school Secretary at Ballyoran Primary School. Mrs Tedford has worked for all three Principals at the school and has seen many changes in education over the years. Mrs Tedford's time at Ballyoran has been characterised by enthusiasm, commitment to the school and hard work. For you as parents Mrs Tedford has been the contact point for the school and she has always remained calm, pleasant and helpful in what is an extremely busy office. I am very sure that you would want to join with me in thanking Mrs Tedford for her service at Ballyoran and wishing her a long, happy and peaceful retirement.

Jo Jingles in Nursery

The children really enjoyed their recent visit from Jo Jingles on Friday 11th December. It was a morning of fun, music, and movement!

Year 3 – 7 Christmas Pantomime Outing

What big smiles we had after seeing Little Red Riding Hood at Armagh's Market Place Theatre on Wednesday 2nd December! The pantomime itself was an adaptation of the modern day fairy tale and focused on Little Red Riding Hood's journey through the forest to her sick grandmother's house. Accompanying her along the way was her other grandmother, the hilarious Nanny No Hood. Several other much loved fairytale characters included the three little pigs, Hansel and Gretel, the Wicked Witch and Goldilocks who all got involved along the way and further enhanced the storyline. The big bad wolf brought about plenty of interaction as we relentlessly booed his every move!

Drumcree College Multi- Cultural Day

Year 6 and Year 7 were invited to Drumcree College to help celebrate their Multi-cultural Day. The children sang songs in Spanish, wrote their names in Chinese, made Japanese origami and sampled foods from across the World. All children thoroughly enjoyed the day.

Christmas Fair

Our Parents and Friends of Ballyoran Christmas Fair on Thursday 3rd December 2015 was a great success. This event was very well supported by pupils, parents and friends of the school and I would like to thank everyone for helping to make this a success. So many people commented on the atmosphere at the Fair. A total of £1,200 (including the Christmas Draw) was raised. A big thank you to Parents and Friends Members, for their tireless efforts in preparing for the Fair, particularly Mrs Mackle, Mrs Clarke, Mrs Cullen and Mrs Breen who worked very hard to make it happen.

The Winner's from our Christmas Draw were: 1st Prize £100 cash, Aoife Madden
2nd Prize £50 Toy Voucher from Judges, Pedro Vassalo
3rd Prize £25 Meat Voucher from Charlie Mallon
Butchers, Paul McCartan

Christmas Dinner

Our pupils enjoyed a really tasty Christmas dinner in school on Friday 4th December 2015. 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 Monday 7th December 2015, Mahon Hall Nursing Home on Tuesday 8th December 2015 and Tesco Extra Craigavon on Thursday 17th December 2015. 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 Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th December 2015. A big Thank You and well done to all loyal Choir members and Instrumentalists!

Christmas Performances

Thank you to all parents and friends who attended our Christmas Performances on Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th December 2015. The Assembly Hall was filled and everyone was treated to a celebration of Christmas through music, drama and dance. All pupils from Nursery to Year 7 got the opportunity to take part and they are to be commended for their efforts. Afterwards parents and friends were invited to stay and join staff for refreshments.

Years 1 – 7 Christmas Disco

Pupils in Years 1 – 7 enjoyed a Christmas Disco/Party paid for by the Parents and Friends of Ballyoran on Thursday 17th December 2015. Every pupil received a Selection Box from the Parent's 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 13th January 2016. 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 2015. 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 Flu 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. We have a pupil at school who currently has a serious medical condition. This condition means that their immune system is very weak and leaves them at more of a risk of infection. With this in mind, I would ask you to ensure that if your child is unwell that they are not sent into school as this may put a vulnerable pupil at risk.

School Development Plan

A summary of the school priorities for this year can be found on pages 5 & 6.

Contingency Planning - Winter

As the winter is fast approaching, the school has been reviewing its 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.

Menu for January 2016

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

School Development Plan
Yearly Overview 2015-2016

	Priorities
<p>Child Centred Provision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Climate of the School * Pastoral Care * Child Protection * SEN Interventions/Support * Inclusion/Diversity * Healthy School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Child Protection training • Staff Fire Safety training • Review Child Protection Policy • Review Anti Bullying Policy • Draft Intensive Support Policy • Draft LSC Policy • Review of Induction & Newcomer Support • Review policy for the induction of new pupils • Online Safety • Playground Development • Sustain improvement in attendance • Improve Punctuality • New Learning Mentor • Review of Pupil Council • Risk Assessments
<p>High Quality Teaching & Learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Curriculum Provision * Literacy & Numeracy * Learning & Teaching Strategies * Assessment/Data Analysis * Self Evaluation * Nursery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackling Underachievement • Shared Education • Key Stage 2/3 Transition Project • Support programme for new teachers • Effective use of iPads • Review of ICT Planners • Review ICT Policy • RE Scheme of Work • Review Assessment Policy • Activity Based Learning in KS1 • Policies – WAU & PDMU • Music Planners & Policy <p style="margin-left: 20px;">Nursery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roles & Responsibilities • Review Observations • Speech & Language

<p>Effective Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Effective School Development Plan * Continuing Professional Development * Curriculum Leadership * Financial Management * Accommodation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor Play • Sustain enrolment • Coaching • Middle Management Training • Critical Incident Planning
<p>School Connected to the Local Community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review Annual Reports • Development of all-weather pitch in partnership with local community • Eco Schools Green Flag reassessment • Shared Education • Parents Meeting in Online Safety, Underachievement

Menu for January 2016

	Week commencing 04.01.16	Week commencing 11.01.16	Week commencing 18.01.16	Week commencing 25.01.16
Mon	School Closed	Shepards' Pie or Chicken Tagliatelle, Carrots, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes and Gravy Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Fish Fingers or Lasagne, Beans, Sweet Corn, Side Salad, Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes Vanilla Sponge and Custard	Oven Baked Steak Burger or Spaghetti Bolognese, Turnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes Rice Pudding and Oranges
Tues	Fish Fingers or Lasagne, Beans, Sweet Corn, Coleslaw, Salad, Mashed Potatoes Jelly and Fruit Salad	Oven Baked Sausages or Filled Chicken or Salad Baguettes, Side Salad, Mashed Potatoes, Peas, Sweet Corn, Gravy Strawberry Cake and Custard	Homemade Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Peas, Sweet Corn, Sauces, Chips or Baked Potatoes Rice Krispie Bun and Custard	Fish Fingers or Chicken Pasta Bake, Beans, Sweet Corn, Coleslaw, Salad, Mashed Potatoes Chocolate Muffin and Pear Cake and Custard
Wed	Savoury Mince or Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice, Peas, Pasta or Mashed Potatoes, Naan Bread Biscuit, Fruit and Custard	Crumbed Fish or Spaghetti Bolognese, Beans, Sweet Corn, Salad, Chips or Potatoes, Gravy Biscuit and Fruit Salad	Roast Turkey or Macaroni Cheese, Turnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Jelly and White Sauce	Homemade Pizza or Chicken Wraps, Peas, Coleslaw Salad, Chips or Mashed Potatoes Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce
Thurs	Roast Pork with Stuffing or Vegetable Pasta Bake, Carrots, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Pineapple Sponge and Custard	Sweet Baked Gammon or Sweet and Sour Chicken and Boiled Rice, Cabbage, Turnip, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Biscuit and Fruit Salad	Shepards' Pie or Vegetable Pasta Bake, Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Peas, Gravy Ice Cream and Fruit and Wafer	Roast Turkey with Stuffing, Carrots and Parsnips, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy or Filled Ciabatta Rolls, Salad or Turkey, Side Salad, Coleslaw Jelly and Fruit Salad
Fri	Homemade Vegetable Soup or Chicken Soup Hot Dog, Sauces, Filled Rolls, Chicken/Salad Frozen Mousse or Raisin Cookies	Chicken Pie with Crumble Top or Bacon and Cheese Pasta Bake, Mashed Potatoes, Carrots, Peas, Gravy Jelly and White Sauce	Homemade Vegetable Soup or Chicken Soup Hot Dog, Sauces, Filled Rolls, Chicken/Salad Frozen Mousse or Raisin Cookies	Bacon and Stuffing or Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice, Mixed Vegetables, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Flakemeal Biscuit, Fruit and Custard

Milk and Water Available daily

Fruit and Yoghurt available daily

Menu subject to deliveries

For further information on allergenic ingredients, please contact the school