



News Sheet – March 2009

Dates for Your Diary

3rd April

6th – 8th April

9th April

10th – 26th April

27th April

Portadown Dancing Festival – Irish Dancers

Shannaghmore Residential

Last Day of Term 2

Easter Holidays

Summer Term Begins

Easter Holidays

School closes at midday on Thursday 9th April 2009. There will be no dinners in school on this day. Pupils should wear school uniform as normal. School re-opens for the Summer Term on Monday 27th April 2009.

P4 and P7 End of Key Stage Assessment

When pupils in P4 and P7 return after the Easter break, they will be straight into Assessments Units. These are used to test pupils in English and Maths and pupils will receive a level for each subject. With this in mind, we would ask you to ensure that all P4 and P7 pupils are in school on the first week of the new term.

Lismore Comprehensive Entrance Tests

Parents of P7 pupils hoping to go to Lismore next year are reminded that the Entrance Tests are during our Easter Holidays – Thursday 23rd April 2009 from 9.30am until 1.00pm. School uniform should be worn and it is your responsibility to get your child to and from Lismore for the Test.

Appointment of Foundation Stage/Key Stage 1 Co-ordinator

Mrs O'Hanlon has been appointed Foundation Stage/Key Stage 1 Co-ordinator. Holding this post means that she is now part of the school's Senior Management Team.

P6 Attend Bee Safe Event

Our P6 pupils attended the annual PSNI 'Bee Safe' event in Lurgan on 2nd March 2009. As usual, the pupils were given demonstrations and safety talks from various agencies including, PSNI, Fire Service and NIE.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Thank you to all parents/guardians who attended Parent/Teacher Meeting earlier this month. These are a vital part of our Home/School Links and are very important in supporting your child's education.

World Book Day

Thursday 5th March 2009 was a day of great excitement and colour as the pupils from Nursery, Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 came into school dressed as a character from a book. This special occasion was a way of celebrating World Book Day. A Special Assembly took place and each class contributed in a variety of ways. Some spoke about their favourite books, some recited poems or read letters to their favourite authors. Even some teachers got into the spirit of the day so check out all the photographs on our website. Well done to all the pupils and a big thank you to the parents who obviously put in a lot of effort to help make it a World Book Day to remember!

Gaelic Blitz at Aghagallon

The Gaelic Blitz season continues with our boys' team taking part in another Gaelic Blitz at Aghagallon on 6th March 2009.

Extended Schools' Cluster Trip

Saturday 7th March 2009 saw six of our pupils, with a parent, going on a trip to Lurgaboy Adventure Centre near Armagh. The pupils and their parents all very much enjoyed this trip which was fully paid for by our Extended Schools' cluster.

Young Enterprise Programme continues

On 9th and 10th March 2009, Primary 5 and 6 pupils enjoyed working with Helen from Young Enterprise. The aim of the programme was to provide building blocks for skills development and understanding of the 'world of work'. Through practical, fun activities, pupils were given opportunities to help them understand how and why individuals, families, communities and nations work together.

Jo Jingles in Nursery

On Friday 10th March 2009, our Nursery pupils took part in '*Jo Jingles*' activities. Pupils participated in a range of music and dance activities. This was part funded by Blossom Sure Start.

Dancers take part in Ballyclare Festival

Thirty-four Irish Folk Dancers took part in a recent Festival in Newtownabbey. This was the first year that our pupils entered this competition. The following pupils received awards:

- Eve Heaney – 1st Prize – Trophy and Gold Medal – Reel
2nd Prize – Silver – Light Double Jig
- Lara White – Bronze – Reel

Everyone received a medal for taking part.

Ballyoran v Hart Memorial Soccer Match

Our Soccer team were defeated by the Hart Memorial Primary School on Thursday 12th March. The game was part of the Mullen Cup.

P6 Vikings Day

Primary 6 had a very exciting and fun-filled '*Viking Day*' recently. They took part in lots of activities connected to Viking life. Activities included creating Kennings, using our senses to explore herbs, making coins using foil, weaving a fence with twigs, responding to a piece of music through painting, playing Kubb and competing as a team in a Viking quest online. It was a most exciting day and a highlight in the Primary 6 calendar!

Confirmation

Sunday 29th March 2009 was the Annual Service of Confirmation for our P7 pupils. As usual, Ballyoran joined with St John's and Presentation Primary for this very important Sacrament, which took place at St John's Church. The church was packed to capacity with the family and friends of those getting confirmed. Bishop Gerard Clifford led the service, assisted by Fr O'Dwyer and Fr White. As usual, our P7 pupils behaved in a very respectful manner and we, as a school, are very proud of them. Thanks are due to Mrs Mackle, our RE Co-ordinator and Mrs Heaney, our P7 teacher, for all their hard work in preparation for this event. This was also our turn to lead the music and our Choir and Recorder Group did an excellent job at this with many people commenting on how beautiful the music was. Thanks are due to Mrs McCreesh-West for all her hard work in preparing the music for the Service.

Menu for April

	30.03.09	06.04.09	13.04.09	20.04.09	27.04.09
Mon	Homemade Ham and Cheese Pizza or filled Panini, spaghetti Hoops, Sweetcorn, Broccoli, chips or Baked Potato, Salad Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Chicken Nuggets or Sweet and Sour Pork and Boiled rice. Spaghetti, Sweetcorn Broccoli, Chips or Baked potato Semolina and Fruit	Holiday	Holiday	Homemade Ham and Cheese Pizza or Filled Wraps. Beans, sweetcorn, chips or baked potato, Salad, coleslaw Rice pudding and peaches
Tues	Steak Burger, Peas, Carrots, Creamed Potato, Gravy. Sweet and Sour Pork and Boiled rice, Crusty Bread Shortbread Biscuit and Fruit	Spaghetti Bolognaise and Crusty Bread or Stuffed Bacon Rolls, Turnip, Peas, Creamed Potato, Gravy Rice and Fruit	Holiday	Holiday	Battered small fry or Spaghetti, peas, creamed potato, Bacon and Cheese Taglietelle, Wheaten Bread, Tossed Salad Jelly and Cornflour Sauce
Wed	Fresh Fish, Beans, Mashed Potato or Bacon and Cheese Taglietelle, Crusty Bread, Tossed Salad Jelly and Fruit Salad	Cocktail Sausages, Chips or Baked Potato, or Cheese Omelette, Salad, Sauces Ice Cream and Wafer	Holiday	Holiday	Savoury Mince, Broccoli Mashed Potato. Sweet and Sour Pork and Boiled rice, Crusty Bread Fruit Crumble and Custard
Thur	Baked Gammon and Pineapple, Cabbage, Broccoli, Creamed Potato, Gravy or Parsley Sauce Rice and Peaches	No School Dinner	Holiday	Holiday	Baked Gammon and Pineapple, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Creamed Potato, gravy or Parsley Sauce Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce
Fri	Homemade Vegetable soup or Cream of chicken Soup, Hot dog, Sauce or Onions. Filled rolls, Chicken, Tuna, Salad Frozen Yogurt or Choco Orange Cookie	Holiday	Holiday	Holiday	Homemade Vegetable soup or Cream of chicken Soup, Hot dog, Sauce or Onions. Filled rolls, Chicken, Tuna, Salad Wholemeal Biscuit or Fresh Fruit