



News Sheet – March 2011

Diary Dates – April 2011

- 1st Nursery Admission Letters posted
- 4th Lismore Comprehensive – Entrance Test
- 6th P4 First Confession – 6.15pm – St John's Church
- 7th Pupil Council Meeting
- 10th P7 Confirmation – 3pm – St John's Church
- 12th Nursery 1 Trip to Parkanaur with Hart Memorial Nursery
- 13th Nursery 2 Trip to Parkanaur with Hart Memorial Nursery
- P1 Admission Letters posted
- 14th P5 and P6 Talk from Dogs' Trust
- 15th Last day of Swimming in Term 2
- 18th Surestart Speech and Language Session in Nursery
- 20th Last day of Term 2 – School finishes at midday – no uniform and no dinners

Easter Holidays

A reminder that school will close at midday on Wednesday 20th April 2011 for the Easter break. School re-opens on Tuesday 3rd May 2011 for the Summer Term.

Key Stage 2 Cross-Community Links with Bocombra Primary School

Pupils from Ballyoran Primary School and Bocombra Primary School have completed their programme of activities for the Cross Community Project. Pupils from Key Stage 2 had the opportunity to be involved in a Performance and Puppet Theatre and in an Art Programme where they experienced the different mediums of Art. This has been a very enjoyable, beneficial and successful programme of events.

World Book Day

World Book Day on Thursday 3rd March 2011 was once again a great success. This year's celebration of books was bigger and better than ever. Children and staff dressed up as characters from books and there was a prize for the best character costume in each class. Pupils participated in activities related to World Book Day in class and there are two displays in school showcasing this work. Edith Dickson, story teller from the SELB Library Service retold and read stories to P1 - P3 and LSC pupils. Steve Lally, a professional story teller and member of Armagh Rhymers, told and dramatised myths, legends and fantasy stories to P4 – P7 pupils. A photograph was taken for the Portadown Times and you can see photos from the day on our school website.

Gaelic Blitz

On Friday 4th March 2011, our Gaelic team took part in a Blitz at St Patrick's Primary School, Aghacommon. This was our first Gaelic Tournament of the year. The other teams involved were from St Patrick's, St Teresa's and St Brendan's Primary Schools. The emphasis was on playing for enjoyment and all of the squad got to play and thoroughly enjoyed their day.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Thank you to those parents who attended Parent/Teacher Meetings in early March. These are an important part of our partnership with parents and we hope they were useful.

Nursery Enjoy Trip to C & J's Open Farm

The children enjoyed a fun day out at C & Js Open Farm in Portadown. They had first-hand experience at feeding the farm animals as well as getting to touch snakes and lizards.

Drumcree College Multi-Cultural Day

Primary 7 pupils attended a very enjoyable Multi-Cultural Day at Drumcree College on Wednesday 16th March 2011. Pupils moved round stands; each representing a different country. At each stand the pupils learnt a little bit about that country before doing craft related to the country. Log on to 'Gallery' on our school website for photos.

P6 Attend 'Bee Safe' Event

Primary 6 attended the annual 'Bee Safe' event in Lurgan on Wednesday 23rd March 2011. The event, organised by the PSNI, is always very much enjoyed. Various organisations talked to pupils about safety. Pupils particularly enjoyed the Fire and Rescue Service's demonstration of how to deal with a chip pan fire and the Ulsterbus Demonstration Bus which highlighted safety on buses.

P4 Mass

In preparation for First Penance and First Holy Communion, Primary 4 pupils attended their second Mass, which had the theme of Penance, in St John's Church on Saturday evening 26th March 2011

P7 Ceremony of Light

On Sunday 27th March 2011, Primary 7 Confirmation pupils took part in the Service of the Light in St John the Baptist Church. This is an important part of Confirmation preparation. Well done to all those who took part, attended and represented the school.

Students

Ballyoran Primary School continues to host students when it is at all possible. This year students have come from Stranmillis College, University of Ulster, Southern Regional College, Drumcree College and St Michael's, Lurgan.

PTA Fireside Quiz

A big Thank You to all those who have supported the PTA Fireside Quiz. The draw for the prizes will take place in Assembly on Friday 1st April 2011. The amount raised was £324.40.

Uniform Reminders

Parents are reminded that ties are a very important part of the school uniform. If these are lost, new ones can be purchased from the Office for £3. The blue checked summer dresses and white socks are permitted in the Summer Term only.

Break Snacks

A reminder that Nursery and P1 and P2 pupils have a Healthy Snack each morning. Parents are asked to send in £2 weekly for this. P3 – P7 pupils can purchase fruit from the Fruit Tuck Shop daily. A piece of fruit costs 30p. Half a piece is 20p.

The Pupil Council have asked if the last day of each term can be an Unhealthy Break and this has been granted. So, on Wednesday 20th April 2011, pupils may bring in an unhealthy break.

Elections

Ballyoran Primary has been notified by the Electoral Office that it will no longer be used as a Polling Station. This means that the school will be open on Thursday 5th May 2011 and for all Elections after this.

ETI Monitoring Visit

An Inspector from the Education and Training Inspectorate was in school on Wednesday 30th March 2011, completing a second Monitoring Visit as part of our Post Inspection Improvement. The Inspector's feedback from the visit was overwhelmingly positive, recognising the very hard work that staff have been involved in and the significant improvement that there has been since the original inspection. The Follow-Up Inspection will take place on Tuesday 7th June 2011.

Menu for April 2011

	04.04.11	11.04.11	18.04.11
Mon	Homemade Pepperoni and Cheese Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Garden Peas, Sweetcorn, Salad, Coleslaw, Chips or Baked Potato Rice Pudding and Peaches	Oven Baked Sausages, Peas, Broccoli, Creamed Potato, Gravy or Vegetable Pasta Bake, Salad, Crusty Bread Wholemeal Biscuit, Fruit and Custard	Shepherds Pie, Baton Carrots, Sweetcorn, Creamed Potato, Gravy or Vegetable Pasta Bake with Salad and Crusty Bread Swiss Roll and Custard
Tues	Oven Baked Fish Fingers or Bacon and Cheese Taglitelle with Crusty Bread, Baked Beans, Salad, Creamed Potato Wholemeal Apple Crumble and Custard	Stuffed Bacon Rolls, Mixed Vegetables, Creamed Potato, Gravy or Spaghetti Bolognese, Salad, Crusty Bread Lemon Sponge and Custard	Oven Baked Fish Fingers, Baked Beans, Peas, Creamed Potato or Lasagne, Salad, Baked Potato, Coleslaw, Beetroot Rice Pudding and Two Fruits
Wed	Savoury Mince or Sweet and Sour Pork with Boiled Rice, Peas, Broccoli, Creamed Potato Strawberry Jelly and Cornflour Sauce	Beef Casserole with Carrots and Onion, Turnip, Creamed Potato or Chicken Wrap, Salad, Coleslaw, Baked Potato Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	No Dinners – School finishes at midday
Thurs	Baked Gammon with Pineapple, Cabbage, Baton Carrots, Creamed Potato, Gravy Vanilla Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Roast Turkey, Stuffing, Carrots and Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Creamed Potato, Gravy Wholemeal Apple Crumble and Custard	School Closed
Fri	Homemade Vegetable or Cream of Chicken Soup Hot Dog with Sauce or Filled Rolls: Chicken, Salad, Cheese and Tomato Wholemeal Biscuit and Fresh Fruit or Fruit Jelly	Fresh Fish in Breadcrumbs, Baked Beans, Beetroot, Salad, Coleslaw, Creamed Potato or Pork Curry and Boiled Rice with Crusty Bread Strawberry Jelly and Fresh Fruit Salad	School Closed

Milk, Water. Bread, Fruit and Yogurt available daily

Menu subject to deliveries