



## News Sheet – February 2011

### Diary Dates – March 2011

1 <sup>st</sup>	P5 Cross-Community Project with Bocombra Primary School PTA Meeting at 7.30pm – All Welcome
3 <sup>rd</sup>	World Book Day
7 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup>	Parent/Teacher Meetings
8 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup>	P6 Cross-Community Project with Bocombra Primary School
17 <sup>th</sup> - 22 <sup>nd</sup>	School Closed – St Patrick's Day break and Staff Training
23 <sup>rd</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup>	P7 Cross-Community Project with Bocombra Primary School
23 <sup>rd</sup>	P6 'Bee Safe' Event
26 <sup>th</sup>	P4 Mass – Penance Theme – St John the Baptist Church at 7pm
27 <sup>th</sup>	P7 Ceremony of Light – St John the Baptist Church at 7pm
29 <sup>th</sup>	Surestart Speech and Language Session in Nursery
30 <sup>th</sup>	ETI Monitoring Visit

### School Closures - March

School will be closed from 17<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2011 inclusively. This incorporates three days' holiday for St Patrick's Day and one School Development Day for Staff Training. School will re-open on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2011.

### Parent/Teacher Meetings

You have already received notification of these which will take place from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2011. School will close at 1pm on these three days for all pupils, to facilitate these meetings.

### ETI Monitoring Visit

As you are aware, the school is currently involved in Post Inspection Improvement work as a result of the Focused Inspection carried out in January 2010. As part of this process, an Inspector from the Education and Training Inspectorate will carry out a second Monitoring Visit in the school on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2011. The majority of her time will be spent carrying out classroom observations.

### P7 Transfer Interviews

The Principal would like to take this opportunity to thank the P7 parents who took the time to come into school to meet with him regarding the Transfer of their child from Primary to Post Primary Education in September 2011.

### PTA News

The Parent-Teacher Association had a very successful meeting on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. They are in the processing of planning a Fundraising Fireside Quiz which will be on sale later this term. The next Meeting is on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011. All parents are welcome to attend this meeting.

### **Soccer Matches**

On 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2011, Ballyoran played our old rivals St John's in a league match at home. Mr Hendron refereed this game and can safely say that he has never had to referee a game in such poor conditions! In the first half we played into what can almost be described as a gale force wind. After conceding heavily in this half, we completely dominated the second half without being able to get the scores back. Well done to Oran McGuckin for scoring a goal. Special praise must also go to our goalkeeper Conlon Prentice who stood for most of the second half in fairly miserable conditions.

We had an away league match against King's Park on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2011. In a very competitive first half, both teams had chances but King's Park led 1 – 0 at the break. In the last few minutes of the game, our players got tired and King's Park ran in some late goals. Mr Hendron continues to be very proud of the positive attitude and team spirit shown by the entire squad.

### **Credit Union Quiz**

Ballyoran Primary School came third in the recent Credit Union Quiz the team which consisted of Oran McGuckin, Shane Robinson, Jane Dunbar and Zuzanna Baran, battled hard to stay in the top three. The final result was very close and each team member received a £10 monetary prize. Well done to each of them!

### **Road Safety Talk in Nursery**

A Road Safety Officer came into the Nursery to speak to the children about safety on the road, the importance of wearing their seat belts in the car and their helmets when they are on their bicycles.

### **Surestart**

The children who took part in the third session of working with a Speech and Language Therapist and an Occupational Therapist, enjoyed all the various activities and look forward to their next session on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011.

### **Cross-Community Project**

Pupils from Ballyoran Primary School and Bocombra Primary School have taken part in a programme of events which enabled them to meet together at both schools and get to know each other and learn about their shared culture. Pupils in Key Stage 1 had the opportunity to be involved in a Performance and Puppet Theatre and to learn about healthy eating and physical activity. Key Stage 2 pupils will be taking part in various activities in March to complete the programme which has been very successful to date.

### **Gaelic Tournaments**

On Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> and Friday 25<sup>th</sup> February, Primary 4 and 5 pupils participated in a Gaelic Tournament, organised by Tír Na N'óg at St. John's Primary School. Ballyoran pupils competed against teams from Presentation Primary, Portadown Integrated and St. John's.

All pupils had an enjoyable morning, which was a valuable opportunity to incorporate and display the skills they have learned during the Gaelic Coaching they have been receiving in school.

### **P7 Mass**

Primary 7 pupils took part in a special Mass held in St John the Baptist Church on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2011. The theme of the service was 'The Holy Spirit' and was part of their preparation for Confirmation.

### **Visitors to Nursery**

A big thank you to Jimmy and Kieran who visited the Nursery to show the children their motor bikes and also to Paul who brought in his horse 'Oliver'.

### **World Book Day**

World Book Day, the biggest annual celebration of books and reading for children will be on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2011. All pupils will have opportunities to participate in a range of activities including story telling (with Edith Dickson visiting all classes in Key Stage 1 and LSC and Stephen Lally visiting all classes in Key Stage 2), reading for pleasure, character sketches, book reviews and many more. Every pupil will receive a £1 book token which can be exchanged for a book or £1 off the purchase price of a book at participating book shops. We hope all pupils will dress up as a character from a book and enjoy the fun! Look out for the photographs on our school website!

Rushmere Shopping Centre will be hosting a storyteller from 1.00 – 5.00pm on World Book Day. The children will be able to enjoy a glass of milk and cookie while being transported into a world of magic, enchantment and fairy tales. They will also have the opportunity to redeem their £1 World Book Day Token in Easons or Sainsburys.

### **P5 Fire Service Talk**

On Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2011 representatives from the Fire Service visited Primary 5. The children listened attentively to the fire safety talk and particularly enjoyed looking inside the fire engine.

### **Extra Curricular Activities – Term 2**

The school continues to offer a wide range of Extra Curricular Activities. This Term the following activities will be offered:

- Soccer
- Gaelic
- Choir
- Irish Dancing
- Drama
- Cookery
- Clay
- Kids' Club

### **Congratulations to Mrs Barkley**

Mrs Barkley has recently successfully completed Numeracy Recovery Accreditation. This involved a massive amount of work on Mrs Barkley's part which involved video recording twenty Numeracy Sessions. The skills that Mrs Barkley has acquired through this training will be useful in Ballyoran Primary School. Well done Mrs Barkley!

### **PSNI Warning**

Following a recent incident of a suspicious approach to a child in the Portadown area, the PSNI have asked us to remind pupils of the need for care when out and about. At home, school and in our communities we are told of the dangers if we go with strangers. We know we must not get into cars, take gifts or go away with someone we do not know. This is known as Stranger Danger. Do you know what you should do to keep yourself safe?

The PSNI have issued the following advice which will be of help to both children and parents.

- Always ask your Mum or Dad if you can go with that person
- Always tell your Mum or Dad where you are going
- Set a time to return home and stick to it
- If possible, go out with someone else, like your sister, brother or friend
- If you do not want to go with the person, tell your Mum or Dad, it is OK to say no
- If anything happens that you do not like, always tell someone you can trust like your parents, a teacher, a police officer or anyone else that you feel safe talking to

### **Move It Change It**

**Move It Change It** is an informal, free and exciting new eight-week healthy lifestyle programme for parents and children looking to take steps to improve their health by making better food choices and increasing their physical activity levels. An information session will be held at **Cascades Leisure Centre on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2011 from 3.30 – 4.30pm** for families to come and get a taste of the programme and register their interest.

### **Parent Questionnaire**

We will be distributing our Annual Parent Questionnaire in March. Please complete and return to school in the envelope provided. This consultation exercise is an important part of the School Development Plan process and we value your opinions/comments.

### **Punctuality**

Well done to the majority of pupils who are on time every morning. Thank you to the parents who play a vital role in ensuring your child/children are in school on time. Unfortunately a small minority of pupils are still arriving late on a daily basis. This causes disruption to the education of the other pupils in the class and we would ask that all parents ensure their child/children are in school for the first bell at 8.55am each morning.

### **Absence/Appointments**

A reminder that a note should be sent into school after an absence explaining the reasons for this. A note should also be sent in if a child has to leave school early for an appointment.

### **Menu for March 2011**

See separate sheet

R Woolsey  
Principal

## Menu for March 2011

	<b>28.02.11</b>	<b>07.03.11</b>	<b>14.03.11</b>	<b>21.03.11</b>	<b>28.03.11</b>
Mon	Steak Casserole or Filled Wraps, Gravy, Cabbage or Mixed Vegetables, Mashed Potatoes  Ice Cream Wafer	Homemade Ham and Cheese Pizza or Filled Wraps, Baked Beans or Sweetcorn or Salad or Coleslaw, Chips or Baked Potatoes  Rice Pudding and Peaches	Spaghetti Bolognese with Crusty Bread and Tossed Salad or Stuffed Bacon Rolls, Gravy, Mixed Vegetables, Mashed Potatoes  Peach Sponge and Custard	School Closed	Oven Baked Sausages or Lasagne, Gravy, Tossed Salad or Cabbage or Mixed Vegetables, Mashed Potatoes  Ice Cream, Fruit and Wafer
Tue	Homemade Tomato and Cheese Pizza or Cheese Omelette, Green beans or Cauliflower Cheese, Chips or Baked Potato or Tossed Salad Jelly and Fruit Salad	Savoury Mince, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes or Sweet and Sour Pork with Boiled Rice and Crusty Bread  Jelly and Cornflour Sauce	Oven Baked Sausages, Gravy, Peas or Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes or Vegetable Pasta Bake with Tossed Salad and Crusty Bread Rice and Oranges	School Closed – Staff Training	Homemade Ham and Cheese Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Sweetcorn and Peas or Tossed Salad or Coleslaw, Chips or Baked Potatoes Rice and Peaches
Wed	Irish Stew with Carrots and Onions, Broccoli or Sweetcorn or Sweet and Sour Chicken with Boiled Rice and Crusty Bread Rice and Peaches	Battered Small Fry or Bacon and Cheese Tagliatelle with Wheaten Bread and Tossed Salad, Mashed Potatoes  Jelly and Cornflour Sauce	Pork Casserole with Crusty Bread, Carrots and Onions, Mashed Potatoes or Chicken Wraps, Tossed Salad and Coleslaw  Jelly and Fresh Fruit Salad	Chicken Nuggets, or Tuna Wraps, Baked Beans or Sweetcorn or Tossed Salad, Chips, Rice and Two Fruits	Beef Casserole with Carrots and Onions, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes or Pork Curry and Boiled rice with Crusty Bread  Chocolate Cake and Custard
Thu	Chicken Pie with Crumble Top, Gravy, Carrots and Parsnips or Peas, Mashed Potatoes  Lemon Sponge and Custard	Baked Gammon and Pineapple, Gravy or Parsley Sauce, Cabbage or Cauliflower, Mashed Potatoes Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	School Closed – St Patrick's Day Holiday	Roast Pork and Apple Sauce or Gravy, Peas, Mashed Potatoes  Shortbread Biscuit, Fruit and Custard	Chicken Pie with Crumble Top, Gravy, Carrots and Parsnips, Mashed Potatoes  Fruit Crumble and Custard
Fri	Battered Small Fry or Macaroni Cheese, Baked Beans or Mixed Vegetables or Beetroot or Salad or Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes  Fruit Crumble and Custard	Homemade Vegetable or Cream of Chicken Soup, Hot Dog with Sauce and Onions or Filled Rolls with Chicken or Salad or Tuna  Wholemeal Biscuit or Fresh Fruit	School Closed	Homemade Vegetable or Cream of chicken Soup, Hot Dog with Sauce and Onions or Filled Rolls with Chicken or Salad or Tuna  Chocolate Swiss Roll or Fresh Fruit	Crumbed Fish or Cheese and Ham Omelette, Baked Beans or Beetroot or Coleslaw or Tossed Salad, Mashed Potatoes  Jelly and Cornflour Sauce

Milk, Water, Bread, Fruit and Yogurt available daily

Menu subject to deliveries