



## News Sheet – September 2010

### Diary Dates for October 2010

4 <sup>th</sup>	School Development Day (School closed for Staff Training)
5 <sup>th</sup>	Book Fair begins Firework Safety Talk by PSNI
7 <sup>th</sup>	P5 – P7 Poetry Workshop in Navan Centre
19 <sup>th</sup>	P1 and P2 Trip to Palace Stables, Armagh – Apples
20 <sup>th</sup>	P7 Trip to Stormont
23 <sup>rd</sup>	P4 Enrolment Ceremony – 11.30am – St John's Church
25 <sup>th</sup>	Parent/Teacher Meetings
26 <sup>th</sup>	Parent/Teacher Meetings
27 <sup>th</sup>	Parent/Teacher Meetings Photographer in School
28 <sup>th</sup>	P1 and P2 Ulster Cancer Foundation – Story Telling Session
29 <sup>th</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Half Term (4 School Days)

### Welcome Back

Welcome back to all those pupils and parents returning to Ballyoran Primary School. A special welcome to our new Nursery pupils and any other pupils who are new to the school. We trust that you will soon feel part of the school community.

It is hard to believe that the month of September is at an end. It has been a smooth start to the new school year. Can I take this opportunity to thank parents for your continued co-operation, particularly in relation to the changes that have come into effect this year.

### Fruit Tuck Shop Trial

This trial for P3 – P7 pupils has been a great success with many pupils availing of it. A reminder that apples, pears, bananas and oranges can be purchased in school daily at 30p for a full portion or 20p for a half portion. Thank you for sending in the correct money which makes the organisation of the Tuck Shop so much easier.

### Breakfast Club

This has got off to a great start but there is still room for new pupils. A reminder that it runs daily in Room 12 from 8.15 – 8.45am and is open to all P1 – P7 pupils. Please note that the latest time for arriving at Breakfast Club is 8.30am.

### School Uniform

All our pupils continue to look very smart in their school uniform. The year has started very positively with regard to uniform and I would like to thank parents for your co-operation. I look forward to this continuing throughout the whole of this year. A reminder that replacement ties can be purchased for £3 from the Office.

### PE Uniform

All pupils must have a PE uniform. PE bags can be purchased for £3 from the Office.

## **Seat Belts**

The Education Minister has asked all schools to remind parents at the start of the school year of the importance of wearing seat belts while travelling to and from school. The PSNI have been involved in raising awareness by giving out stickers outside local schools during the 'school run' over recent weeks.

**The Department of Education** have asked schools to inform parents of the following Consultation Documents which are available on their website: [www.deni.gov.uk](http://www.deni.gov.uk)

1. 0 – 6 Strategy
2. Community Relations, Equality and Diversity in Education

They would welcome responses from all interested parties.

## **School Development Days**

As you were informed earlier this year, there are 5 extra School Development Days to be arranged on top of the published holidays. These are Staff Training days when pupils do not come to school. The first of these took place on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2010. The dates for the other 4 are as follows:

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2010
- Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010 (extra day at Half-Term)
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2011 (extra day at Christmas)
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2011 (extra day at St Patrick's break)

## **Parent/Teacher Meetings**

These will take place from 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> October 2010. Information will shortly be sent home regarding these. To facilitate the meetings, school will finish at **1.00pm each day**. Please attend the Parent/Teacher Meetings as these are a vital part of our partnership with parents.

## **Photographer**

The Photographer will be in school on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2010 to take individual and group photographs. Due to demand from parents after last year's photographs, we have decided to open this up, allowing parents to bring in other family members who do not attend Ballyoran Primary School. Information will be sent out regarding this at a later date.

## **Consent Forms (Use of Images, Medical Update, ICT)**

Thank you to the majority of parents who returned these to school very promptly. A few of these are still outstanding and we would be grateful if these could be returned as soon as possible.

## **Book Fair**

This will run in the Library from 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> October 2010. More information on this will be sent out this week.

## **Swimming**

Primary 4 to Primary 7 will again be offered swimming sessions this year at Cascades Leisure Complex. The school does not make any charge to parents for this as some schools do. We would ask that parents support us and ensure that your child has their swimming gear in school every week during their block. These dates have already been given to P4 – P7 parents.

### **Extra Curricular Activities**

The school continues to offer a wide range of After School Clubs. Every teacher takes at least one block of these in the year. These are open to pupils from P4 up; some are targeted at various classes, others are open to all pupils. Individual teachers will send out information relating to their Clubs.

### **European Day of Languages**

We celebrated this on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2010. Pupils attended a Special Assembly and every class took part in activities celebrating the diversity of the continent in which we live.

### **Health and Safety Inspection**

The Health and Safety of pupils and staff is of paramount importance at Ballyoran Primary School. A recent Health and Safety Inspection at the school was carried out by the SELB's Health and Safety Officer. We are awaiting the report. Parents can be sure that any recommendation will be acted upon swiftly.

### **InCAS**

The Department of Education sets certain requirements for assessing your child and reporting to you. These are called Statutory Arrangements.

They include the use of the Interactive Computerised Assessment System (InCAS) which primary schools have been gradually introducing since 2007.

InCAS is a computer-based assessment, where the first question is selected according to your child's age. Further questions depend on how your child responds. If the answer is correct, the questions will become more difficult and if they answer incorrectly, they become easier.

This means that the InCAS adapts to the ability of your child, helping to identify strengths and areas for improvement so that the teaching and learning the teacher plans meets your child's needs.

If your child is in Year 4, 5, 6 or 7 they will complete InCAS Reading and General Maths in the autumn term this year. InCAS will produce a Reading Age and a General Maths Age for your child.

For example, your child may be 9 years old but have an InCAS Reading Age of 11 years. This means that their reading ability is the same level that InCAS would expect from an 11-year-old child in Northern Ireland.

These outcomes will be shared with you at the Parent/Teacher meeting during the week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> October 2010.

### **Collection of Pupils**

A reminder that all pupils in P1 – P3 and the LSC must be collected by an adult at home time each day.

### **Clothing Bank**

Please remember we have a Clothing Bank outside the red gates at the front of the school. We encourage Parents to use this as the school receives money for all clothes collected. This is a useful way to boost our school funds and purchase resources for pupils that we would otherwise be unable to afford.

### **Advance Notice**

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2011  
Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2011

Confirmation – P7 pupils  
First Communion – P4 pupils

R Woolsey  
Principal

### Menu for October 2010

	04.10.10	11.10.10	18.10.10	25.10.10
Mon	Staff Training Day – School Closed	Shepherds Pie or Chicken and Broccoli Pasta Bake, Gravy, Baton Carrots, Mashed Potatoes  Rice and Peaches	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
Tues	Spaghetti Bolognese and Crusty Bread or Stuffed Bacon Rolls, Gravy, Turnip or Peas, Mashed Potatoes  Strawberry Sponge and Custard	Oven Baked Steak Burger or Cheese and Tomato Omelette, Gravy, Carrots and Parsnips or Sweetcorn, Mashed Potatoes  Lemon Sponge and Custard	Homemade Tomato and Cheese Pizza or Cheese Omelette, Green Beans or Cauliflower Cheese, Chips or Baked Potato or Tossed Salad  Jelly and Fruit Salad	Battered Small Fry or Bacon and Cheese Taglitelle with Wheaten Bread and tossed Salad, Mashed Potatoes  Jelly and Cornflour Sauce
Wed	Savoury Mince and Crusty Bread or Ham and Cheese Omelette, Mashed or Baked Potatoes or Tossed Salad  Ice Cream Wafer	Homemade Tomato and Cheese Pizza or Salmon Fillet, Baked Beans or Mixed Vegetables, Chips or Boiled Potatoes  Wholemeal Biscuit and Fruit Salad	Irish Stew with Carrots and Onions, Broccoli or Sweetcorn or Sweet and Sour Chicken with Boiled Rice and Crusty Bread  Rice and Peaches	Savoury Mince, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes or Sweet and Sour Pork with Boiled Rice and Crusty Bread  Fruit Crumble and Custard
Thurs	Roast Turkey, Gravy, Carrots and Parsnips, Mashed Potatoes  Wholemeal Apple Crumble and Custard	Beef Casserole with Carrots and Onions, Broccoli or turnip, Mashed Potatoes or Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice  Jelly and Ice Cream	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
Fri	Crumbed Fish or Lasagne, Baked Beans or Tossed Salad or Beetroot or Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes  Jelly and Fruit Salad	Homemade Vegetable or Cream of Chicken Soup, Hot Dog with Sauce or Onions or Filled Rolls with Chicken or Tuna or Salad Frozen Yogurt or Fresh Fruit	Battered Small Fry or Macaroni Cheese, Baked Beans or Mixed Vegetables or Beetroot or Salad or Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes Fruit Crumble and Custard	School Closed – Half Term Holiday

Milk, Fresh Fruit and Yogurt Daily

Menu subject to Deliveries

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