



News Sheet – February 2015

Diary Dates for March 2015

- 2nd – 6th Parent/Teacher Meetings (School finishes at 1.00pm each day for pupils)
No Afternoon Clubs this week
- 2nd Nurse Reviews: Year 1 and new pupils
- 3rd Nurse Reviews: Year 1 and new pupils
Confirmation Practice
Year 4 CRED with Bocombra Primary School
- 4th Nurse Reviews: Year 1 and new pupils
Year 2 CRED with Bocombra Primary School
- 5th World Book Day – Armagh Rhymers will visit school
- 6th Nursery CRED Workshop with Hart Nursery – ‘The Gathering Drums’ – Brownstown Community Centre – 10.15am
Confirmation Practice
- 8th Confirmation at 3.00pm in St John’s Church
- 9th Jo Jingles in Nursery
- 10th Year 7 Intergeneration Workshop, Session 4
- 11th Year 2 CRED with Bocombra Primary School
- 12th Mid Ulster Spring Soccer Festival – Lurgan Junior High School
Year 4 First Confession at 6.00pm in St John’s Church
- 13th St Patrick’s Day Irish Dancing Festival: 1.00 – 3.30pm
- 16th School Closed – Staff Training
- 17th School Closed – St Patrick’s Day Holiday
- 18th Year 2 CRED with Bocombra Primary School
- 24th Year 7 Intergeneration Workshop – Celebration – Seagoe Hotel
- 25th Class and Group Photographs
- 30th No Clubs this week

School Closure – March 2015

School will be closed for pupils on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th March 2015.

End of Term Arrangements

School will close at midday for all pupils on Wednesday 1st April 2015. There will be no dinners served on this day and pupils do not need to wear uniform. School will be closed from Thursday 2nd to Friday 10th April 2015 for the Easter Holidays.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

These will take place next week and by now you should have received your meeting time. Please note that school will close at **1.00pm for all pupils** from Monday 2nd to Friday 6th March 2014 to facilitate these. To ease congestion at the gate, it would be helpful if Year 1 – 3 pupils were picked up at 12.50pm. We would ask all parents to be on time for their meetings and if, for any reason, you are unable to attend, please let the school know as soon as possible. Please note there will be no Afternoon Clubs next week.

St Patrick's Day Irish Dancing Festival

This will take place in the Assembly Hall on Friday 13th March 2015 from 1.00 – 3.30pm and we would encourage you to support it. Please note you are free to come and go as you please during the event.

Credit Union Quiz Success

Well done to our Team who were third at the Annual Credit Union Quiz held recently in Armagh Road Presbyterian Church Halls. The Team was as follows:

Oliwia Osinksa, Year 7	Aidan Kelly, Year 6
Shay Kelly, Year 6	Grace O'Connor, Year 6

Each pupil received a £10 cash prize.

Extended Schools Drama Club

Each year Key Stage 2 pupils get the opportunity to attend an After School Drama Club at Drumcree College. This year, a number of pupils are attending this on Wednesday afternoons.

World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 5th March this year. We would love everyone to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. The Armagh Rhymers will be in school to help us celebrate with an array of stories, drama and music.

Parents and Friends Update

Easter Squares

These are now on sale in every classroom. Squares cost 50p each and a winner will be drawn out of each class and will receive an Easter Egg as a prize. The draw will take place on Friday 27th March 2015.

Easter Basket Draw

One of our parents, Mrs S Clarke, has kindly made and donated a basket full of Easter goodies. This will be raffled on Friday 27th March 2015. The basket

will be sent round all the classes each day and pupils may buy tickets at £1 each.

Coats

As we have now moved into Spring and the weather is a bit milder, we are no longer enforcing the coats rule at break and lunch. We would, however, encourage you to ensure your child/children come to school with a coat on a wet or cold day.

Year 4 Gaelic Tournament

On Thursday 5th February 2015, Year 4 children enjoyed participating in the Gaelic Tournament at St. John the Baptist Primary School. Five schools participated: St. John the Baptist PS, Ballyoran PS, Presentation PS, Portadown Integrated PS and St. Joseph and St James PS from Poyntzpass. The schools played against each other in this fun event. Thanks to Liam and Paul for training the children to play at the event.

Healthy Living Day

On Friday 6th February 2015 each class participated in a range of healthy living and fitness activities. Coaches from Paul Carvill Gaelic and Ambassadors in Sport Football attended, giving each class a taste of different fitness activities and ways to stay healthy. All classes thoroughly enjoyed themselves and were encouraged to keep track of how much exercise they are doing on a daily basis.

Internet Safety Day

Safer Internet Day is organised in February of each year to promote the safe and responsible use of online technology and mobile phones for children. This year's theme was 'Let's create a better internet together'. To promote this in school, Mrs Biggerstaff spoke to Years 3 - 7 in assembly about how they can create a better internet for themselves and others. We discussed the dangers of the Internet and Social Networking and how to keep safe online. We are aware that a number of pupils in school engage in Social Networking and we would ask you, as parents, to closely monitor what your children are doing online at home. We would also remind you that children under 13 years of age should not have a Facebook account and ask you to read the leaflet on our school website 'A Parents' Guide to Facebook.' You will find this leaflet in the Parents Section in 'Useful Links'.

Diocesan Visit

Sister Elizabeth paid her annual visit to Year 4 and Year 7 pupils on Thursday 12th February 2015 and was very pleased with the children's preparation for the Sacraments.

Year 7 Prepare for Confirmation

Pioneer Talk

Geraldine Lawless, from the Portadown Pioneer Council, gave a talk to Year 7 Pupils on Friday 6th February 2015. She discussed the benefits of enrolling as a junior member of the Pioneer Association to encourage young people to abstain from taking alcoholic drinks until they have reached a more responsible age.

Ceremony of Light

As part of their preparation for Confirmation, Year 7 pupils attended a Ceremony of Light on Tuesday 24th February. Parents and pupils from the three local schools participated in the Ceremony and pupils had the opportunity to take their Confirmation pledge.

Confirmation Service

This will take place on Sunday 8th March 2015 at 3pm in St John's Church. We wish all our Year 7 pupils well as they take this very important step in their life.

Non-Uniform Day

The Eco-Committee decided to hold a Non-Uniform Day on Thursday 12th February 2015 to raise money for the Tear Fund charity. The money raised will be used to 'Twin a Toilet' with a school in another country. A total of £385.55 has been raised and this will allow us to twin several toilets. Thank you very much for your generosity; your money is going to a great cause!

5-a-Side Tournament

On Friday 20th February 2015, pupils from Year 5, Year 6 and Year 7 took part in a 5-a-Side Football Tournament at the Football Warehouse in Portadown. We had three Year 5 pupils who were representing the school for the first time in a 5-a-Side competition. The team failed to qualify from a very tough group but performed extremely well, winning one match and drawing another. In a very solid team performance, special mention must go to John Paul Ferreira who scored two goals.

Dental Visit to LSC

On Thursday 26th February 2015, LSC had a visit from Community Dentists Helen and Deirdre. They were here to perform the annual dental Screening and Oral Health Assessment. The pupils were advised on the importance of regular brushing of teeth and the need to change their toothbrush regularly.

Year 5 Young Enterprise

Year 5 class participated in a workshop which was facilitated by Young Enterprise. The theme of the workshop was 'Our City'. The children had to identify the types of services and shops which are featured within our cities in

Northern Ireland. The class were divided into small groups with each group responsible for planning and designing their own city. Each child undertook the role of a construction worker, city planner or a business owner. This interactive workshop enhanced the children's overall knowledge of cities within our locality. The Year 5s thoroughly enjoyed working with the Young Enterprise team and building their own city.

Peer Paired Numeracy

On Friday 6th February, Mrs Brown and three Year 6 and 7 pupils went to Millington Primary School to participate in Peer Paired Numeracy training led by Timothy Doyle. The three girls, Grace, Megan and Oliwia, demonstrated their confidence in Maths and their ability to discuss their activities using mathematical language. Well done girls! They enjoyed trying out new Numeracy websites/games.

The girls are embarking on a project whereby they will be a 'maths buddy' to selected Year 4 pupils.

Years 6 and 7 Visit Armagh Planetarium

Year 6 and 7 went to Armagh Planetarium with Mrs Walker, Mrs Martin and Mrs Molloy on Thursday 26th February 2015. We travelled by bus for both journeys. Whilst there we made rockets and blasted them off. It was good fun, but we all got a bit wet! We watched a presentation of the inside of your body during take-off and how to train to be an astronaut. We were also on a simulation of a roller coaster called Armaghgeddon! It was very realistic. The final thing we took part in, were experiments involving astronaut training under water (with Lego and gloves) and we tried astronaut ice cream which was a big hit! The whole day was about Astronaut Training and part of Science Week. It was a lot of fun, but I don't think we will be heading to space this year!

Sainsbury Active Kids Vouchers

We are once again collecting these vouchers. Please place them in the Collection Box in the foyer.

Students

Ballyoran Primary School hosts many students each year from Schools, Colleges and Universities. We are currently hosting one student training to be a teacher from Stranmillis University College, Belfast. She will be with us for the next 6 weeks in Years 4 and 7.

Menu for March 2015

(See back page)

R Woolsey
Principal



Menu for March 2015

	Week commencing 02.03.15	Week commencing 09.03.15	Week commencing 16.03.15	Week commencing 23.03.15	Week commencing 30.03.15
Mon	Steak Burgers or Chicken Tagliatelle, Turnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Ice Cream, Fruit and Chocolate Sauce	Shepherds' Pie or Stuffed Bacon Rolls, Carrots, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Rice Pudding and Oranges	School Closed Staff Training	Fish Fingers or Vegetable Pasta Bake, Beans, Salad, Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes Lemon Sponge and Custard	Chicken and Broccoli Bake or Shepherds' Pie, Turnip, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Rice Pudding with Fruit
Tues	Fish Fingers or Filled Rolls (Salad, Chicken), Beans, Sweet Corn, Salad, Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes Apple Crumble and Custard	Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Peas, Sauces, Salad, Baby Boiled Potatoes Chocolate Sponge and Cornflour	School Closed St Patrick's Day	Steak Burgers or Lasagne, Turnip, Cabbage, Potatoes, Gravy or Salad, Crusty Bread Jelly Fluff and Cornflour	Chip Shop Day: Cocktail Sausages, Chips, Beans Tub of Ice Cream
Wed	Savoury Mince, Carrots, Pasta, Crusty Bread, Mashed Potatoes or Chicken with Noodles, Vanilla Sponge and Custard	Fish Fingers or Sweet and Sour Chicken and Boiled Rice, Beans, Salad, Sweet Corn, Mashed Potatoes Jelly and Fruit	Oven Baked Sausages or Chicken Curry, Boiled Rice, Beans, Coleslaw, Salad, Mashed Potatoes Rice Pudding and Peaches	Beef Curry and Boiled Rice or Savoury Mince, Mixed Vegetables, Pasta, Crusty Bread, Mashed Potatoes Flakemeal Biscuit, Fruit and Custard	No Dinners School finishes at midday
Thurs	New York Hot Dog with Manhattan Dressing or Shanghai Chicken Curry and Oriental Rice, Surfer Salad Bar, French Fries German Biscuits and Custard	Roast Pork and Stuffing or Vegetable Pasta Bake, Cabbage, Carrots, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Roast Turkey and Stuffing, Baton Carrots, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy or Ham and Pasta Bake Jelly and Fruit Salad	Chicken Crumble Top Pie or Macaroni Cheese Pasta Bake, Carrots, Parsnips, Peas, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes Ice Cream, Fruit and Wafer	School Closed
Fri	Roast Turkey and Stuffing or Vegetable Pasta Bake, Carrots, Parsnips, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes Jelly and Fruit Salad	Homemade Vegetable or Chicken Soup, Hot Dogs, Sauce or Filled Rolls (Chicken or Salad) Frozen Mousse or Raisin Cookie	Homemade Cheese and Tomato Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Peas, Salad, Coleslaw, Sauces, Baked Potatoes Ice Cream, Fruit and Chocolate Sauce	Chicken Soup or Homemade Vegetable Soup, Hot Dogs, Sauces or Filled Rolls (Chicken or Salad) Biscuit or Fresh Fruit	School Closed

Milk, Water, Bread, Fruit and Yoghurt available daily

Menu subject to deliveries

For further information on allergenic ingredients, please contact the school