



## News Sheet – September 2014

### Diary Dates – October 2014

6 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup>	School Book Fair Week
10 <sup>th</sup>	Readathon for School Funds OTT Friday Night Club starts
15 <sup>th</sup>	Flu Vaccinations Pupil Council Meeting
17 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of Swimming for Years 6 and 7
20 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup>	Parent/Teacher Meeting Week (Years 1 – 7) (School closes at 1pm for Years 1 - 7 pupils) No After School Clubs
27 <sup>th</sup> - 31 <sup>st</sup>	School Closed - Half-Term Holiday

### Advance Dates

We aim to work in partnership with parents and, with this in mind; we have arranged as many dates as possible for the school year to give parents as much notice as possible.

6 <sup>th</sup> November	Individual and Family Group Photographs
24 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Nursery Parent/Teacher Meetings
4 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Fair - School finishes at 2.00pm for everyone
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Concert – 10.00am
2 <sup>nd</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent/Teacher Meetings
13 <sup>th</sup> March	St Patrick's Day Celebration and Dancing Festival
9 <sup>th</sup> May	First Holy Communion – 11.00am
11 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Test Week
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Sports Day – 9.30am
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Prize Day/Reports Issued
18 <sup>th</sup> June	Nursery Graduation – 10.00am
w/b 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	End of Term Trip Week

### School Closure: October 2014

Please note that school will be closed for one week from Monday 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014 for Half-Term.

### Nut Free School

A pupil attending Ballyoran Primary School suffers from a severe nut allergy. This pupil may suffer a severe reaction if she comes into contact with nuts of any type.

Accordingly we ask that **no nuts or nut products, such as peanut butter sandwiches/nut bars etc are sent to school in your child's packed lunch.**

Thank you for your understanding and co-operation with this matter.

### First Aid

Our 3 First Aiders are:

- Mrs H Stewart
- Mrs E Mackle
- Mr R Hendron

### **Fizzy Drinks**

A reminder that as part of our Health Schools Policy, we do not permit pupils to bring fizzy drinks into school.

### **Lunchbox Leaflet**

We encourage parents of pupils who take a Packed Lunch, to ensure it is healthy.

### **Free School Meals**

Are you aware that many people in Northern Ireland who are entitled to Free School Meals are not claiming them?

If you can answer 'Yes' to any of the following questions, you **may** be entitled to Free School Meals:

Are you in receipt of:

- Income Support?
- Income-Based Jobseeker's Allowance?
- Income-Related Employment and Support Allowance?
- Guarantee Element of Pension Credit?

If you are **not** receiving one of the above benefits

- Are you in receipt of **Child Tax Credit** or **Working Tax Credit** and have an annual taxable income of £16,190 or less?
- Are you an Asylum Seeker supported by the Home Office National Asylum Support Service (NASS)?

If you have answered 'Yes' to any of these questions and are not in receipt of Free School Meals, please contact Mrs Tedford in the office for an Application Form.

### **Flu Vaccine**

The Department of Health has decided that all Year 1 – 7 pupils will be offered the Flu Vaccine this year. This will be by way of a nasal spray and will be administered in school on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2014. Parents have received Consent Forms for this which I ask you to return if you have not already done so.

### **Polish Classes**

Children from Year 1 – Year 3 will again receive Polish lessons this year through the Primary Modern Languages Programme. This is aimed to provide our children with a positive, enjoyable experience of learning languages. The children enjoy their learning and take pride in their ability to sing, play, understand and perform simple communications in another language

### **After School Clubs**

The school continues to offer a varied selection of Extra Curricular Activities to its pupils. We believe that these are an important part of your child's educational

experience at Primary School. We would encourage every pupil to attend at least one Club year term. Please see the Club List on page 6. A reminder that all Clubs which begin at 2.00pm finish at 3.00pm. Those Clubs which start at 3.00pm finish at 4.00pm. Please ensure your child is collected promptly after Clubs.

### School Uniform

I want to say a big thank you to all our parents for ensuring that your children are in full school uniform every day. Our pupils look so smart in the uniform and we ask that you ensure that these high standards are maintained all year. A reminder that replacement ties and PE bags can be purchased from the office for £3 each.

Please note that hooded tops (hoodies) are not permitted in school.

### Pupil Council

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been elected by their classes to serve on the Pupil Council this year.

Class		
Yr 7	Oliwia Osinska	Nathan Campbell
Yr 6	Grace O'Connor	Callum Mulholland
Yr 5	Mia Millar	Sean Coyle
Yr 4	Niamh Larkin	Shea Edgar
Yr 3C	Rafaela Chainho	Shea Mulholland
Yr3M	Aine Gorman	Ryan Paulino
LSC	Aimee-Leigh Sterritt	Ryan McGeown

The first meeting took place on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2014 and the Office Bearers for the year were elected as follows:

Chairperson:	Nathan Campbell
Vice Chairperson:	Oliwia Osinska
Secretary:	Callum Mulholland

### Year 1 Parents Meeting

On Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September, Kate O'Hanlon (Literacy Specialist) talked to the parents of our Year 1 pupils about supporting children's language skills at home. Kate emphasised the importance of sharing stories, spinning out the story through discussion and expanding the conversation beyond the book. If you would like further information on any area of Literacy please contact Mrs McGuire.

### Parent/Teacher Meetings

These will take place from 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> October 2014 for Year 1 – 7 parents only. (Nursery Parent/Teacher Meeting will happen from 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014.) To facilitate these, school will close at 1.00pm each day. As these meetings are a vital part of our home/school partnership we would ask that you make the effort to attend. As last year, one letter will be going out to the eldest pupil in each family. We would ask that you complete the reply to include all family members and return it to school with the eldest pupil.

## House System

The school continues to operate the House Competition. All pupils have been placed into one of three houses:

Bann  
Lagan  
Foyle

Points are awarded to pupils for a range of things, (e.g. good manners) and the points are displayed in the Assembly Hall each week with a monthly House Cup presented to the House with the most points.

Congratulations to the following Yr 6 and 7 pupils who have been elected as Captain and Vice Captains this year.

House	Captain	Vice Captain
Bann	Oliwia Osinska	Shane Caulfield
Foyle	Courtney Sharpe	Madison Hall
Lagan	William Paulino	Vitor Guerra

## Pupil Information and Consent Forms

A big thank you to everyone for completing these forms so promptly and returning them to school. A few still remain outstanding and these should be returned as soon as possible. It is your responsibility to inform the office immediately if your address or telephone number change during the year.

## Morning and Afternoon Arrangements

A reminder that all pupils must be dropped off outside school in the mornings. We ask that parents do not enter the school building. This is to ensure the smooth operation of the school first thing in the morning. Unfortunately it will not be possible for you to speak to your child's teacher in the morning as they are busy preparing and supervising. If you have an urgent message, please go to the Office.

You are reminded to wait outside the red gate at home time until child is dismissed by their teacher. We ask that parents do not come in to remove their child/children or call them out until they have been dismissed.

Thank you to the vast majority of parents who respect the above requests.

## Car Parks

A reminder that the car parks must not be used for dropping off or collecting pupils. Parents and pupils are asked to refrain from entering the car park for Health and Safety reasons. Again, thank you to the vast majority of parents who respect this.

## European Day of Languages

On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September the school celebrated European Day of Languages. During a special assembly all children were given the opportunity to showcase their talents. We listened to a number of Year 2 children sing and count in Polish. Year 3 children impressed everyone by singing in French. Year 4 played a game to celebrate the importance of names in any language. Year 5 prepared a selection of flags from various European Countries. Year 6 showed everyone how to count in Polish and Year 7 entertained us by singing '*Head and Shoulders, Knees and Toes*'

in Spanish to close our assembly. Throughout the day we played games and sang songs in a number of different languages such as Portuguese, Polish, Lithuanian, French, Spanish, Italian and German. We really enjoyed celebrating European Day of Languages.

### **Board of Governors**

The newly reconstituted Board of Governors met for the first time on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2014. Mr Eamonn Fleming was elected Chairperson and Mrs Hazel Loney as Vice Chairperson.

I would like to thank Rev Canon Jim Campbell for all his hard work and support as Chairperson over these past 13 years.

Mrs Faith McKinney has retired after 13 years as a faithful Member of the Board of Governors of Ballyoran Primary School. Being a School Governor is a voluntary and vitally important role and I wish to put on record my thanks to Mrs McKinney for her support, commitment and dedication to this school over the years. Mrs McKinney has been replaced by Mrs Enid Jennett.

### **Attendance/Punctuality**

We recognise and stress the importance of the learning and teaching within the classroom. Regular attendance and systematic learning go hand in hand and children whose attendance is poor will have difficulty in reaching their full potential. Children should be at school at all times unless prohibited by illness or medical appointments. Each month the School's EWO (Educational Welfare Officer) carries out an Attendance Audit with the Principal. Pupils whose attendance falls below 85% will be identified. In this case, if there is not a genuine reason for absence, a letter will be sent out to you. If there is no improvement, a second letter will be sent out. If, after the second letter, there is still no improvement, the Principal will make a Referral to the Education Welfare Service. The Department of Education has asked us to issue each family with a copy of the booklet '**School Attendance Matters - A Parent's Guide**'

Due to Department of Education Guidelines, a present mark can only be given if a pupil is in school.

Just as Attendance is important, Punctuality is also very important. School begins at 9.00am therefore; pupils should be seated in class when the 9.00am bell rings. We would ask all parents to help ensure this is the case. If pupils are late, the class is disrupted and valuable teaching time is lost. **Please note that Pupils arriving in class after the 9.00am bell will be marked as late.**

### **School Website**

Please keep up to date with what is going on in school by visiting our website on [www.ballyoranps.com](http://www.ballyoranps.com)

### **PFBPS**

The Annual General Meeting of the Parents and Friends of Ballyoran Primary School was held on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2014. More parents and friends are urgently needed to help with organising events this year. If you are interested, please speak to Mrs Mackle.

**Extra Curricular Activities - Term 1**

(See page 7)

**Menu for October**

(See back page)

R Woolsey  
Principal

## Extra Curricular Activities 2014/2015 Term 1

Club	Day	Dates	Time	Class	Staff	Location
Homework	Monday – Thursday	weekly	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 4 - 7	Mrs Bell	Dinner Hall/ICT Suite
ICT	Monday - Thursday	weekly	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 5 - 7	Mrs Glavin	ICT Suite
Soccer	Monday	weekly	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 5 - 7	Ambassadors In Sport	Pitch/ Playground/ Hall
Choir	Tuesday	4 <sup>th</sup> , 11 <sup>th</sup> , 18 <sup>th</sup> , 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 4 – 7	Mrs McCreesh- West	Hall
Irish Dancing	Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> Oct & 5 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov, 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 4 – 7	Mrs Heaney	Hall
Gardening	Wednesday	17 <sup>th</sup> , 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept, 1 <sup>st</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> Oct & 5 <sup>th</sup> Nov	3.00- 4.00	Yrs 5 - 7	Mrs McGuire	Outside
Recorders	Wednesday	1 <sup>st</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> , 15 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 5 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> Nov	3.00- 4.00	Yrs 4 - 7	Mrs Mulholland	Nursery 1
Art	Thursday	2 <sup>nd</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 6, 13 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup> Nov	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 6 & 7	Mrs Barkley	Room 11
Games	Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct, 6 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 20 <sup>th</sup> & 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	3.00 – 4.00	Yrs 4 - 7	Mr Woolsey	Playground

**Please note there will be no Clubs during the following weeks:**

1. **Parent/Teacher Meeting Week: 20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> October 2014**
2. **Half term week: 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014**
3. **Last week of term: 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> December 2014**

## Menu for October

	<b>Week commencing 06.10.14</b>	<b>Week commencing 13.10.14</b>	<b>Week commencing 20.10.14</b>	<b>Week commencing 27.10.14</b>
Mon	Fish Fingers or Chicken Broccoli Bake, Beans, Sweet Corn, Coleslaw, Salad, Mashed Potatoes  Jelly and Fruit Salad	Shepherd's Pie or Chicken Tagliatelle, Carrots, Broccoli, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes  Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Fish Fingers or Lasagne, Beans, Sweet corn, Side Salad, Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes  Vanilla Sponge and Custard	<b>School Closed</b>
Tues	Homemade Pizza or Tuna Wrap, Peas, Sweet Corn, Sauces, Chips or Baked Potatoes  Rice Pudding and Peaches	Oven Baked Sausages, Gravy or Spaghetti Bolognese, Peas, Sweet corn, Side Salad, Mashed Potatoes  Strawberry Cake and Custard	Homemade Pizza or Tuna Wraps, Peas, Sweet Corn, Sauces, Chips or Baked Potatoes  Rice Krispie Bun and Custard	<b>School Closed</b>
Wed	Chicken Curry with Boiled Rice, Naan Bread or Savoury Mince, Peas, Pasta, Mashed Potatoes  Biscuit, Fruit and Custard	Filled Chicken or Salad Baguettes or Crumbed Fish, Beans, Sweet corn, Salad, Chips or Baby Boiled Potatoes  Rice Pudding and Oranges	Roast Turkey or Macaroni Cheese, Turnip, Broccoli, Gravy, Mashed Potatoes  Jelly and Fruit	<b>School Closed</b>
Thurs	Vegetable Pasta Bake or Roast Pork, Stuffing, Gravy, Carrots, Broccoli, Mashed Potatoes  Pineapple Sponge and Custard	Sweet and Sour Chicken with Boiled Rice or Baked Gammon, Gravy, Turnip, Cabbage, Mashed Potatoes  Biscuit and Fruit Salad	Vegetable Pasta Bake or Shepherd's Pie, Gravy, Carrots, Peas, Mashed Potatoes  Ice Cream, Fruit and Wafer	<b>School Closed</b>
Fri	Homemade Vegetable Soup or Chicken Soup Hot Dog or Filled Rolls, Sauces  Frozen Mousse or Raisin Cookie and Fresh Fruit	Chicken Pie with Crumble Top or Vegetable and Cheese Pasta Bake, Gravy, Carrots, Peas, Mashed Potatoes  Fruit Jelly Whip and White Sauce	Homemade Vegetable Soup or Chicken Soup Hot Dog or Filled Rolls, Sauces  Raisin Cookie or Fruit Salad	<b>School Closed</b>

Milk, Water, Bread, Fruit and Yogurt available daily

Menu subject to deliveries

