



News Sheet – April 2010

Diary Dates for May 2010

- 3rd Bank Holiday – School Closed
Belfast Marathon Relay – Mr Hendron and Miss Smith
- 4th Nursery 1 Trip to Parkanaur with Hart Memorial Primary School
- 5th Nursery 2 Trip to Parkanaur with Hart Memorial Primary School
P6 Viking Trip – Armagh County Museum
P7 PSNI CASE Session 1
- 6th School Closure – General Election
- 7th Deadline for Sponsorship money to be returned
- 8th P4 First Communion at 11am in St John's Church followed by celebration in school
- 10th Surestart Speech & Language Session in Nursery
- 12th Pupil Council Meeting
P7 PSNI CASE Session 2
- 13th Credit Union Poster Competition Prize Giving – Portadown Town Hall at 7pm
- 14th Whole School Photograph
- 16th P7 – Ceremony of Light in St John's Church
- 17th Assessment Week
Walk to School Week
- 26th P6 and P7 Smoking Presentation
- 27th P6 Viking Day – 9.30am – 12.15pm
- 28th P7 Transfer Letters posted from SELB
Jo Jingles in Nursery and LSC
- 29th P7 Confirmation at 3pm in St John's Church
- 31st Bank Holiday – School Closed

School Closure

A reminder that school will be closed on 3rd, 6th and 31st May 2010

Office Refurbishment

Thank you for your patience and co-operation during our office refurbishment. From 7th May 2010, the new reception and office will be in operation.

Tesco/Sainsbury Vouchers

A big thank you to everyone who has collected vouchers for us so far. There are boxes at Reception. Please keep them coming in! Your support is much appreciated.

Uniform

The majority of our pupils continue to wear their uniform properly. Thank you to all our parents who make this possible. A reminder that all pupils must wear dark footwear. White socks must only be worn by pupils wearing the summer checked dresses.

Our uniform suppliers continue to be JNR in North Street, Lurgan and Ivan Jameson, High Street, Portadown. Maxwells in Union Street, Lurgan will also be stocking our uniform from this summer.

Car Park

Parking outside the school continues to be a problem and I would again urge everyone to show both respect and care when dropping off and picking up pupils. A reminder that parents and pupils, either in a car or on foot, **must not enter the car park**. Please use the Pedestrian Entrance. Thank you to the majority of parents and pupils who respect this rule.

Safety in the Sun

During the Summer Term, can I once again remind parents of the importance of keeping children safe in the sun. We recommend that when it is sunny, pupils:

- 1) Wear sun cream
- 2) Bring a sun cap for outside
- 3) Wear sunglasses outside
- 4) Bring a water bottle

Extended Schools Funding

We are still waiting to hear if we will receive new funding from the Department of Education to allow programmes such as our Breakfast Club and Kids Clubs to continue. We will keep you informed of any development in this area.

Belfast Marathon Relay for Charity

Mr Hendron and Miss Smith will form part of a Relay Team at the Belfast Marathon on Monday 3rd May 2010. We wish them well for this. Please support this very worthwhile appeal for the Southern Area Hospice. A reminder that Sponsor Forms and Money should be returned to school by **Friday 7th May 2010**. Pupils are reminded to collect from family and friends only.

Extra Curricular Activities

The school is pleased to announce that we are expanding our range of extra curricular activities to pupils. From this year, all teachers will lead a Club for at least one block each year. This term the following new clubs will be offered:

- ICT
- Clay
- P4 Irish Dancing
- Knitting

Class/Group Photographs

These will be available to purchase at the beginning of May when packs will be sent out.

Ballyclare Dancing Festival

On Friday 16th April 2010, 25 dancers from P5 – P7 travelled to Ballyearl Theatre to take part in an Irish Folk Dancing Festival. The dancers performed solo in two classes: The Reel and The Light Double Jig/Single Jig and the adjudicator, Miss Donna Revie, felt that the standard was so high everyone deserved to win a medal!

In addition, Lara White, Chelsea Hendron, Eve Heaney and Morgan Eadie won some extra solo medals and the P7 Team Dance was awarded a prize as well. Congratulations to them!

A special *well done* must go to Brooke McCann and Beatriz Almeida, our P5 beginners, who were competing at their first open competition. They were fantastic – no sign of nerves at all.

Overall, the competition was a great success and every dancer represented their school, their family and themselves terrifically – well done to everyone! The teams are now looking forward to their School Festival which is to be held on Wednesday 16th June 2010. Keep practising!!

P7 Love for Life Conference

On Monday 19th April 2010 pupils from Ballyoran, Presentation and Hart Memorial Primary Schools thoroughly enjoyed participating in the *'I'm Special, You're Special* Programme. Individual uniqueness, decision making, puberty, dealing with conflict, friendship and family were all covered in this interactive and engaging conference. The pupils found this experience extremely beneficial as they are approaching the end of their primary school careers.

Surestart Speech and Language Sessions in Nursery

Fiona and Magdalene from Blossom Surestart continue their Talk Time Programme which focuses on activities to develop speech, language and physical skills.

Gaelic Blitz

Our Gaelic Team took part in a Blitz at Tir na nOg GFC on Wednesday 28th April 2010. We played against Presentation, Ballyhegan, PIPS and St Mary's (Maghery) Primary Schools. Despite the strong opposition we played with great skill and determination and won the Tournament. Player of the Tournament was Conor Kearns.

Assessment Week

Standardised Tests for all pupils from P3 – P7 will take place week beginning 17th May 2010. We would appreciate your support in ensuring your child attends school during this time.

Menu for May 2010

	03.05.10	10.05.10	17.05.10	24.05.10
Mon	School Closed – Bank Holiday	Chicken Nuggets or Sweet and Sour Pork and Boiled Rice, Spaghetti, Sweetcorn, Broccoli, Chips or Baked Potato Semolina and Fruit	Shepherds Pie or Chicken and Broccoli Pasta Bake, Baton Carrots, Creamed Potato, Gravy Rice and Peaches	Steak Pie or Filled Wraps, Cabbage, Mixed Vegetables, Creamed Potato Gravy Ice Cream Wafer
Tues	Chicken Nuggets, Beans Chips, Baked Potato Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Steak Burger, Peas, Carrots, Creamed Potato, Gravy, Filled Wraps Shortbread Biscuit and Fruit	Oven Baked Steak Burger or Cheese and Tomato Omelette, Carrots and Parsnips, Sweetcorn, Creamed Potato, Gravy Lemon Sponge and Custard	Homemade Tomato and Cheese Pizza or cheese Omelette, Spaghetti, Green Beans, Cauliflower Cheese, Chiips, Baked Potato, Tossed Salad Jelly and Fruit Salad
Wed	Fresh Fish, Beans, Mashed Potato or Bacon and Cheese Taglitelle, Crusty Bread, Tossed Salad Jelly and Fruit Salad	Savoury Mince, Broccoli, Mashed Potato, Crusty Bread or Ham and Cheese Omelette, Tossed Salad, Baked Potato Ice Cream Wafer	Homemade Tomato and Cheese Pizza or Salmon Fillet, Beans, Mixed Vegetables, Chips, Boiled Potato Fruit Salad and Wholemeal Biscuit	Irish Stew with Carrot and Onions, Broccoli, Sweetcorn or Sweet and Sour Chicken with Boiled Rice, Crusty Bread Rice and Peaches
Thur	School Closed – General Election	Roast Turkey, Carrots and Parsnips, Creamed Potato, Gravy Wholemeal Apple Crumble and Custard	Beef Casserole with Carrots and Onions, Broccoli, Turnip, Mashed Potato, Chicken Curry and Boiled Rice Jelly and Ice Cream	Chicken Pie with Crumble Top, Carrots and Parsnips, Peas, Creamed Potato, Gravy Fruit Crumble and Custard
Fri	Homemade Vegetable Soup or Cream of Chicken Soup, Hot Dog, Sauce or Onions, Filled Rolls, Chicken, Tuna, Salad Frozen Yoghurt or Choco Orange Cookie	Crumbed Fish or Lasagne, Beans, Tossed Salad, Beetroot, Coleslaw, Creamed Potato Jelly and Fruit Salad	Homemade Vegetable Soup or Cream of Chicken Soup, Hot Dog, Sauce or Onions, Filled Rolls, Chicken, Tuna, Salad Frozen Yoghurt or Fresh Fruit	Battered Small Fry or Macaronni Cheese, Beans, Mixed Vegetables, Creamed Potato, Beetroot, Salad, Coleslaw Semolina and Two Fruits

School Holidays

2010/2011

All holiday dates are inclusive

Autumn Term begins on Wednesday 1st September 2010

Sept	-	-
Oct	29	1 School Day
Nov	1 – 2	2 School Days
Dec	23 – 31	7 School Days
Jan	3 – 5	3 School Days
Feb	14 – 15	2 School Days
March	17 – 21	3 School Days
April	21 – 29	7 School Days
May	2, 30	2 School Days
June	-	-

*A further 5 School Development Days have yet to be selected. Parents will be informed of these in due course.

Note: Removing pupils during term time is not recommended: please try not to book holidays or other trips during the school term. Staff cannot prepare work in advance for children who are on holidays and very often these children miss vital work during their absence. The school are also required to inform the SELB when a child is removed from school for a holiday. This information is recorded and may be used by the SELB in appropriate situations, i.e. Special Educational Needs assessments or child protection issues.

We hope this information is of use to you as you attempt to plan family holidays for the year ahead.