



News Sheet – March 2010

Diary Dates for April 2010

- 12th Start of Summer Term
- 14th P1 Acceptance Letters for next year posted
Pupil Council Meeting
- 15th Photographer in School – Class and Group Photographs
- 16th Ballyclare Dancing Festival
Friday night Kids' Club recommences
- 19th P7 'Love for Life' Conference
P4 and P7 End of Key Stage Assessment Week begins
Sure Start Speech and Language Session in Nursery
- 30th Nursery Acceptance Letters for next year posted

Easter Holidays

This term finishes on **Wednesday 24th March 2010**. This is a normal school day but uniform need not be worn. The Summer Term begins on **Monday 12th April 2010**.

P6 Attend 'Bee Safe' Event

On Monday 1st March 2010 P6 attended the PSNI's annual 'Bee Safe' event. This was all about safety and pupils were given demonstrations by the PSNI, Fire and Rescue Service and Translink, among others. Pupils very much enjoyed this event, particularly the Chip Pan Fire Demonstration by the Fire and Rescue Service.

Busy Soccer Season Continues

Monday 1st March 2010 saw a soccer match away to Millington Primary School as part of the Mullen Cup. Unfortunately the team were defeated but as usual, their conduct on and off the pitch was a credit to the school.

Thursday 18th March 2010 saw a League Match at home against our neighbours, St John the Baptist Primary School. On this occasion St John's won the match 2 : 0.

Shannaghmore Residential

From Wednesday 3rd to Friday 5th March 2010, 29 Primary 7 pupils and 3 Teachers (Mrs Heaney, Miss Daly and Mr Hendron) visited Shannaghmore Outdoor Education Centre. The emphasis in Shannaghmore is very much to 'have a go' and to get to know fellow pupils and teachers outside the school environment. The pupils had the opportunity to take part in several activities such as Adventure Walk, Wall Climbing and Canoeing. Shannaghmore also requires the pupils to take responsibility for the equipment they receive which has to be looked after and returned at the end of the visit.

The feedback from the pupils was very positive, the only drawback being that it seemed to go too quickly! We also had positive comments from the staff at Shannaghmore who praised the pupils for being able to step out of their 'comfort zone' and take full part in the activities.

We are very proud of the P7s for representing the school in such a positive manner.

A big thank you also to Mr Hendron, Miss Daly and Mrs Heaney for giving up of their time to make this trip possible.

Shannaghmore DVD

Conall Kerr and Conor Kearns have made a DVD, with pictures, from the Primary 7's recent trip to Shannaghmore. The DVD costs £1.50 and all proceeds will go to the Romanian Orphanages Appeal. If you would like to purchase a DVD, please see Conor or Conall before the end of term.

World Book Day

Thursday 4th March 2010 was a day of great excitement and colour as the pupils from Nursery, Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 came into school dressed as a character from a book. This special occasion was a way of celebrating World Book Day. A Special Assembly took place and each class contributed in a variety of ways. Some spoke about their favourite books, some recited poems or read letters to their favourite authors. Some teachers even got into the spirit of the day so check out all the photographs on our website. Well done to all the pupils and a big thank you to the parents who obviously put in a lot of effort to help make it a World Book Day to remember!

Credit Union Quiz

As you were informed in the February News Sheet, our team won the Portadown Credit Union Quiz on 1st February 2010. This meant they went through to the next round which was held in Armagh City Hotel on Friday 5th March 2010. Though the team were not placed in the top 3, they did very well. Well done again to Conor S Larkin and Conall Kerr from P7 and Jane Dunbar and Oran McGuckin from P6.

Cross-Community Drama

Over these past eight weeks, 7 pupils from P6 and P7 have been attending After School Drama Workshops at Drumcree College in preparation for a performance in Portadown Town Hall. Pupils from Ballyoran, Presentation, Millington, Hart Memorial, St John's Primary Schools and Drumcree College came together as part of an Extended Schools' Cluster Activity.

The performance was on Monday 8th March 2010 at Portadown Town Hall. The show, *'The Other Side'* was a great performance and an excellent representation by the following pupils: Jane Dunbar and Rebecca Griffin (P6), Conor S Larkin, Cara Matchett, Courtney Millar, Eoin McKee and Morgan Eadie (all P7).

New After School Club

Primary 6 pupils have had the opportunity to attend a Craft Club over these past few weeks. The Club, taken by Mrs Barkley and Miss Sweeney has given pupils opportunity to make Mothers' Day, St Patrick's Day and Easter cards and crafts.

First Gaelic Blitz of Year

On Friday 12th March 2010, twelve pupils took part in a Gaelic Blitz at Maghery Football Pitch. This was our first Gaelic Tournament of the year. After narrowly losing to both Maghery Primary School and Presentation Primary School, Ballyoran came back strongly to record victories against Portadown Integrated Primary School and St Oliver Plunkett's, Ballyhegan. Mr Hendron was very pleased with the performance and behaviour of the team which represented the school in a very positive way.

'Jo Jingles' Visit Nursery and LSC

Friday 12th March 2010 saw the second visit this year from 'Jo Jingles' to our Nursery and LSC. As ever, the pupils enjoyed participating in a range of creative, music and dance activities.

Charity Appeal for Romanian Orphans

Ballyoran Primary School has been asked to support a new Charity Fundraising Project which has been taken on by the local Parish of St John's. Pupils have been asked to bring in coppers (2p, 1p coins) to help move Romanian children out of Orphanages into the Community. This very worthwhile project will run over the next three years and is being led by Father White. A team from the Parish plan to go out later in the year with the money raised in local schools. Every class has a 'Copper Collection Container' and pupils can bring in coppers at any time. Father White has already been in school to launch the project at a Friday Assembly and he will come in from time to time to give pupils updates on how their money is being spent.

P7 Mass

Our P7 pupils took part in a special Mass with the 'Holy Spirit' Theme on Saturday 13th March 2010. This Service was part of their preparation for Confirmation.

Parent/Teacher Meetings

Thank you to all parents/guardians who attended Parent/Teacher Meetings last week. These are a vital part of our Home/School Links and are very important in supporting your child's education.

Students

Ballyoran Primary School continues to welcome students. This year students have completed placements and work experience from Stranmillis College, Drumcree College, Portadown College, Brownlow College and Southern Regional College.

Lismore Comprehensive Entrance Tests

Parents of P7 pupils hoping to go to Lismore next year are reminded that the Entrance Tests are during our Easter Holidays – **Monday 29th March 2010** from 9.30am until 1.00pm. School uniform should be worn and it is your responsibility to get your child to and from Lismore for the Test.

P4 and P7 End of Key Stage Assessment

When pupils in P4 and P7 return after the Easter break, they will be straight into Assessment Units. These are used to test pupils in English and Maths and pupils will receive a level for each subject. With this in mind, we would ask you to ensure that all P4 and P7 pupils are in school during the first few weeks of the new term.

Tesco/Sainsbury Vouchers

The school is once again collecting these vouchers to buy equipment. Please place them in the boxes in the foyer.

Extended Schools Activities

As you will be aware, each year our school gets extra money from the Department of Education to extend its programme beyond normal school hours. Our Breakfast Club and P2 and P3 Kids' Clubs which are very successful, are funded through this initiative. Unfortunately, the funding ceases at the end of March 2010. This now means that the Breakfast Club and the P2 and P3 Kids Clubs will finish at the end of this term. We hope

that this will be a temporary pause and that we will receive new funding to allow us to continue these very important activities.

New Designated First Aider in Nursery

Congratulations to Mrs Stewart, Nursery Assistant, who has recently successfully completed '*First Aid at Work*' training. She is now the Designated First Aider for the Nursery. This brings to five the total number of qualified First Aiders in school.

Menu for April

	12.04.10	19.04.10	26.04.10
Mon	Homemade Ham and Cheese Pizza or Filled Wraps, Beans, Sweetcorn, Chips or Baked Potato, Salad, Coleslaw Rice Pudding and Peaches	Spaghetti Bolognese, Crusty Bread, Tossed Salad or Stuffed Bacon Rolls, Mixed Vegetables, Creamed Potato, Gravy Semolina and Two Fruits	Shepherds Pie or chicken and Vegetable Pasta Bake, Baton Carrots, Creamed Potato, Gravy, Crusty Bread Rice and Mandarin Orange
Tues	Battered Small Fry or Spaghetti, Peas, Creamed Potato, Bacon and Cheese Tagliatelle, Wheaten Bread, Tossed Salad Jelly and Cornflour Sauce	Oven Baked Sausages, Peas, Broccoli, Creamed Potato, Gravy or Vegetable Pasta Bake and Tossed Salad, Crusty Bread Lemon Sponge and Custard	Beef Chilli and Boiled Rice or Chicken Goujons, Beans, Sweetcorn, Chips, Baked Potato, Tossed Salad Strawberry Cake and Custard
Wed	Savoury Mince, Broccoli, Mashed Potato, Sweet and Sour Pork and Boiled Rice, Crusty Bread Fruit Crumble and Custard	Pork Casserole with Carrot and Onions, Creamed Potato, Crusty Bread or Chicken Wraps, Tossed Salad, Coleslaw Jelly and Fruit Salad	Irish Stew with carrot and Onions, or Salmon Fillet, Garden Peas, Creamed Potato, Wheaten Bread Semolina and Two Fruits
Thur	Baked Gammon and Pineapple, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Creamed Potato, Gravy or Parsley Sauce Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Roast Turkey, Carrots and Parsnips, Mashed Potato, Gravy Wholemeal Apple Crumble and Custard	Roast Pork and Apple Sauce, Peas, Creamed Potato, Gravy Jelly Fruit and Cornflour Sauce
Fri	Homemade Vegetable or Cream of Chicken soup, Hot Dog, Sauce or Onions, Filled Rolls, Chicken, Salad, Tuna Wholemeal Biscuit or Fresh Fruit	Fresh Crumbed Fish, Beans, Beetroot, Tossed Salad, Coleslaw, Creamed Potato, Beef Curry and Boiled rice, Crusty Bread Ice Cream and Chocolate Sauce	Homemade Vegetable or Cream of Chicken Soup, Hot Dog, Sauce or Onions, Filled Rolls, Chicken, Salad, Tuna Choco Orange Cookie or Fresh Fruit