



News Sheet – June 2023

Safeguarding Team

Principal: Mr Woolsey
Designated Teacher: Mrs McGuire
Deputy Designated Teacher: Mrs Heaney
Nursery Deputy Designated Teacher: Mrs Mulholland
Designated Governor: Mrs Loney
Chairperson: Mr Fleming

Diary Dates for June 2023

- 1st Year 5 Shared Education visit to Peatlands Park
Year 7 Shared Education visit to Peatlands Park
- 2nd Swimming starts – Yrs 5 & 6
Year 5 Shared Education visit to Gosford
Jo Jingles in Nursery
- 5th Year 6 Shared Education Session at Bocombra
- 6th Sports Day 9.30am
School finishes at lunchtime for all pupils
- 7th Year 7 Cycling Proficiency
- 8th Year 7 Cycling Proficiency
Year 2 Shared Education visit to Peatlands Park
Last night of homework
- 9th Gaelic Blitz
Nursery End of Year Trip to Peter Pans
- 12th Year 2 End of Term Trip to Airtastic
- 13th Nursery Stage 2 Decisions given to parents
Year 7 Love for Life Conference – Bocombra PS
Year 1 Induction Meeting: 2pm
- 14th Year 2 Shared Education visit to Gosford
- 15th Year 7 End of Year Trip to Bushcraft at Oxford Island
Year 1 & Year 1/2 End of Term Trip to Scallywags
- 19th Nursery Induction Sessions – Nursery closes at 12noon
- 20th Nursery Induction Sessions – Nursery closes at 12noon
Talent Show
- 21st Years 3 & 4 End of Term Trip to Cinema & Airtastic
Nursery Graduation – 10am
- 22nd Year 6 End of Term Trip to Airtastic
- 23rd Prize Day
Annual Reports & Nursery Transition Forms distributed
Last day of Term for Year 7 pupils
- 26th Class Changes for next year
- 29th End of Year Class Parties
- 30th Last day of term – no uniform, no dinners, school finishes early for all pupils, staggered dismissals:
- 11.50am: Yrs 5 - 7
 - 11.55am: Yrs 3 & 4
 - 12noon: Nursery, Years 1 & 2

Staffing

Congratulations to Miss Baird who was recently appointed by the Board of Governors to a permanent teaching post within the school.

Miss Duraes has been covering the office since Mrs Sloan left. Mrs Stevenson has been appointed as our new school secretary; she will be starting work with us on 14th June.

Traffic Management Scheme

You will have noticed that our Traffic Management Scheme is very close to completion. However, while it looks finished there are a couple of things which the contractor is waiting for which are going to delay the completion date. Until it is completely finished and signed back over to us by the contractor, we are unable to use it. Unfortunately, it is looking very likely that we will be unable to use it until September but I will keep you up to date on this when I receive more information.

Sports Day

This will take place on **Tuesday 6th June at 9.30am** on the all weather pitch.

Unfortunately, with the ongoing works we are unable to access the all-weather pitch through the school grounds so a temporary access point will be in place off Ashgrove Road.

As usual the Nursery event will take place in the Nursery Outdoor Play Area with the Primary event divided into the three Key Stages on the all-weather pitch.

We ask that children come to school in their PE kit that day, as the weather is forecast to be very hot, they should also bring a cap, water bottle and sunscreen already applied.

School will finish early for all pupils when they have had their lunch, with the following dismissal times:

1.00pm: Nursery & Yrs 1 & 2

1.05pm: Years 3 & 4

1.10pm: Years 5 – 7 & LSC

Please note, in the unlikely event that it is wet, Sports Day will be rescheduled for the next available dry day. **Pupils will still finish school early on Tuesday 6th June even if Sports Day is cancelled because of the weather.**

Annual Reports for Year 1 to 7 and Nursery Transition Forms

Annual Reports and Nursery Transition Forms will be sent home with pupils on Friday 23rd June. You will receive one copy which does not need signed and returned. If you have any queries about anything written in the Report, please do not hesitate to contact the Class Teacher.

Shared Education

Throughout the year pupils from Nursery to Year 7 have taken part in a series of Shared Education sessions with our link school Bocombra Primary School. Pupils enjoyed meeting up with their friends and taking part in a range of fun activities. Pupils have visited each other's schools, Peatlands Park, The People's Park and Gosford Forest

Park. Shared Education has allowed both pupils and teachers to work in partnership and to engage in collaborative and meaningful learning experiences.

First Holy Communion

Some children from Year 4 and LSC made their First Holy Communion on Saturday 13th May. All pupils were given the opportunity to take part in the service. We are so proud of how well all the pupils conducted themselves during the service.

Year 6 Young Enterprise - Moy Park Challenge

The children in Year 6 took part in the Young Enterprise - Moy Park Challenge on Tuesday 16th May at the Seagoe Hotel, Portadown. It gave the children an opportunity to learn about 'Enterprise' and 'Healthy Eating' through a selection of fun and educational business activities. The children were joined by three other primary schools. In teams, they had to develop business plans in order to market a healthy, new chicken product. The Year 6 children were excellent ambassadors for our school. They were well-mannered, shared fantastic ideas, worked well in their teams and presented their plans confidently and clearly in front of a large audience.

Charity Colour Run & Big Rainbow Picnic

A big well done to all children from Nursery to Year 7 for completing our Charity Colour Run on Thursday 25th May. The Colour Run took place at The People's Park and was led by Healthy Kidz. The children and staff had great fun from start to finish. The Colour Run started with workout stations and some dances. It was a great day for all involved and we finished it off with a Rainbow Picnic. Thank you all for your kindness and generosity. With your sponsorship, the children were able to raise an amazing £5000 which is a new record for our school. This money will be split between Action Mental Health and Cancer Fund for Children - two very worthy charities. We would also like to thank Asda, Portadown for kindly donating some prizes for our highest collectors. The highest collector overall will win a 4-week Summer Camp pass which has been donated by Healthy Kidz. Prize winners will be announced during our next Assembly. A big thank you to Miss McKernan our Charity Co-ordinator for all her hard working in organising the event.

Nursery News

Coach Chris

The Nursery enjoyed another visit from Coach Chris on 26th May

Induction Meetings

The Year 1 Induction Meeting will take place at 2pm on **Tuesday 13th May 2023**. All parents must attend as lots of important information including start dates will be given out. Completed Data Collection Forms should be brought to the meeting.

Nursery Induction will take place on **Monday 19th and Tuesday 20th June 2023** and Nursery will close early at **12.00noon** on these two days to facilitate these. Parents must attend as important information will be given out. Parents must also bring their completed Data Collection Forms with them to the Induction Meeting.

Year 7 Post Primary Acceptance Letters

These were posted to parents on Saturday 20th May.

Assessment Fortnight

Thank you for ensuring that your child/children were in school every day during Assessment Fortnight.

Sun Safety in School

Now that the good weather has finally arrived, it is incredibly important that children bring a cap and sunglasses to school every day. We also ask that all children wear sun cream to school which is applied before they arrive in the morning as this offers protection during the school day. Finally, pupils should have water with them in non-spill bottles.

Stay Safe and Stay Out Campaign

As we approach the summer we have again been asked by the Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland to bring to your attention the dangers of children going near quarries.

The potential hazards that people expose themselves to are:

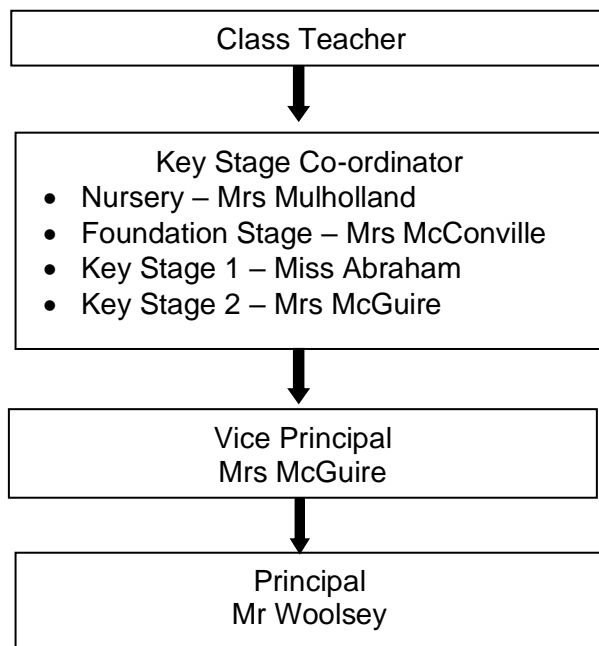
- Swimming in quarry lakes that can have very cold water even on a hot day in the middle of summer. Strong swimmers have drowned in quarries due to the unexpected impact that the extreme cold has had on their bodies.
- The water in quarry lakes can be very deep and shelving, exit from the water may only be possible in a few places, there may be pumps working or currents that can drag you under the water.
- There can be concealed underwater obstructions and other hazards that can seriously injure swimmers or individuals jumping into the water – tombstoning into quarry lakes is not safe.
- Tunnelling into piles of sand or playing on stockpiles exposes you to the risk of sudden collapses or movements that can easily bury you.
- Walking near the edge of quarry faces exposes you to the risk of serious falls as the edges can be unstable and collapse unexpectedly or sheer faces be obstructed by vegetation.
- Climbing or walking near rock faces can expose you to the risk of rock falls.
- Surfaces in quarries that may look solid, such as the surface of a silt pond, can suddenly break and act like quick sand sucking you down.
- Trail and quad biking in a quarry exposes riders to risks from unstable terrain, unexpected obstructions and being hit by moving plant.
- Young people on bikes or on foot may not be visible to operators of large machinery, they may not appreciate that the driver cannot see them.
- Quarries can often be located in remote sites where mobile reception is poor and there is no one on hand to help in the event of an accident.

Data Collection Forms

During the month of June, you will receive a blank Data Collection Form to be completed for each of your children at the school, in preparation for next year. It is essential that we have up to date information on pupils, particularly emergency contact details. Completed forms must be returned to school in the envelopes **by Friday 16th June 2022.**

General Queries / Concerns

At Ballyoran Primary School we believe in a strong partnership with parents and communication between home and school is a vital part of this. If you need to speak to your child's teacher, you should contact the office in the first instance and a suitable time will be arranged. Unfortunately, it will not be possible for parents to speak to teachers in the morning as they are busy preparing for the day and supervising pupils. If you do need to pass an urgent message to the teacher in the morning, please either send an email, note or speak to the secretary who will pass the message on. Meetings can be arranged with staff at a mutually convenient time through the office and we would encourage you to follow the flow chart below when raising general queries / concerns:



Pupils Leaving School Early

We discourage pupils being removed from school early as this means they will miss out on valuable learning. If a child, however, needs to leave school early for any reason, a reminder that they **must** be collected from Reception by an **adult**. We are unable to allow pupils to walk home on their own and this policy will be strictly enforced.

Picking Pupils Up

It is vital that parents are punctual when collecting their children otherwise they get anxious. If you are running late we would ask that you phone the office and inform us of this. If a child is not collected and we are unable to make contact with parents/carers and have exhausted all listed contacts, we have no option but to phone Social Services.

Emergency Contact Details

It is vitally important that we hold up to date emergency contact details for our pupils. I cannot stress the importance of this enough, please keep us up to date. Again as with late pick up, if we are unable to contact a parent/carer and have exhausted all listed

contacts, in the event of an emergency we will have no option but to refer this to Social Services.

School Uniform

Thank you to the majority of parents who ensure that pupils are wearing school uniform every day. We are very proud of how smart our pupils look in their uniforms. However, as we approach the end of term a significant number of pupils are not wearing proper uniform. A reminder that footwear should be black and ties must be worn every day. Please ensure that standards do not slip.

School Dinner Menu

<https://tinyurl.com/ykattjyr>

Richard Woolsey
Principal