



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

News Sheet – November 2021

Half Term

A reminder that school will be closed for Half Term from **Monday 25th to Friday 29th October** for Half Term. School reopens on **Monday 1st November**.

Road Safety and Halloween Safety

As the time changes and we move into the dark evenings, we would ask that you remind your children about the importance of staying safe when out and about on the roads. We would recommend that pupils wear reflectors or some type of reflective clothing. We would also encourage parents to go over the safety messages about Halloween particularly around fireworks, sparklers and trick or treating.

Diary Dates – November

3rd Photographer in school: individual pupils and family groups in school
 15th – 19th Anti-Bullying Week – Theme ‘One Kind Word’
 15th Nursery Football Coaching Session
 19th Non Uniform Day – Wear Something Spotty & Crazy Hair for Children in Need
 22nd Flu Vaccinations

Parent/Teacher Telephone Consultations

Communication is an important part of our partnership with parents and I would like to thank those parents who availed of the Parent/Teacher telephone consultations.

School Photographs

Photographs of individuals and family groupings within the school, will be taken on **Wednesday 3rd November 2021**. Individual photographs will be taken of every pupil, to allow us to update our School Information Management System. If you do not wish for your child’s photograph to be taken, please let us know by emailing info@ballyoran.portadown.ni.sch.uk

New Pupil Council Elected

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been elected to serve on the Pupil Council for this year:

Year 4	Sophia Murphy	Mason Wisniewski
Year 5	Beth Creaney	Caelan Corkin
Year 6M	Aishlinn Hughes	Calum Woods
Year 6B/M	Febi Da Silva	Mairtin Moylan
Year 7	Jude Hall	Rory Maguire
LSC	Brian Golicki	

Mrs Baxter will be co-ordinating the Pupil Council in Mrs Totten’s absence this year.

New Eco Committee Elected

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been elected to serve on the Eco Committee for this year:

Year 4	Liam Mulholland	Brody Winter
Year 5	Jamie McNeice	Ola Zaliwska
Year 6M	Cody McGeown	Isabella Pereira
Year 6B/M	Thomas Winiewski	Jacinta Guterres
Year 7	Jude Hall	Molly Mulligan
LSC	James Johnston	Brian Golicki

Miss Baird will be co-ordinating the Eco Committee this year.

Digital Leaders Elected

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been elected to serve as Digital Leaders for this year:

Year 3	Megan Vassalo	Ryan Magalhaes
Year 4	Sophia Murphy	Denis Kozlowski
Year 5	Ethan Millar	Summer McCann
Year 6M	Rebecca Silva	Ollie Byrne
Year 6B/M	Reuben McCaughley	Yuran Mendes
Year 7	Cormac Reynolds	Rory Maguire
LSC	Shea Wilson	Tomas Connolly

Book Fair

A big thank you to all those parents who supported our Book Fair last week. A total of approximately £1000 was raised and the school will receive commission from this which will allow us to buy new books for school.

Wear Yellow Day for Charity

On Friday 8th October, pupils were asked to come to school wearing yellow to mark World Mental Health Day which was on Sunday 10th October. Thankyou, to those who supported this, £220 was raised for Reach Mentoring, who are involved in our school on a weekly basis.

Year 6 Bike Skills Sessions

Dave Wiggins from Sustrans took our Year 6 pupils for Bike Skills Sessions during the month of November as part of our Sustrans programme. We would encourage all of our pupils who cycle, to do this safely, in particular to wear a helmet at all times.

Nursery Welly Boot Walk

Thank you to all our parents for supporting our Nursery Welly Boot Walk on Tuesday 12th October. We have raised approximately £800, an amazing total, for our Outdoor Obstacle Course.

Year 2 Autumn Walk

Year 2 enjoyed an Autumn Walk in the People's Park on Thursday 14th October.

Young Enterprise

Children in our Year 2 – Year 7 classes are thoroughly enjoying taking part in the Young Enterprise NI scheme. Young Enterprise develops the skills of young people to ensure they leave education prepared for work and life.

Each Young Enterprise programme is tailored to its specific age group:

Year 2	Ourselves
Year 3	Our Families
Year 4	Our Community
Year 5	Our City
Year 6	Our World
Year 7	Business Beginnings

They help raise awareness, build understanding and are currently giving our Year 7 pupils the chance to apply their skills and model their competencies through starting their own business.

Temporary Positions

If anyone would be interested in having their name placed on a list to cover absences of Cleaners, Lunchtime Supervisors and Kitchen Staff, please contact the office.

A reminder of our policy on collecting money

All money coming into school must be in an envelope with the following information clearly written on it: Child's Name, amount and what it is for eg. School Dinners. Also if the money is for dinners, it must clearly state the number of days and which days it is for. This policy ensures that teachers have more time to teach your child/ren as you will appreciate that counting and administering money is very time consuming.

Breakfast Club

Pupils of working parents in Nursery – Year 7 pupils are welcome to attend in the Dinner Hall from 8.15 – 8.45am. The cost is 50p per day. Parents must book for breakfast club by Midday every Friday for the following week, by emailing jsloan341@c2kni.net. Children who have not been pre-booked should not attend.

Nuts

As you are aware we endeavour to ensure that no nuts or nut based products are brought into school to protect a number of pupils who have severe nut allergies. Please respect our 'No Nuts' Policy.

Dogs

A reminder that dogs are not permitted on the school grounds for Health and Safety reasons.

Car Parks

A reminder that pupils and parents must use the Pedestrian Entrance only in the mornings and afternoons. Car Parks are for staff and visitors only. Please respect this policy by not entering the car parks in vehicles or on foot.

School Website

Keep up-to-date with school news, information and events by logging on to www.ballyoranps.com. Class Pages will be updated regularly giving parents a useful insight into what their children are doing in class.

School App

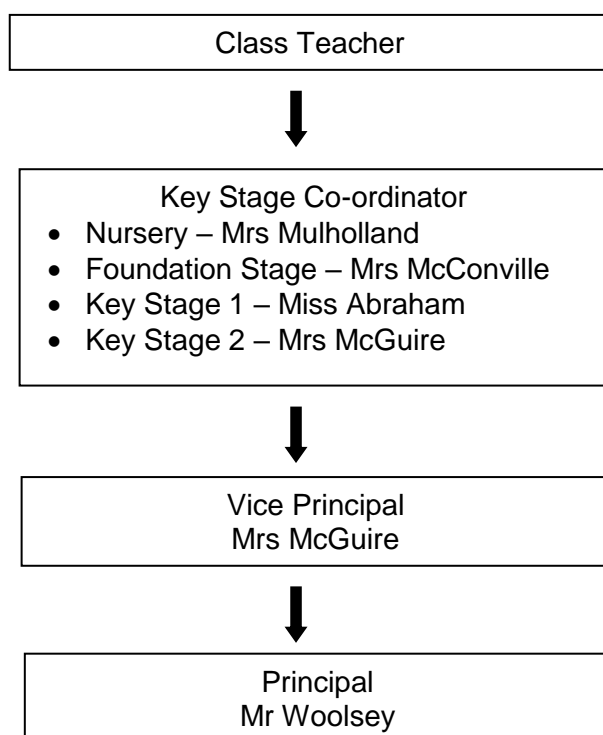
It is important that all parents download and authenticate the school app as all communication will be sent through the App. If you do not have the school app, you will miss vital communications from school.

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:



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 we have no option but to phone Social Services and/or the Police.

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

Menu

As you know a rolling monthly menu is in place for term 1 and is available at <https://tinyurl.com/3rch5dd6>

I would like to thank all our parents and staff for their continued support and co-operation during these challenging times and wish the entire school community a pleasant and relaxing Half Term break.

Richard Woolsey
Principal

