



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 – June 2019

Diary Dates for June 2019

- 1st Year 7 Post Primary Letters to arrive with parents
- 3rd Year 5 Shared Education Session – Ballyoran
Year 7 Screen time Workshop
- 4th Nursery Trip to Peter Pan's
Year 7 Love for Life Conference
Year 7 Lismore Entrance Tests
- 5th Sports Day 9.30am
School finishes at 1pm for all pupils
Year 7 St Catherine's College Intake Tests
- 6th Year 5 Shared Education Sessions – People's Park
Year 7 Screen time Workshop
- 7th School closed – Staff Training
Nursery Induction Visits
- 10th Nursery Soccer Coaching
Year 4 Shared Education – Bocombra
- 11th Year 5 End of Term Trip – Airtastic
Year 4 Shared Education Session – Ballyoran
Year 7 Shared Education Session – People's Park
- 12th Year 2 End of Term Trip – Airtastic
Year 6 Shared Education Session – People's Park
Year 4 Shared Education Session – Ballyoran
Pupil Council Meeting
- 13th Last day of Homework
Last day of afterschool clubs
Year 4 Shared Education Session – People's Park
Year 7 Screen time Workshop
- 14th Afternoon of Music: 1pm (note changed date)
- 17th Year 6 End of Term Trip – Airtastic
- 18th Year 4/LSC End of Term Trip – Airtastic
- 19th Year 3 End of Term Trip to Jumping Jacks
Year 7 End of Term Trip – Dundonald Ice Bowl
Nursery Graduation – 10am
- 20th Annual Reports posted
- 21st Prize Day
Nursery Transition Forms distributed
Last day of Term for Year 7 pupils
- 25th Class Changes for next year
- 26th Year 1 End of Term Trip to Scallywags
- 27th End of Year Class Parties
- 28th Last day of term – no uniform, no dinners, school finishes at 12noon for all pupils

School Closures – June 2019

Friday 7th June 2019 – Staff Training

Prize Day

As last year, parents of Year 7 pupils will be invited to attend Prize Day.

Sports Day

This will take place on Wednesday 5th June 2019 at 9.30am. The Nursery event will take place in the Nursery Outdoor Play Area with Years 1 – 4 and Years 5 – 7 on the All Weather Pitch. Refreshments will be served and there will be Parents' events. Please support our pupils on this very important day in our school calendar. We ask that children come to school in their PE kit that day, bring a hat, water bottle and sunscreen already applied. School will finish at 1.00pm for all pupils on this day. Please note, if it is wet, Sports Day will be rescheduled for the next available dry day. Pupils will still finish school at 1.00pm on Wednesday 5th June even if Sports Day is cancelled.

Annual Reports for Year 1 to 7 and Nursery Transition Forms

Annual Reports will be posted 2nd class on Thursday 20th June 2019 and Nursery Transition Forms will be given to you directly by the Nursery Teacher on Friday 21st June 2019. Please sign both copies and return one to school. If you have any queries about anything written in the Report, please do not hesitate to contact the Class Teacher.

First Holy Communion

Fifteen children from Year 4 made their First Holy Communion in St. John the Baptist Church on Saturday 11th May. The ceremony was conducted by Very Rev. Canon Toner and all the children participated in the ceremony. The school choir, accompanied by Mrs McCreesh West, provided the lovely music. The children joined with family, friends and teachers for refreshments afterwards in the Pastoral Centre.

Shannaghmore Residential

Year 7 pupils took part in the annual residential trip to Shannaghmore Outdoor Education Centre from 29th April - 1st May. Shannaghmore staff commented on the positive attitude and enthusiasm shown by the pupils during the trip. Pupils enjoyed the excellent facilities and activities available at the centre. As well as the regular activities such as adventure walk and canoeing, pupils were able to participate in new activities such as mountain biking and bouldering.

Big Workout

Pupils from Year 1 - 7 had an enjoyable and invigorating day on Thursday 16th May as they took part in the Big Workout, facilitated by Paul Carvill and the Healthy Kids team. The pupils enjoyed a vigorous warm up activity and then had the opportunity to take part in several stations where their fitness was put to the test. We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who collected sponsorship money for the Big Workout. The total raised was £1650.00 and this money will help to further enhance the Physical Literacy programme in our school.

Reach Resilience Workshop

Year 6 children have just completed their four workshops with REACH Resilience and thoroughly enjoyed it. Staff from 'REACH' work in schools to help children and young people be the best version of themselves through mentoring and personal development sessions which benefit children's emotional well-being. Year 6 children were able to participate in group activities which focused on perseverance, resilience, motivation and emotions.

RNLI 'Meet The Lifeguard Safety' Talk

Year 3 – 7 pupils received a visit from the RNLI on 13th May 2019. Pupils were reminded of the dangers of water and how to stay safe when visiting beaches during the summer months

Year 7 Screen time Project

Ten of our Year 7 pupils have been involved in a Screen time project with an organisation called REIM. Pupils have been looking at the dangers of too much Screentime and looking at ways to reduce the amount of time they spend looking at screens.

Induction Meetings

Thank you to all the parents who attended our Nursery and Year 1 Induction Meetings. Any parents who were unable to attend should call at the office to collect Induction Packs. A reminder that Pupil Information Forms need to be returned to school before the end of June.

Year 6 & 7 'Healthy Me' Workshop

Year 6 & 7 pupils took part in a 'Healthy Me' workshop on Thursday 30th May 2019. This was delivered by AMH (Action Mental Health) as part of their Mensanna Programme. 'Healthy Me' is a vibrant and engaging mental health promotion programme which explores the basic principles of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy.

Year 7 Post Primary Letters

These will be posted to parents by the Education Authority on Friday 31st May 2019. The EA have put contingency arrangements in place for parents who do not receive their letter on the Saturday 1st June 2019. If you do not receive your letter please call the following number between 3.30pm and 5pm on Saturday 1st June 2019: 028 95985595.

Office Hours

From Monday 3rd June 2019 the office hours will revert back to normal:

Monday – Thursday: 8.15am – 4pm

Friday: 8.15am – 3.45pm

A reminder that the office is closed daily from 10.45am – 11am and 1pm – 1.30pm.

Year 6 Coding

Year 6 have enjoyed computer coding sessions which were delivered by Miss Sharkey from St. John the Baptist College. The interactive sessions taught Year 6 about Binary, Algorithms and Programming, as well as Cryptography. The children were involved in a series of games and activities to code break, solve clues, beat the computer and programme. Year 6 enjoyed the challenge and worked together to out smart the digital technology model each week. The children learned how a computer is programmed and how it can be changed with the integration of codes.

Eco Schools Green Flag Reassessment

Ballyoran PS have recently renewed their Green Flag status as an Eco-School. The Eco-Schools programme aims to make environmental awareness an intrinsic part of school life. The Green Flag is the highest award given to Eco-Schools and symbolises excellence in the field of environmental activity. Miss Abraham and the Eco-Committee worked really hard throughout the year to achieve this award. They have been busy gardening, litter picking, painting, leading assemblies, taking surveys and much more. A

big well done to the Eco-Committee and the whole school community on achieving this award.

Assessment Fortnight

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

Nursery News

Jo Jingles

Jo Jingles visited the Nursery on Tuesday 21st May. It was a morning of fun, music and movement.

Teddy Bear's Picnic

On Wednesday 22nd May the Nursery had a Teddy Bear's picnic with Year 1. They enjoyed the experience of the Year 1 playground.

Attendance

Well done to the classes with the highest attendance for April:

Foundation/Key Stage 1: Year 2 - 91.7%

Key Stage 2: Year 5 A – 96.5%

Sun Safety in School

If the good weather ever does arrive, it is incredibly important that children bring a hat in 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.

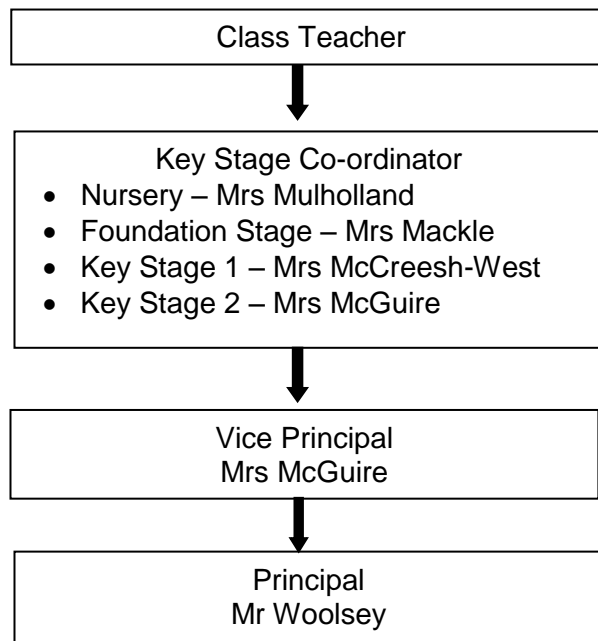
- Trail and quad biking in a quarry exposes riders to risks from unstable terrain, unexpected obstructions and being hit by moving plant.
- Young people on bikes or on foot may not be visible to operators of large machinery, they may not appreciate that the driver cannot see them.
- Quarries can often 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.

Pupil Personal Information Forms

During the month of June, you will receive a print out of the information that we hold on your child/children. We would ask you to check this carefully with particular reference to the emergency contact details, make any amendments and return to school before 21st June.

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. Meetings can be arranged with staff at any time and we would encourage you to follow the flow chart below when raising general queries / concerns:



Obviously parents are free to make an appointment to speak to the Principal at any time.

Picking Pupils Up

A significant number of pupils are not being picked up at the end of the school day on time. 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. An increasing number of parents are not informing us when they change their mobile phone numbers. This is unacceptable and leaves us in a very difficult position if for example we needed to contact you if your child was seriously ill. 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.

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.

Menu for June 2019

(See last page)

R Woolsey
Principal