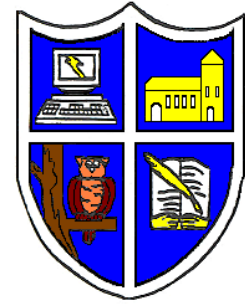


Ballytrea P.S

May 2018

Newsletter



Class News

Reception, P1 and P2

Reception, P1 and P2 will be commencing the topic "Going on an Adventure" They will be exploring a jungle habitat, including travel, animals and food. P.E. lessons will include preparation for Sports Day. Children will do some revision and testing which is still very low key in the foundation stage.

Primary Three

Primary three have been learning how to tell the time, as well as learning how to add two numbers up to 100 in number work. They have also been learning about fractions. They now are able to identify halves and quarters. The class are beginning to explore the outdoors through their new topic "It's a bug's life" The children will be learning about lifecycles.

Primary three enjoyed all their shared education lessons with St. Mary's Primary School, they are looking forward to their joint field trip on Tuesday 22nd May

Primary Four and Five

In Numeracy P4 and P5 will be investigating 3D shapes and fractions. P4 are working on decomposition sums with Tens and Units material; it's tricky but they are making great progress!

In literacy P4 and 5 are extending their knowledge of adjectives. They are also linking literacy and W.A.U in their designs and instructions for a Viking board game. Revision of spellings and tables has been done and we are preparing for other assessments in Numeracy, Literacy W.A.U., R.E. and PDMU.

The class enjoyed a fabulous trip to the Ulster Museum on Tuesday 1st May relating to the Viking Topic; the guides at the museum were impressed at the children's knowledge and understanding. Well done primary four and five.

Primary Six and Seven

In Literacy and Numeracy the children are revising for their end of year tests. Please help your child as they look over key numeracy facts in preparation for their tests. Mrs Bell is taking the cycling proficiency lessons on Tuesday afternoon for primary seven. The children are reminded to bring their bikes and helmets on Tuesdays and practise the skills taught at home.

In World Around Us the class are looking forward to learning about Lough Neagh in May and the North Coast in June. A field trip to the Lough Neagh Discovery Centre is

planned for Tuesday 26th June. (There may be a small charge of £4 to cover expenses.) Mrs Craig will be back teaching 4 days a week for the remainder of the term.

Victorian Day and Tea Party

The boys and girls were delighted with the support for their Victorian Day on Thursday 19th April. It was an excellent event and well worth the hard work which went into it. The school was pleased with the full page of colour photographs published in the Tyrone Courier. Thank you to all the parents and friends for attending the event. We had lots of great feedback on how special the Tea Party was and how wonderful the choir and tin whistle players performed. Once again a big thank you to Mrs Walker who played the piano and led the children through their musical items. A sum of over £400 was raised on the day and the Parent Support Group also made £90 selling cakes and buns.

Trip to Belfast Zoo

On Wednesday 27th June the entire school are planning on going to Belfast Zoo. The school will be providing the transport but parents will be asked for £5 to help pay for the entrance to the zoo which normally costs £6.50 per child. Buses will be leaving Ballytrea at 9:00am and returning to school at 4:00pm. (traffic permitting) Parents need to collect all children at this time as there will be no school bus.

Parents Support Group

The Parents Support Group met on Tuesday 1st May. Final preparations were discussed for the upcoming Fun Night. Along with the usual bouncy castles and inflatables there will be plenty of other attractions including; Archery, Splat the Rat, Treasure Island, Bottle Stall, Hoopla, Giant Jenga, Skittles to name a few. Top quality food will be available with Burgers, Hot dogs and refreshments. The entrance fee remains a modest £5 for adults, £2 for over 12's and primary school age – FREE!

Pupils are asked to donate a plastic bottle or two into school for the bottle stall. (For new parents this simply means a bottle of shampoo or tomato ketchup etc. Pupils buy a ticket and win a mystery bottle- every ticket wins a prize!) Please leave bottles into school before Friday 8th June and remember NO GLASS bottles for safety reasons.

This year the Parents Support group has given the school £900 to pay for the new School Website and with your support at the Fun Night we hope to raise enough money to buy new ICT equipment for the school (6 new Bee Bots), a new data projector for the assembly hall, outdoor play resources for the Foundation stage and some money to help subsidise the school trip to the Zoo to keep the cost at £5 per child.

School Assemblies

This month we will look forward to Rev Bell taking our school assembly on Wednesday mornings.

Myths and Legends Play

Mrs Colvin's class will be visiting the Burnavon Theatre on Wednesday 23rd May to watch a special Puppet Play based on Myths and Legends. This play will reflect their current World Around Us topic, 'The Vikings' There will be a small charge of £3 to cover transport costs and admission into the Burnavon Theatre.

School Website

Work is continuing on the new school website which we hope to launch this month. We are currently working on securing the domain www.ballytreaps.com The website will keep everyone informed of all the main events at the school and the excellent teaching and learning that is happening on a daily basis. When the website goes live please advertise it in the local community as we hope to attract lots of new families to our wonderful school.

Parent Governors

The Education Authority are seeking nominations for two parent positions on our Board of Governors. Nomination forms have been attached to this newsletter. All nominations should be returned to the school before 3pm on Friday 11th May. All parents are invited to Ballytrea Primary School at 7pm on Thursday 17th May, the purpose of the meeting is to elect parent representatives to the Board of Governors for the term of office 2018-2022.

Standardised Testing

As in previous years we will be conducting GL Standardised Tests for English and Maths for all classes from Primary three up. Children will complete tests in a calm and reassured manner. The results of the tests are helpful to us as a school as we plan for next year and also identify areas where pupils may require additional support. The results of these tests will be reported to you in their Annual School Report at the end of June.

Sun Cream

On the few days this term when the sun might shine please ensure you have applied appropriate sun cream to your child's skin. (we live in hope!)

Garden Group

You have already received a letter asking for volunteers to help with our garden project. Thank you to everyone who has donated seeds and gifts and the parents who have volunteered their time to do a lot of hard work and prepare the garden area so that children can have a Garden Group and plant seeds. This is a wonderful educational experience that the pupils of Ballytrea will enjoy. If you have not volunteered yet and would like to help, please contact Mrs S Wilson or your class teacher for more information.

Non Uniform Day

On Friday 25th May the children are asked to bring in £1 and will be allowed to wear non uniform. Each child will also be given a picture of a flower to decorate. There will be prizes for the best designs. We hope this will inspire an interest to help with the Garden Group.

Reminder

Please continue to check heads for head lice and if necessary treat.

Tri County Football Competition

We are planning on sending a team of boys to the Tri-County Football competition on Thursday 17th May and a team of girls on Friday 18th May. We require a parent volunteer to accompany the team each day. If you are able to help out please let the school know. The teams will be travelling to Cookstown Mid Ulster Sports Arena by bus.

After School Activities

Hockey – Mr S Hamilton and Mr P Morrow have volunteered to coach hockey for Primary 5,6 and 7 on Monday's from 3:00-4:00. (30th April, 14th, 21st May, 11th, 18th June)

Cycling Proficiency – Mrs Bell will be training the primary seven pupils on Tuesday afternoons 3:00-4:00 starting 1st May. Please ensure your child has a road worthy bike and a fitted helmet to take part in these lessons. Each child will be tested and certificates will be presented to successful students. The cycling proficiency scheme will run for six weeks; 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th May, 5th June.

ICT Club – Miss Dallas will be taking an ICT club for P4 and P5 on a Wednesday afternoon 3:00-4:00 for five weeks in May; 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th May

Scripture Union – Mrs Craig and Mrs Colvin will be organising a fun interactive Scripture Union club which will include Bible stories, games and lots of surprises. The club will take place on Thursdays 3:00-4:00 in May: 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

Football – Mr McIlwaine will be coaching football for six sessions on Fridays from 3:00-4:00 for any boys or girls in P5, P6 and P7. Dates include 27th April, 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th May and 1st June

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 1st May- P4 and P5 trip to Ulster Museum
-Parent Support Group Meeting at 6:30pm

Thursday 17th May – Election of Parent Governors 7:00pm
- Boys Tri County Football Competition

Friday 18th May – Girls Tri County Football Competition

Tuesday 22nd May – P3 on Shared Education field trip with St. Mary's P.S.

Wednesday 23rd May – P4 and P5 trip to the Burnavon to watch a Myths and Legends play.

Friday 25th May – Non Uniform Day (Flower Picture Competition)

Tuesday 29th May – P1 Health Appraisals

Wednesday 30th May – P6 and P7 trip to Ulster Museum

Thursday 31st May – P7 Love for Life Event

Friday 1st June – Sports Day 10:00am (Weather Permitting!)

Monday 4th June – String Tuition Concert (Time to be decided closer to event)

Friday 8th June – School Fun night 6 -8 pm

Friday 22nd June – Prize Day

Tuesday 26th June – P6/7 trip to Lough Neagh Discovery Centre

Wednesday 27th June – School Trip to the Zoo

Monday 25th-Friday 29th June – Special CEF week hosted by Ms Emma Reid

Friday 29th June – School closes at 12 noon. Non Uniform Day.