



# BALLYCLARE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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THURSDAY 9th FEBRUARY, 2017.

TERM 2



<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ballyclareprimary/>



→→→ TOTAL RAISED SO FAR IS: £399.72 ←←←

## HALF TERM HOLIDAY

School will close tomorrow at 1:55pm and remain closed for one week (13th- 17th February) for Half Term. All classes will resume on Monday 20th February at 8:55am.

★ **AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES** will recommence on Monday 20th February.



## PARENT INTERVIEWS

Thank you to all parents who attended Parent Interviews this week from P1-P7. The teachers appreciated your patience and punctuality at appointment times. Please remember that October and February interviews are set appointments arranged by the school to discuss each pupil.

If you need to speak to your child's class teacher at any other time throughout the school year, please contact the school office or the class teacher directly to have a chat.

School Procedure to deal with concerns or any issues worrying you:

**STAGE 1** - Contact your child's class teacher by phone, letter or in person

<b>STAGE 2</b> - P1	Mrs Hyde	P2	Mrs Taggart
P3	Mrs Mulligan (Temporary)	P4	Miss Kernohan
P5	Mr Gordon	P6 & 7	Mrs Kennedy

**STAGE 3** Contact Mr McAuley (V.P.) or Mrs Mulligan (Principal)

If you have a Learning Support concern, please contact our SENCO Mrs McCollum. If you need help or support for general parenting issues - please contact Mrs Malcomson, our Parent Liaison Teacher.

There is always someone willing to help!

## READATHON

This week started our 'Readathon' in school. Please encourage your child to take part - especially over the Half Term Holiday.

Reading with your child is so important and the great example of reading yourself, really encourages children to see it as being important.

Forget about the house chores some days and get on the sofa and read!



## WORLD BOOK WEEK & BOOK FAIR

You will have received a letter on Monday about our fun learning activities planned for Book Week, 28th February - 3rd March.

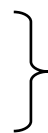
Don't forget our Non-Uniform Day on 3rd March. More details to follow. It's a pyjama theme so no extra costumes needed this year.



## TRANSFER RESULTS

Well done to our P7 pupils who have received their transfer results for this year. We are pleased to note again that the results of Ballyclare Primary compare very favourably against the percentage averages AQE hold for the children who sat the test this year. We are proud of all the pupils in our P7 year group who worked so hard to gain these results. Well done again to our dedicated staff and parents who worked throughout their primary years to support them.

BALLYCLARE PRIMARY AQE SCORES 2016/17		
100+	-	53%
90-100	-	21%
< 90	-	26%



Over 74% will have the opportunity of a Grammar School place.

Excellent results P7 overall, with many pupils scoring in the highest category in Northern Ireland.

## ENTRY TO SCHOOL

Entry to school is from 8:45am. Children are not to be left unsupervised in our school playground. Our Rise and Shine Breakfast Club exists to look after children safely from 8:00am (Cost £2.05 for breakfast and supervision, £1 for supervision only). All are welcome. No booking necessary.

## LIBRARY

Ballyclare Primary School is fortunate to be located beside Ballyclare Town Library and all classes have the opportunity to visit these facilities on a three-weekly cycle. We encourage our Key Stage One (P4) and Key Stage Two pupils to make full use of their local library by applying for their own library card. If your child would like to apply for one, please pick up an application form outside the school office. However, we would ask parents to be mindful that on signing the application form they are accepting responsibility for the safe and prompt return of all books borrowed.

Occasionally a class may not visit the library as planned, and to avoid overdue notices parents should ensure that all books are returned on time to the library. The town library staff are always greatly encouraged by the high number of Ballyclare Primary pupils who avail of their service.

*Well done everyone.*

## PEACE PROMS

Some of our P4 pupils will be taking part in the Peace Proms at the SSE Arena in Belfast on the 26th February. All parents and friends are welcome to attend this event. Tickets must be ordered via SSE Arena website should you wish to purchase them. Contact Miss Campbell (P1) if you need any assistance.



## STRANGER DANGER

All our classes receive information and specific teaching about never going into cars/houses of strangers. We also teach children to follow the 3 W's:

Never go anywhere unless your parents know -

1. **W**here you are going.
2. **W**ho you are going with *and*
3. **W**hen you will be back.

Parents are reminded to enforce this teaching at home and remember that no Primary School aged child should be left at home or unsupervised at any time as it places them at risk.

Please ensure your child is supervised outside of school hours and that they know safe routines for walking home.

## P7 CHILDLINE VISIT

Childline will be visiting our P7 pupils on Thursday, 24th February to deliver their 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' programme. A letter regarding this visit has already been sent home with our P7 pupils.

If you have any queries, contact Mr McAuley.



## ILLNESS ABOUT

Many families have been hit by recent tummy upsets, colds and flu. Please be aware that all schools are suffering with these illnesses at the moment and that any child running a temperature or feeling very poorly should stay at home until this passes.

We appreciate this has childcare implications but it does prevent other children getting sick unnecessarily.

Any child who has been vomiting should remain at home for 48 hours after this has ended to reduce the risk of this spreading.

*As always: If there is anything that concerns you in any way in school, please contact me via the school office or by e-mail if that is easier. I will always follow up any issues raised if I have your contact details.*

*Mrs Mulligan*

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**PICTURE HOUSE COMMUNITY CINEMA** - Following the success of its Christmas showing of 'Frozen', the Community Cinema returns to Ballyclare Town Hall this Saturday, 11th February, for a special Valentine's weekend event. Come along to see the award-winning Irish musical 'Once' and enjoy a free glass of wine and a chocolate. The film starts at 8:00pm and you can buy tickets online at [oncefeb11.eventbrite.co.uk](http://oncefeb11.eventbrite.co.uk)  
★Please note this is a Cert 15 film.



**MOSSLEY HOCKEY CLUB** are holding a Half Term Hockey Camp for 7 to 15 year olds on 15th, 16th and 17th February from 10:00am - 3:00PM. Cost is £35. Application forms available at school office. For more details contact Harry McNeill 07738412182 or email [harry@ulsterhockey.com](mailto:harry@ulsterhockey.com)



**POLICING & COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP** invite you to attend a Public Meeting, in Toome House, Toomebridge, at 7:00pm on Wednesday 15th February 2017 to discuss Drug and Alcohol Misuse. There will be an opportunity to listen to those working with people affected by drug or alcohol misuse as well as raised any concerns that you may have in relation to these topics.

**BALLYNURE & DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION** are holding BallyNATURE Day on Saturday 25th February, 11:00am - 4:00pm, in the Presbyterian and Methodist Church Halls in Ballynure. Get up close to birds, butterflies, bats, horses, ponies, chickens, dogs, reptiles and more!



Lots of activities including games, crafts, face painting, countryside skills, mini-beast safaris and refreshments. There will also be Ulster Scots' talks at 12 noon and 1:30pm. *Come along and enjoy a fun filled day for all the family. Entrance is FREE!*



*\* Parents please note that our Community News items are advertisements only. The school has no means of endorsing these activities. All parents are advised to seek details and suitability for themselves.*



## **GOLDEN RULES**

Throughout this year, we have been remembering our Golden Rules in class to ensure everyone can attend school happily. Please encourage your child to be aware of these rules and responsibilities for the harmony of all.

### **FOUNDATION STAGE**

- ★ Come to school each day and on time.
- ★ Come to school with all you need for your day.
- ★ Always try your best.
- ★ Be kind to other pupils and care for each other.
- ★ Be kind and helpful to everyone working in our school.
- ★ Play fairly and safely.
- ★ Look after our school and everything in it.
- ★ Use good manners to everyone.
- ★ Always walk on the left.
- ★ Smile a lot.

### **KEY STAGE 1 & 2**

- ★ Come to school each day and on time.
- ★ Come to school with all you need for your day.
- ★ Always give your best effort.
- ★ Respect other pupils.
- ★ Respect all staff, teachers, supervisors and helpers.
- ★ Play fairly and safely.
- ★ Respect our school and all property.
- ★ Be courteous to visitors.
- ★ Always walk on the left.
- ★ Smile a lot.

### **BALLYCLARE PRIMARY SCHOOL WILL .....**

- be a warm, welcoming and safe place
- treat all pupils fairly and with respect
- help all pupils learn, improve and be the best they can be
- keep parents informed about matters affecting them or their children
- work with parents to give children the best possible education
- respond promptly and sensitively to any concerns raised by parents/pupils

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