



BALLYCLARE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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ISSUE: 6

Thursday 5th October, 2017.

Term 1

GREAT EVENT!

Our Cinema Night was huge success! We were so blessed with the weather and the cold did not dampen our spirits. Thank you to all who came along to support this school community event a memory was made!

Thanks also to Mrs Anderson (P4) and all the staff who gave up a Friday night to help organise this event. We are indebted to Mr Dick (P6 parent) from A.R.D. Sound & Lighting and Mr Graham (past parent) from Time Coffee Shop from whom we hired/purchased the big screen and tray-bakes. Your help is always appreciated. Check out the 'Love Ballyclare website for some great photos. The total raised will be used for new ICT equipment in school. Thank you!

A big THANK YOU also to parents who sent a donation, even though they could not attend.

PARADE AND MACMILLAN FUND

A huge thank you also to so many parents and friends who came out on Friday morning to see our mini parade around the block in our European colours. It was great to have your support. This really encourages the children and staff. Great community spirit!

We also had a school fund/Macmillan donation on this day which families and staff supported. £388.60 will go to MacMillan and £243.00 will go to school funds.

Thank you to everyone who brought in their £1, and to Mr and Mrs Heron for their tuck shop treats.

PARENT INTERVIEWS

Parent Interview letters will be sent out to you on Tuesday 10th October - please keep your date and time in your diary/phone to remind you. While teachers endeavour to get a slot that can be workable, you will understand that not every time can be changed so we appreciate your willingness to try and accommodate us. These meetings will take the form of informing you how well your child has started in their class this year and also any areas for celebration, or more effort, will be highlighted. These meetings will take place throughout the week beginning 23rd October. Please ensure you stick to the allocated time to prevent other parents waiting. Should you need a follow up meeting regarding a specific issue, please ensure the teacher is aware of this prior to leaving. School closes at 1:55pm for all pupils. All children are to be collected at this time. Thank you.

During interview week you will have the opportunity to update contact details with the school. It is important the school has current mobile phone numbers etc for you. Also, if required, any medical information pertaining to your child can be updated. Please bring this information along to the interview.

REMINDER: P4-7 PARENTS

All after school activities will continue regardless of weather throughout the winter months' timetable. Outdoor activities will be held in a local indoor venue, if available, or a classroom activity will be provided should no hall be free.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING

Our Harvest Thanksgiving each year traditionally takes place in October and our P3/4 Service will be on Friday 13th October at 1:00pm in Ballyclare Presbyterian Church. The service should last for approximately one hour. A detailed letter concerning this has been sent to all P3/4 parents.

PARENT LIAISON FOLDERS

These will be sent home tomorrow for your information. This is a great opportunity for you to see your child's classwork. Please return them with your child on MONDAY. Failure to do this will prevent us being able to send them home in the future as the books are needed in school. Folders left in to the office will be late for class start.

NUMERACY WEEK 2017

Our Numeracy Week starts on Monday 16th of October. This is an excellent opportunity to focus at home on some of the basic number facts that our children should be recalling accurately. Our initiative for P3-7 will be class based this year, with a learning homework each night which will be used in 'quick fire' competition the next day. We will be using the 'Hit the Button' programme to get our 'tables training' under way and we would encourage you to make good use of this at home. It is tablet friendly and free to access online at the address below. Alternatively, the app may be purchased from the App Store for £2.99.

www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button

Each year group will have a particular focus:

P3 - Number Bonds, Addition within 10

P4 - Number Bonds, Addition within 20

P5-7- Times Tables

Numeracy Week will reach its climax on Friday 20th of October with our annual Numeracy Day. This is TV themed and will incorporate lots of outdoor learning opportunities, development of Numeracy skills and an enormous amount of fun! Be sure to keep an eye on our website for updates and the return of NumTV!

Many thanks, C. Anderson (Maths Co-ordinator)

THANK YOU!

To all parents who returned our School Nurse letters re: Flu vaccinations so promptly. This is an annual event and one which has proven to safeguard many children.

P1 PLACES 2018/19

Our P1 places for next year, 2018/19, are filling up. Please ensure your child's name is down with the school office if a place is requested. It is appreciated when a parent enrolls their child via current parent recommendation. Thank you for continuing to do this. A copy of our pre-enrolment form has been sent home already. Please contact our school office if you need another one.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Our school photographer will be in school on Monday and Tuesday of 23rd and 24th October.

All pupils have their photographs taken on Monday for school records.

Monday 23rd October - Individual photographs for school records and home purchase, if desired.

Tuesday 24th October - Family groups of children in school for purchasing also.

Teachers supervise these photographs so parents do not need to attend.

*Some Family Portrait appointments are still available for the Monday evening. Please contact the school office to book.

DOGS/ANIMALS

A thank you to all parents who know that dogs, or other pets, are not permitted in our school playground at any time - even when on a lead or carried. We have children and parents who are fearful of dogs especially and therefore, for health and safety reasons, and the comfort of others, we would like to thank you for keeping dogs and pets outside the school entrance on the Doagh Road.

LIBRARY BEHAVIOUR

All parents please ensure any child attending the Town Library in the afternoons, unsupervised, has a clear idea of expected behaviour and conduct. Failure to comply with the Library rules may result in pupils being unable to use this facility, after school, on their own.



NAME CHECK

All parents - please check your child's uniform this weekend to ensure names are on each item which is removable. We have some new sweatshirts already in Lost Property! The label has a space for names to be written on the back, in pen. These will be looked at next week to ensure all are on. Thank you.