



## BALLYCLARE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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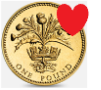
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THURSDAY 18th JANUARY, 2018.

TERM 2



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



→→→ TOTAL RAISED SO FAR IS: £987.82 ←←←

If you have used 'easyfundraising' and would be happy to share your experience with others, please email a testimonial to Mrs Mulligan by Friday 19th January so we can include it in our Bulletin.

### EXTENDED SCHOOLS ACTIVITIES

Our After Schools Activities recommence on Monday 22nd January. A timetable showing the days and times of these organised activities was sent home earlier this week and a copy will be on our website. Please note some changes will be made in the last term. This timetable will run until Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March (6 weeks) and then a new timetable will commence for the next session. No activities will take place on interview week and half term holidays.

### PARENT INTERVIEWS

Our assessments are ongoing this week and the pupils have been involved in revision work with their class teachers. These assessments are to ensure progress has been made in accordance with your child's ability and that areas of weakness are addressed quickly. Teachers will be able to discuss the outcomes of these, and class work, with you during the Parent/Teacher Interview week. The partnership which exists between school and parents is vitally important to the success and progress of any child's education, so use the information given by the teachers to praise, encourage and work with your child at home.

Parent/Teacher Interviews will begin on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February from 2:15pm and run until Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February. You will receive a letter soon with your appointment time on it. P7 pupils will have separate arrangements. Any parent who does not receive a letter home, due to having a different address to their child, should contact the office to have an interview time set up, if needed.

★ALL PUPILS WILL FINISH SCHOOL AT 1:55PM DURING INTERVIEW WEEK (Monday - Friday).

### TRANSFER – P6/7 PARENTS

Our P7 pupils who sat the AQE tests last term will have their results posted to their homes on the 27<sup>th</sup> January. The application process, for post primary schools, of parental choice will then begin. The P7 staff and I will endeavour to guide you through this application process and all forms will be completed in my office. Please endeavour to follow the guidelines sent home concerning these interviews and the preparation required. No form will be accepted with only one school named; a minimum of three is requested. You will have received a form which was to be completed and returned by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January. If you have not yet returned your form, please do so immediately.

For P6 parents, we are always uncertain as to whether the AQE/GL route will continue for Transfer next year. We can only assume that we continue to follow the same preparation for Transfer that we have always done whether our pupils choose a Secondary or Grammar School future. Again, I would reiterate that we will keep you closely informed as decisions are made at Northern Ireland or local level. Please contact Mr McAuley or myself if you have any questions or concerns. We will endeavour to help resolve these. A meeting for P6 parents will take place in Term 3 to discuss important issues.

### ANTI-BULLYING WEEK & BLUE DAY

Next week, (22<sup>nd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> January), is Anti-Bullying Week when the pupils will be focussing, in their classrooms, on issues related to bullying and concentrating on the positives of how to be a good person and friend. Please take time to discuss these issues with your child and build on the work done throughout this week.

The week's activities will culminate on Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> January - **BLUE DAY** (**B**e Loving and **U**nderstanding to **E**veryone) when we wish pupils and staff to come along dressed in blue. Parents too, can join in and turn up in the playground in blue! So join in the fun and help raise awareness.

## HOW DO I RAISE A CONCERN?

The Principal and Parent Liaison Staff endeavour to make themselves available outside at the start of the school day in the playground and at the end of each school day as the children leave to address issues informally. This often provides a point of clarification for a parent and offers support on any further action that may be necessary.

If you have a concern, you may also need to:

- Make an appointment to see: Your child's class teacher, Head of Year - P1: Mrs Hyde, P2: Mrs Irwin/Mrs Martin, P3: Mrs McPherson, P4: Miss Kernohan, P5: Mr Heyburn/Miss McClung, P6: Mrs Watson, P7: Mrs Kennedy or Vice-Principal, Mr McAuley.

This is most easily done by contacting the school office. Alternatively, a note to the teacher will ensure that an appointment is arranged. At the meeting, your concerns will be noted and investigated. Your child's class teacher will make every effort to resolve your concern speedily and efficiently. Any findings or action taken, if deemed necessary, will be reported to you at the earliest opportunity.

- Make an appointment to see the Principal.

This is most easily done by contacting the school office. At the meeting your concerns will be noted and investigated. The Principal will make every effort to resolve your concern speedily and efficiently. Any findings or action taken, will be reported to you on resolution of the concern. An email may also be a useful way to make contact - [kmulligan818@c2kni.net](mailto:kmulligan818@c2kni.net)

- Write to the Chairperson of the Board of Governors.

If you are not satisfied with the decision reached in any matter, you may put your concern in writing to the Chairperson of the Board of Governors. You can write to the Chairperson at the school address.

A full investigation will be conducted and following this you will receive a response to your concern.

It is always hoped that a concern can be discussed and resolved amicably as this encourages good relations and a good partnership to exist between home and school.

## WORK FOLDERS HOME & ASSESSMENT RESULTS

Our classwork folders will be sent home on Friday 2nd February to coincide with the Parent Interview Meetings the following week. This will give you time to peruse the books and discuss with the class teacher on your visit. It is essential that these books are returned to school on the Monday morning as they are used in class. Thank you.

You will also receive a copy of your child's assessment results inside this folder. These will be discussed at Parent Interview with you.

## P1 ENROLMENT 2018/19

The closing date for P1 Enrolment for 2018/19 was Wednesday 10th January. We are pleased our school places have been well filled and we thank all those who have made this choice. Please ensure all family members and friends have submitted a form before the places are finalised. If anyone has forgotten, contact us immediately for help.

*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

### BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICE

Blood Donation Sessions will be held in Ballyclare Presbyterian Church Hall on Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January, 1:30 - 4:00pm & 5:15 - 8:00pm.

HI-FIVE CLUB DOG TRAINING - Teach your dog agility and fun tricks. Junior classes now available for ages 5-17 years. Puppies from 4 months - adult dog. Contact Elaine on 07904649591 or visit [www.elainepowerdogtraining.co.uk](http://www.elainepowerdogtraining.co.uk)

