



EMAIL: info@ballykeelps.ballymena.ni.sch.uk WEBSITE:- www.ballykeelps.org.uk
 CHILD PROTECTION - Designated Teacher: Mrs J Thompson (P6)
 Deputy Designated Teachers: Mrs J Thompson (P2), Mrs Cumberland & Mrs B Esler

Ballykeel Bulletin - 15th May 2023

Dates For The Diary

W/B 15th May – P.7s residential trip to Woodhall Outdoor Centre.

Thursday 18th May - School closed for local elections.

Friday 26th May - Wednesday 31st May - School closed for Bank Holiday and Staff Training.

Thursday 1st June – P.4 to P.7 Sports Day, If wet - Fri 2nd June, Fri 9th June (More details to follow).

Monday 5th June – 'Take 5 Week' health and well being in the outdoors (More details to follow).

Monday 5th June – Sponsored Walk at the ECOS centre with the pupils from St Brigid's (more details to follow).

Mon 5th - Fri 9th June - 3-4pm - Colin Tinsley Bible Club for P4-P7 children

Monday 12th June - P.1 to P.3 Sports, if wet - 13th June and so on that week (More details to follow).

Thursday 22nd June - P.4 to P.7 school disco.

Friday 23rd June – 9:15am P.7 leavers assembly and P.7 last day.

Friday 30th June – School closes for the summer break. P.4 to P.6 finish at 12:00 and Nursery to P.3 at 12:15.



Pupils of the Month



| | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| P1CM - Annie | P4LK - Ricky |
| P1KH - Erika | P5MA - Savanna |
| P2JT - Alex | P5LM - Paige |
| P2AMA - Jayden | P6JDT - Abigail |
| P3CM - Ella | P6BE - Anya |
| P3AT - Benjamin | P7SG - Cameron |
| P4SM - Robert | P7JH - Sophia |



Classes of the Month

Attendance: P3AT

Uniform: P2AMA

Playground Awards:

P1-P4 - P3CM

P5-P7 - P7JH

Accelerated Reader:

P4/5 -

P6/7 -



On Time Down Time - Well done to **P3AT, P3CM & P6JDT** who tied for this award.



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Accelerated Reader

Forget the Cash Call - we have a growing number of Millionaires in our school! These are our Accelerated Reader Millionaires who have been awarded this title by reading 1 million words. This is an amazing achievement and required much commitment and determination, so well done to each of the following children.

**Isla, Nikolas, Tobias,
Logan, Devon, Lucas**



In fact, two of these children, Nikolas and Tobias, have reached this target twice in the one year. Accelerated Reader is a great way of encouraging your child to read more. Over the years it has become an integral part of our teaching and we would even go so far as to say, essential to the development of literacy skills. As teachers, we are honestly amazed at the way it really engages children- even the most reluctant of readers! Each child begins this programme by taking a computer based quiz which provides them with a reading level. They choose books within this level from the class library. All P4-P7 classes participate in this program and children are given time to read books in class each day. After finishing their book, each child takes a computer based quiz which tests how accurately they have been reading.





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They need to achieve 85% in their quiz in order to pass. This target has been set by Renaissance Learning, using algorithms to assess whether a child has shown understanding of the text. In school we convert these scores into points which children can collect and exchange for prizes (wear your slippers in class, voucher to do a favourite activity in class). Each month, we have a night off homework for the class that has the highest number of readers gaining 85% and over. Throughout the year we also have little competitions to help further motivate the children.

Please support us in this by:

- encouraging your child to read
- asking them how many points they have accumulated
- reminding them to take a quiz in school.

Children respond so well to the rewards system and we have many children meeting their targets and aspiring to new ones.

On Time Down Time



We have been delighted at the number of classes with low incidences of children arriving late for school.

There are however a number of pupils who continue to arrive late, too often, in the mornings, causing disruption for staff and other pupils.

Please support your child's teacher and the school by having your child in by 8:55 EVERYDAY.

If your child is late, regardless of age, they must be brought to reception by a parent/carer.





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The children had a fun filled day to celebrate the King's Coronation and were treated to a lovely street party style lunch in the canteen, which was decorated red, white and blue for the occasion.

Despite the weather being very unkind to us, our Coronation Fair was a huge success – all thanks to the fantastic support of YOU! Thank you so much for braving the rain to come along and enjoy the activities in school.

It was a very busy afternoon and the children all seemed to be enjoying themselves getting their face painted, having their hair and nails done, getting some tattoos, playing games, colouring in and of course, bouncing and sliding in our hall on the inflatables.

There were also plenty who had fun in our Coronation Photo Booth and got their selfie taken with the King himself!

The BBQ and tea and coffee was popular with the grown-ups – a special thank you goes out to W. ALLEN for once again donating the meat for the BBQ. The ice-cream van was also a huge success, thanks to SID'S ICES for coming along!

Thanks again for your continued support of school events!



Here are just a few pictures of the day!

