

Ballykeel Primary School

September – October



**Welcome to
P1!**



Dear Parent,

Welcome to Primary One! We are glad you have chosen Ballykeel Primary School for your child. We are looking forward to getting to know you and your family.

Your child will receive this newsletter each half-term. It will inform you about what is happening within our classrooms and of any upcoming events. It will also give you some activities and ideas to try out at home.

Please support your child with their learning as possible at home, as this really makes a difference!

Thank you,

Mrs Carruthers, Mrs Henry and Mrs McKeegan



Ready for school!

Please ensure your child has the following items in school **every day**

- Ballykeel Book bag
- Lunchbox
- Healthy break – no cereal bars or chocolate yogurt
- PE shoes in a PE bag (left in school)
- A complete change of clothes (left in school)

Is my name written clearly on **all** of my belongings?



Communication:

Our main form of communication will be through seesaw this year. Please ensure you are connected on seesaw and if you have any issues then please contact us.

I can...

Your child should be able to do the following tasks independently, ready to start school. If not, please really practise these to help develop your child's self-help skills.

- Open their own snack
- Take off and put on their jumper
- Put on their coat
- Put on their PE shoes
- Blow their nose
- Use a knife and fork

Remember to check my book bag every night!

Handwashing:

We are teaching children the six steps to washing their hands. We have added this on to our page on the website. Please reinforce good hand washing and hygiene at home.



A Time to Rhyme

Our theme this half-term is **A Time to Rhyme**. The children will be learning lots of familiar nursery rhymes and many lessons will be based on these.

The nursery rhymes we will be learning are as follows:

- Baa Baa Black Sheep
- Humpty Dumpty
- Hickory Dickory
- Incy Wincy Spider



- Wee Willie Winkie
- Twinkle Twinkle
- Hey Diddle Diddle



They will also discuss and become more familiar with their own daily routines, both in school and at home, for example, time to get up, time to go to school, time to play, time for bed etc. Why not help your child by identifying and emphasising these significant times in their day?

We  Literacy

Your child will be learning how to write their name. Practise this at home. Please refer to your handwriting sheet (given out in information pack in June) for further guidance. Remember – **no capital letters!**

We will be teaching them to hold their pencil correctly – using “froggy fingers”. Ask your teacher if you’re unsure what this means!



Every day in P1 we have a story time. Why not continue this routine at bed time... time for a story! This will help your child improve their concentration and prepare for learning to read.



Mad about Maths

From now until Halloween, maths activities will include sorting, sequencing, counting 1-5, writing the numbers 1-5 and making sets of up to 5 items and learning colours. These will be taught through practical, fun activities.

Encourage your child to count in practical, everyday situations, for example, setting the table – how many forks do we need? At the supermarket you could ask your child to get you ___ apples etc. How about sorting the laundry? Shirts in one pile, socks in another pile etc.

Settling in period:

HOME TIME IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2023

From day one until **Friday 15th September** it is a 12.00pm finish and the children do NOT have lunch in school.

From **Monday 18th – Friday 29th September** children stay in school to have lunch and they leave at 12.30pm

(Please ensure your child knows what they are taking).

From **Monday 2nd October** children will leave school at 1.50pm every day.

Useful Websites/ Apps:

- Twinkl app
- Cbeebies storytime app
- Number Blocks app

Dates for the Diary

Wed 27th – Book fair

Mon 2nd + Mon 9th Oct – P.1 pyjama parties

Mon 16th School photographer. Cool For School

Mon 23rd October – Whole school flu vaccine

Fri 27th – Breakfast Club open morning

Mon 30th to Thurs 2nd Nov - Mid term break

I can write my name!

Please use this box to help your child practise writing their name.

