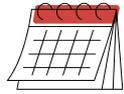




EMAIL: info@ballykeelps.ballymena.ni.sch.uk
WEBSITE:- www.ballykeelps.org.uk
CHILD PROTECTION -
Designated Teacher: Mrs J Thompson (P6)
Deputy Designated Teachers: Mrs J Thompson (P2),
Mrs McGuckin



Ballykeel Bulletin - 4th Dec 2023

Dates For The Diary

- **Wed 6th Dec** - 9.30am - Nursery Nativity and Open Morning. Remember that children do not come into school until 11:00 (unless they have been asked to take part in Open Morning). **SCHOOL WILL CLOSE AT 1:50 FOR P.1 TO P.3 CHILDREN, AND 2:00 FOR P.4 TO P.7 CHILDREN.**
- **Thurs 7th Dec** - Choir to Radio Cracker on air at 9:50am.
- **Friday 8th Dec** - Parent Coffee Morning (Mindfulness & Mince Pies with Veronica Ellis). Meet in the assembly hall at 9am, then we will move to the staffroom at 10am for coffee and mince pies. Please bring a yoga mat with you if you have one.
- **Mon 11th Dec** - Mrs Sheeran's Christmas Quiz for P.4 to P.7 children.
- **Tues 12th and Wed 13th Dec** at 9.30am - P1/2 Nativity for parents.
- **Thurs 14th Dec** at 9.30am - P3 Nativity for parents.
- **Friday 15th Dec** at 1.15pm - Christmas event with afternoon tea for Senior Citizens (more details will follow).
- **Mon 18th Dec** from 1.15 - 3pm - P1-P3 Christmas Party (the children come to school in their party clothes).
- **Tuesday 19th Dec** at 9.30am - P6/P7 Carol Service held in Ballykeel Presbyterian Church.
- **Tuesday 19th Dec** - P.4 to P.7 Christmas disco/movie night (more details will follow).
- **Thurs 21st Dec** - school closes for the Christmas holidays: **Nursery and P1 - P3 at 12:15pm - P4-P7 at 12.00pm.**



Pupils of the Month

P1KC - Bella	P4AT - Cole
P1KH - Brooke	P5MA - Lacy
P2JT - Olivia	P5LM - Alyssa-Rose
P2AM - Noah	P6JDT - Emelia
P3CM - Sophie	P6BE - Freya
P3CMC - Josh	P7SG - Anya
P4LK - Tommy-Ray	P7JH - Joel

Attendance: P4LK Uniform: P4AT

Playground Awards: P1-P4 - P1KC
P5 -P7 - P5LM

Accelerated Reader: P4/5 category - P4LK
P6/7 category - P6BE



World Kindness Day



As part of World Kindness Day and Anti Bullying week, P5MA decided to send uplifting cards to the residents of Galgorm Care Home, writing encouraging and positive messages on their cards along with pictures. The cards were delivered to the Care Home and posted in their "Kindness Postbox". The residents loved receiving cards and have said they will write back to us!



Thrive Hive

It has been a busy first term in the Thrive Hive. We enjoy learning in the classroom and outdoors collecting seed pods from the new wildflower meadow. These seeds will be stored until the spring. Hopefully the plants will continue to thrive and be ready to plant out in late spring.



Hockey

8 girls (P5-P7) attended a tournament at Belfast High School, a first for many of them. We played lots of schools that we haven't played before and the girls got to practise the skills that they have been learning in hockey club. A great day was had by all! Team: Layla, Devon, Macy, Faith, Sophia, Annie, Tilli and Faith.



Shared Education

Over the past 3 weeks, the children in P4 have been taking part in some Shared Education lessons with St Brigid's PS. Each lesson has had a 'Take 5' focus and therefore we have been doing a variety of activities to connect, be active and keep learning. It has been lovely to see friendships form as the children engage in discussion, team games and creative art activities together.



Netball

The netball team attended a fun tournament at Seven Towers Leisure Centre with 17 local primary schools. This was the first netball tournament that our girls had participated in, and they had a fantastic time. The girls demonstrated excellent teamwork and sportsmanship in every match. Each member of the team played brilliantly, and I was pleased to hear staff from other schools praising our girls. We were delighted to secure a draw and a 1-0 victory



P4

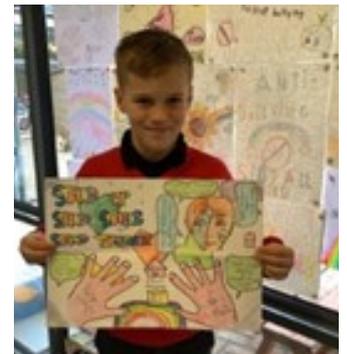


During anti-bullying week P4 participated in a range of activities which encouraged discussion about the different types of bullying behaviour and how these can have an impact on people. The children took part in circle time discussions, PDMU lessons, art and ICT tasks. They watched an online assembly with Andy & the Odd socks gang, made anti-bullying posters and designed their own pair of odd socks.



Anti-Bullying Week

During the week Nursery to P7 took part in 'Odd Sock' Day (Monday) focusing on the theme of 'Make a noise about Bullying'. This included circle times, drama, quizzes, random acts of kindness and art activities - anti-bullying work and BLUE Day photos sent on Seesaw. The highlight of the week was definitely the huge response to our family anti bullying poster competition. The ideas and artwork were amazing!! It was a very difficult job to choose a winner, but Charlie Calderwood in P6E won the family cinema pass and you can see his poster below. Thank you to everyone who took part we have a wonderful display of all the posters in the corridor.



Internet Safety

There are lots of benefits to using the internet but like most things, there are negatives too. As parents/carers, there are risks that you should be aware of, to help keep your child safe online. One of these risks is 'oversharing'. It is important to remind children that they should not share private things such as:

- personal information - name, address, phone number, school
- live or frequent locations
- other people's personal information
- photos of themselves

Explain to your child that, if someone starts asking them other questions, or suggests that they speak on a different messaging platform, then they should come and tell you.