


**Important Dates For Your Attention****NOVEMBER****Tues 6<sup>th</sup> NOV** – P3 trip to Portglenone Forest with St Brigid's**Wed 7<sup>th</sup> NOV** – P4 to receive their own Bible from Mr P McMullan at KS2 Assembly**Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> NOV** – P5 to Ballymena North Centre – Ulster Orchestra Concert.**W/B 12<sup>th</sup> NOV** – Anti Bullying Week (more details to follow)**Tues 13<sup>th</sup> NOV** – P2 Shared Ed – Play Based Learning.**Tues 13<sup>th</sup> NOV** – P3LK to St Brigid's, St Brigid's to P3CM**Wed 14<sup>th</sup> NOV** – P6 trip to Titanic**Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> NOV** – P4 Parents (or new parents from P5-P7) Accelerated Reader information session 9.00am. Separate letter to follow.**Tues 20<sup>th</sup> NOV** -P1KM to St Brigid's, St Brigid's to P1KH**W/B Mon 26<sup>th</sup> NOV** – Last week of clubs (except 2-3 & Mad 4 Maths & Choir)**Tues 27<sup>th</sup> NOV** - Flu vaccine - whole school.**Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> NOV** – Parental Consultation Group meeting – 9.00am – see below for more details**Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> NOV** – Nursery Open Afternoon – see below for details.**DECEMBER****Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> DEC** – Nursery Nativity & new P1 Open Morning (am) **SCHOOL STARTS at 11.30am and FINISHES at 2.00pm.** More details will follow.**Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> DEC - CHRISTMAS DINNER** for Nursery P1-P7 **Fri 7<sup>th</sup> DEC** – Nursery Christmas Fair. 6.30 - 8.30pm. See below for details.**Mon 10<sup>th</sup> DEC** – Choir to Radio Cracker  
**Mon 10<sup>th</sup> DEC** – St Brigid's to visit to see P1/2 Nativity**Tues 11<sup>th</sup> & Wed 12<sup>th</sup> DEC** – P1/P2 Nativity(am)**Wed 12<sup>th</sup> DEC** – St Brigid's to visit to see P3 Nativity**Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> DEC** – P3 Nativity (am)**Fri 14<sup>th</sup> DEC** – Nativity and Coffee Morning for Senior Citizens**Mon 17<sup>th</sup> DEC** – P1-P3 to visit St Brigid's**Mon 17<sup>th</sup> DEC** - P1-P3

Christmas Party from 1.30 - 3.00pm. Also P4-P7 Movie Night from 7.00-9.00pm

**Wed 19<sup>th</sup> DEC** – 9.30am Carol Service lead by P4 & P5 children**Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> DEC** – **SCHOOL CLOSING AT 12noon****JANUARY 2019****Wed 2<sup>nd</sup> JAN** – **SCHOOL CLOSED** for Staff Training**Thurs 3<sup>rd</sup> JAN** – whole school trip to cinema (letter will follow later)**POPPY APPEAL**

*Poppies will be on sale in the school on **Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> and Friday 9<sup>th</sup> Nov.** Minimum donation 50p.*

**NURSERY FAIR**

Nursery Fair will be held on **FRIDAY 7<sup>th</sup> DEC 6.30 - 8.30pm.** If you know any stallholders who would like a space at the fair, please get them to contact the school office - 028 25653902 for further information. If you would like to donate a prize for the nursery raffle, please leave it in at the Nursery Unit or contact Mrs Müller.

**NURSERY OPEN DAY**

If you have a child whose date of birth is from 02/07/15 to 01/07/16 they will be eligible to start Nursery education in September 2019. We would like to invite you to attend our Nursery Open Day on **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November from 1.30 - 3.00pm.** If you have not already given the school your child's details, please contact the school office and an invitation will be sent out to you.

If your child is still too young for next year you can contact the office to put their names down on our register to receive future information.

*The way in which parents apply for Pre-School places is changing. Online applications are being introduced for admission to Pre-School in the 2019/2020 school year.*

*You should check the following website [www.eani.org.uk/admissions-guides/pre-school-admissions-guide](http://www.eani.org.uk/admissions-guides/pre-school-admissions-guide) from the end of November 2018 for updates on how to apply for a place, key dates in the admissions procedure and pre-school providers' admissions criteria for September 2019 admissions.*

**MILK MONEY****Primary School Pupils Only**

Milk money to cover from Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January - Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February is **£6.51. THIS MUST BE PAID to the class teacher on / before Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December as late orders cannot be made.**

**PARENTAL****CONSULTATION GROUP**

A group of parents met with Mrs Sheeran and Mrs Thompson on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October for a chat and a cup of coffee. We talked about the ways in which we communicate with you and some suggestions were given as to how we could make this better. We also looked at the new school report format. Other things were discussed such as clubs, school council, the car park and additional supports for children. Some great ideas and suggestions were made. The next meeting is on **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 9:00am** where we aim to talk about fundraising, school finance and children's mental health. If you would like to come along please do so, any parent/guardian is welcome.



*How can you show me that school is important?*

- *Send me to school everyday*
- *Make sure I am on time each day*
- *Take an interest in what I am doing in school*
- *Attend the 'Meet the Teacher' at the beginning to each year so you can see my classroom and meet my new teacher*
- *Attend the Parent/Teacher interviews in October and February so you can hear how well I am doing, how hard I am trying and what I love doing in school*
- *Help me with my homework – make sure I know my spellings and tables. Hear me read and ask me questions about my reading book, and if I am stuck help me with the written homework*
- *Do not take me out of school for holidays.*



**A SMARTIE SUCCESS!**

A **HUGE** thank you to everyone who donated money towards our school fund-raising. An amazing amount of **£2235.45** was raised in total. This money will go towards supporting our own school funds.



On the last day of half-term, we had a 'Smarties Party' day to celebrate everyone's hard work. The day consisted of dressing up in colourful clothing as a non-uniform day and completing lots of colourful activities, including a whole school 'Smarties pants' art challenge! P1-P3 classes enjoyed having a 'Smarties Party' in their classrooms, taking part in a variety of different games including a colourful pass the parcel, guess the colour game and musical statues. P4-P7 children also participated in some traditional party games with a colourful twist, as well as some exciting science experiments. Mrs Bradley and her team provided a lovely colourful lunch in the canteen too!

Thank you again to everyone for your kind generosity. Thank you also to the shops who donated the Smartie tubes. They were the Candy Corner at Ballykeel, Spar at the Rosses, Today's Extra in Harryville, Wyse Byse and The Phoenix Garage.

*By Mrs R McKelvey*



[www.ballykeelps.org.uk](http://www.ballykeelps.org.uk)

We are making a change to how we add News to the School website. From now on you will find general School news and reminders on the Homepage. To view photos and videos of your child click on **Classes**, then select the appropriate year group.

**BALLYKEEL PS School Council**

**Election** - The School Council Election buzz was in full force in the week running up to this year's big vote. Following the tireless canvassing for votes, the following children were appointed to office to serve for the year:

**P4CC – Lily-Rose Wright**

**P4JT – Alex Mawhinney**

**P5MA – Alfie Abraham**

**P5BE – Codie Brown**

**P6JF – Jamie Quigley**

**P6SM – Bethany Herbison**

**P7JH – Kyle Harkness**

**P7SG – Eli Redmond**

*Well done to all who ran in this year's election!*

**ACCELERATED READER**

Accelerated Reader is a great way of encouraging your child to read more. Each child begins this programme by taking a computer based quiz which gives them a level. They choose books within this level from the class library. All P4-P7 classes participate in this and children are given time to read books in school and we encourage them to read at home. After finishing their book, each child takes a computer based quiz which tests how accurately they have been reading. In school we convert these scores into points which children can collect and exchange for prizes (wear your slippers in class, voucher for a canteen break etc.). Please support us in this by:



• *encouraging your child to read accurately,*  
• *ask them how many points they have accumulated*  
• *remind them to take a quiz in school.*  
• *Check their Homework Diary for how many quizzes they have taken and passed*

Quiz times are: Wednesday & Thursday at 8.30am.

*By Mrs Montgomery*

**YOUNG ENTERPRISE**

Last week, Emma came in from Young Enterprise to teach the Primary 4's about the community. We looked at the importance of businesses to a community and in groups we got to create our own business. We were also very lucky to have a visit from James who owns his own business in Harryville.

*By Miss C. McConnell*

**THE MUSIC ROOMS**

In October we were delighted to welcome five musicians from The Music Rooms into school. They told the children a little bit about each of their instruments and then played songs which highlighted each one. The children really enjoyed clapping and singing along, and some of the teachers did too ... watch the video on our website to see and hear more! If your child is interested in music lessons, perhaps give The Music Rooms a shout on 0845 680 3405 or visit them online at

[www.music-rooms.com](http://www.music-rooms.com) *By Mrs. B Esler*

**SHOE BOX APPEAL**

This year we are creating shoe box gifts again to support the Samaritan's Purse Children's Appeal. Your child will be learning about this in school and then will hopefully contribute one small item to their class' shoe box. As always we really appreciate your generosity in supporting charity work in school. Hopefully these shoe box gifts will make Christmas special for children across Europe this year.

*By Mrs. McKelvey*

**CLASSES OF THE MONTH:-**  
**OCTOBER 2018**  
**FOR ATTENDANCE:- P6SM**  
**FOR UNIFORM:- P1KH**  
**GOLDEN BALL CLASSES:-**  
**P4CC & P5MA**

**PUPILS OF THE MONTH**

P1KH – TEEJAY TODD  
P1KM – DANIEL COLE  
P2JT – RUBEN WRIGHT  
P2AM – MAXWELL McDOWELL  
P3LK – ARIA MAGILL  
P3CM – ALEX QUIGLEY  
P4JD – NATASHA AGNEW  
P4CC – JOSH WOULAHAN  
P5MA – MILEY SEMPEY  
P5BE – LACEY MULHOLLAND  
P6SM – COREY BLACK  
P6JF – KATIE-LEIGH SWANN  
P7SG – BROOKE REID  
P7JH – SOPHIA BURNSIDE

**FOOTBALL NEWS**

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October saw the annual Owen Daley 7-a-side Tournament taking place at the Ballymena Showgrounds.

**Team:**

**Marc Agnew (GK), Eli Redmond, Jamie Acheson, James Dickson, Gary Kenny (C), Bobby Crawford, Calvin Termonia, Calum Matchett, Cavan Cully**

Having won the group stage with 14 points, Ballykeel progressed to the semi-final where tough opposition was met in the shape of a well organised Broughshane side. After normal time, extra time and a period of golden goal play, the scoreline remained locked at 0-0. Penalties were required to separate the teams, and it was Broughshane who advanced to the final with a 2-1 shootout win.

A big well done to each player who took part, especially to those who stepped up to make their senior team debut.

*By Mr J Hughes*