

PAPER COPIES OF THIS BUGLE ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL ENTRANCE HALL**FOR YOUR ATTENTION:****MAY DATES:-****School will be CLOSED on the following dates:****Thurs 2nd May** - local council elections. **ALSO****Thurs 23rd May** – European Election

Bank Holidays / Staff Training Days-

Mon 6th, Fri 24th, Mon 27th, Tues 28th and Wed 29th.**Fri 3rd** - Group of P6/P7 to an art workshop in Belfast**Fri 3rd** - 9:00, Parental

Consultation Group. All welcome

Thurs 9th-Young Enterprise P5BE**Fri 10th** - Coaching for Christ hockey tournament**Mon 13th** - Parent coffee morning with Zane**Tues 14th** – P1 children to the People's Park with St Brigid's**Tues 14th** - Sports for Champions P3 to P7 children (more details to follow)**Wed 15th** - Lads n Dads

afternoon (details to follow)

Thurs 16th - Young Enterprise P5MA**Fri 17th** - Coaching for Christ football tournament**Mon 20th** - 1:00 Meeting of Parents of new P1 children.**Current P1 children all finish at 12:00.****Tues 21st** - Beach safety talk by the RNLI**Wed 22nd** - Coaching for Christ Fun Day (more details to follow)**Wed 22nd** - 1:00 Meeting of new nursery parents. **Current nursery children finish at 12:00 on this day.****Thurs 30th** – Choir to IMC**Fri 31st** - Sponsored Walk at the ECOS centre with St Brigid's (more details to follow)**JUNE DATES****FOR YOUR DIARY****Fri 7th** - SUMMER FAIR**Mon 10th** – P1-P3 SPORTS DAY.**Tues 11th** – P4-P7 SPORTS DAY**Wed 12th & Wed 19th** - Nursery pupils finish at 12:00**Wed 12th** – Uniform Sales –

1.30 – 3.30pm.

Thurs 13th – Uniform Sales – 6.30

– 8.00pm See below for more dates.

Thurs 13th - P6s sitting the transfer test to Ballymena Academy taster day**Fri 14th** - All P7s go to their new schools**Mon 17th** - Mummy and daughter afternoon (more details to follow)**Thurs 20th & Fri 21st** - P1 pupils finish at 12:00.**Fri 21st** - P6s to visit Cullybackey College for their Activ8 day**Mon 24th** - 9:15 PRIZE MORNING - P7 parents only are invited to this.

P7 last day and they go home following the refreshments (approx. 11:00am)

Mon 24th 7-9pm P4 to P7 end of year disco**Fri 28th** - SCHOOL CLOSES at 12:00 and RE-OPENS on Wednesday 28th August**AUGUST 21st & 22nd** –**1.00-3.00pm Uniform Sales.****Important Information About****Wed 28th, Thurs 29th and Fri 30th August 2019**

Due to circumstances beyond our control, and despite the canteen being willing to work, we have been instructed by the Education Authority that school canteens are no longer allowed to provide dinners in August. Please note that school will therefore close at 12:30 on these 3 days for P2 to P7 children. (New P1s will finish at 12:00).

**See website – ‘School Life’ – ‘Star Pupils’ for APRIL:****CLASSES OF THE MONTH FOR ATTENDANCE, UNIFORM, GOLDEN CLASS and PUPILS OF THE MONTH****MARK LYNN CHD FOUNDATION**

A big thank you to all who contributed to ‘Guess the Name of the Teddy’ and non-uniform day held before Easter for the MARK LYNN CHD FOUNDATION charity. The total from both was £966.50.

P6/7 HOCKEY UPDATE

We have been very lucky and attended a few tournaments so far this year. The latest one was held at Ballymena Academy and was the Ulster Hockey Primary School Qualifiers. This was a tough tournament with the weather seeming to always want to rain as soon as we stepped onto the pitch. The girls played very well but some of the competition was too tight for us. Our next tournament is on Friday 10th May at Ballymena Academy. *By Miss McConnell*

P6 SHARED EDUCATION

We enjoyed meeting up with St Brigid's and talking about our new theme ‘Lighten Up.’ One of the first things we did was to make a timeline that plotted the dates of different sources of light. We had fantastic fun when we



created our own shadow puppet shows and carried out 3D art sculptures which showed their shadows. We also learned how to create an electric circuit to light a bulb We made lots of new friends while doing all of fun activities and also learnt a lot of new things.

By P6 Layton, Lexi and Paige**BALLYKEEL PS COUNCIL**

The School council members met to discuss shared experiences to date with St Brigid's and what they were looking forward to in future lessons. They also brought suggestions and ideas from their individual classes and had the opportunity to give some input into the recent Guess the Teacher competition.

P7JH WOODHALL TRIP

The P7 children went on their residential trip to Woodhall on the week beginning

25th March, with each class staying 2 nights over the course of the week. We were blessed with warm, dry and sunny weather during our time away, which made the fantastic outdoor activities even more enjoyable.

Following lunch on the first day, we took part in a number of team-building, problem-solving tasks, which took cooperation and logical reasoning to complete. Our evening activity was night orienteering, where we had to read a map (using torches as it was dark!) and find a series of markers around the grounds of Woodhall. This was a lot of fun, and required good teamwork and map-reading skills to complete.

After a good night's rest, we were ready for day two, where we took part in a number of high ropes activities, such as whooshing along a zip line, making the 'leap of faith' (which entailed climbing up a ladder, then up a pole and finally on to a tiny platform, before leaping off and



hitting a red ball!), and a crate stacking activity where milk crates were built up – with us on top of them suspended by ropes – until the crates came tumbling down!

The afternoon activity on day two was bell boating on the River Bann, followed by jumping into the cold water (if daring enough to do so!).

All in all, a great time was had by everyone, and it was widely agreed that we all learned something new following our experiences!

P7 CRED

Over this last term, we've spent time learning about the Irish Famine alongside our friends from St Brigid's. We spent time observing drawings of the events surrounding the famine. This helped us to discuss how the Irish people might have felt whilst experiencing crop failure, eviction, famine, starvation & emigration.



Both schools read Under the Hawthorn Tree by Marita Conlon-McKenna. We talked about the characters, and how the skills and their experiences had prepared them for their great adventure.

Hedgerow art and our photo diaries were our favourite lessons because we were working in pairs. We enjoyed getting to know each other better during these lessons.



Michael, from the Travelling Past, came to chat to us about life in

Ireland during the famine. He brought with him lots of utensils used in homes and one farms at this time. We also watched as he churned butter from milk, and then made some potato bread. It was a real treat to eat the potato bread with fresh butter!

SPRING CONCERT WITH ST BRIGID'S

We had a wonderful time on Thursday 11th April, 2019 in St Brigid's PS at the Spring Concert. The audience was entertained by excellent musicians both from Ballykeel and St Brigid's PS. Particular highlights were the joint Irish dance and the joint Ballykeel and St Brigid's choir who sang "The Lord's My Shepherd". Thank you to all the parents who supported and attended and to all the pupils who participated. Thank you also to everyone who was involved in preparing for the concert. What talented children we have in Ballykeel and St Brigid's!

FOOTBALL NEWS!

The school football teams have had a busy couple of months, with a number of competitions having taken place.

27th February saw the qualifiers for the **Senior Cup**. The team finished with 1 win, 1 draw and 2 losses, missing out on qualifying for the finals.

The **annual 5 a side** competition took place on 28th February, finishing with 1 win, 1 draw and 3 defeats.

On 14th March, the **boys' 7 a side** team took part in the finals of the annual 7 a side tournament, finishing with 1 win, 1 draw and 1 defeat and narrowly missing out on claiming the prize by 1 point.

In the **IFA's regional Futsal tournament**, on 21st March, both the boys' and girls' teams impressed, both reaching the semi-final stages.

The **girls** took part in a **5 a side** competition in Cullybackey on 22nd March, again reaching the semi-final stage.

JOINT SCHOOL COUNCIL

There was a joint school council meeting on 3rd April, 2019. The meeting was held here in Ballykeel PS and two teachers and four children from St Brigid's PS joined us. Items on the agenda included: The Spring Concert (11th April 2019) and The Sponsored Walk (31st May 2019).

The children contributed well to discussions and have given the teachers lots of ideas for the Sponsored Walk in May! The next meeting for term 3 will be June 5th 2019.

P4 SHARED EDUCATION

We started of our activities with St. Brigid's by getting to know the class and in particular our partner. We completed a scavenger hunt which helped us learn each other's names and to find out more information about them. We then sat with our partner and asked them questions to get to know them even better. Everyone really enjoyed this and we can't wait to do more activities in the upcoming weeks