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Ballykeel Bulletin – 10th January

Welcome Back

Hello, welcome back and a happy new year! We hope that everyone had a lovely Christmas and kept safe and well. In the current climate the school continues to operate tight bubbles in order to ensure the health and safety of everyone. You will be aware that guidance for positive cases and close contacts was amended and was sent to you last week. Please keep in contact with your child's teacher in relation to sickness and Covid.

Dates For The Diary

- **Monday 7th to Friday 11th February** - Parent Teacher Interviews by telephone. School will close early each day this week. More details to follow.
- **Monday 14th to Friday 18th February** - School closed for staff training and the mid-term break
- **Thursday 17th March** - School closed for staff training.

Classes of the Month For December

- Attendance Award – P6T
- Uniform Award – P1McC
- Positive Playground Behaviour Award - P3RO and P5AM



Pupils Of The Month For December

P1CMC - Tommy
 P1KC - Dayna
 P2JT - Dylan
 P2AM - Brody
 P3CM - Emily
 P3RO - Annie
 P4SM - Thomas
 P4LK - Carter
 P5AR - Aaron
 P5LM - Lacey
 P6JT - Caoimhe
 P6JF - Lucy
 P7SG - Eloise
 P7JH - Kaylee



Nursery & Primary Dinner Menu Changes

Due to circumstances outside of our control last minute changes have, and will be, made to our Nursery and Primary School Dinner Menus in the coming weeks. Unfortunately, many delivery companies are currently short staffed because of Covid-19 and as a result our canteen does not receive their expected deliveries. Mrs Bradley and her team continue to make every effort to follow the menu. We apologise for any disappointment or inconvenience caused

Swimming Success



P6JF have been taking part in swimming lessons this term. Huge congratulations go to Eva who swam a massive 1050 metres – this was 42 lengths of the big swimming pool, in only 30 minutes. She says she was exhausted for the rest of the day!! Well done Eva

Focus on Numeracy



This year in Numeracy the focus is on providing effective feedback which will enable all children to learn from mistakes and make greater progress. At home, use mistakes as an opportunity to learn and talk about the activity. Mistakes should be seen as an important part of the learning process.

Staff have also introduced a range of strategies to maintain high standards in Numeracy. These include Maths Busy Books, new resources for mental maths, daily mental maths challenges, songs and dances for learning number facts and on-line games for reinforcement.

Remember to keep playing online number games, as these provide excellent reinforcement of key concepts. Also look for opportunities during free time to play traditional board games such as 'Snakes and Ladders', as these provide opportunities to count on or play shop.

Peace Players Basketball with P6



This term, P6 are participating in a cross-community basketball programme delivered by PeacePlayers-Northern Ireland. We are "twinned" with Primary 6 from St Brigids PS and over the next 5 weeks we will work "together" but in our own schools, connecting virtually, with the hope of discovering common ground and forging new friendships. In addition to basketball drills and skills, we will also take part in age-appropriate community relations and team-building activities. It is great fun and a wonderful opportunity to learn a new sport.