

Newsletter 32—16-05-21



Weekly Services

Breakfast Club—A chance for children to come into school a little early, enjoy breakfast with friends and play and create before school starts. All Covid-Secure Procedures in place. Daily from 8:00 to 8:45 a.m. *Cost: £1.75 per session.*

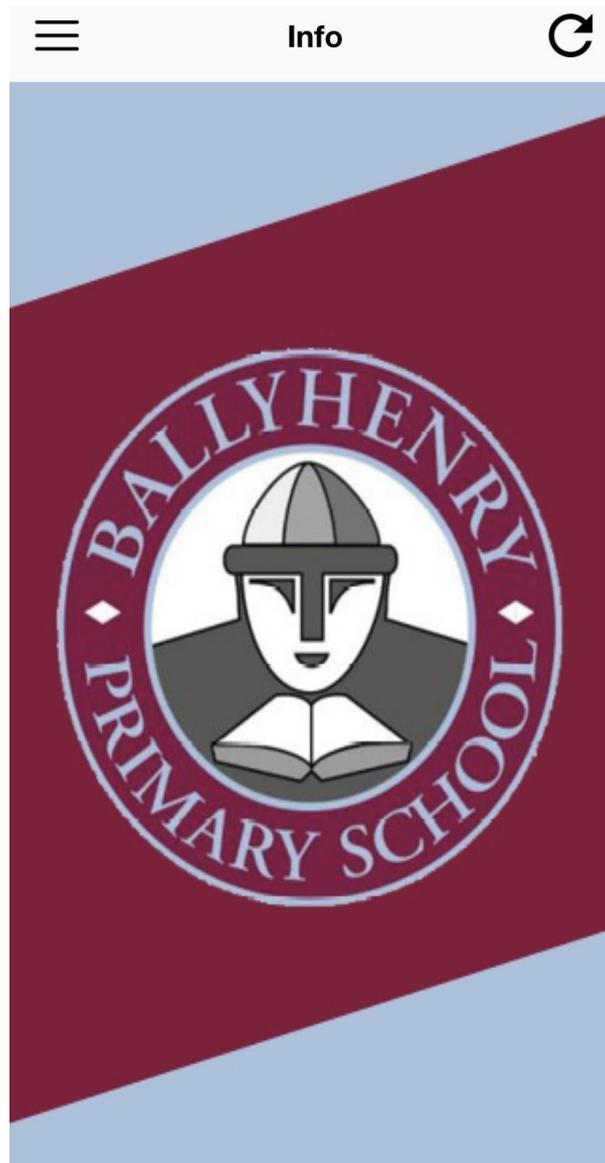
Healthy Break—School will provide a healthy break delivered to the classroom at your child's designated breaktime. Book via the app. *Cost: 30p/day*

School Dinners—School dinners are available daily. To keep everyone safe dinners are delivered and served in classrooms. There are hot meals on Mondays/Wednesdays/Fridays and a packed lunch can be provided on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Choices should be made via the embedded form or this link: <https://bit.ly/PackLunch20> Selections should be made by 9:00 p.m. on Sunday evening for each week. If your child is not entitled to Free School Meals you can by via the app. *Cost: £2.60/day*

B'Happy—Wrap-around care is available from 2:00 to 5:00 every week day with Covid-Secure Procedures in place. Children are provided with a snack and can play in their class bubbles. Bubbles are allowed to mix when the children are playing outside which they are able to do weather permitting. The dedicated B'Happy staff ensure that there afternoons are filled with crafts, games and fun. *Cost: £1.50/session*

Ballyhenry App—Available free from Google Play and App Store, get updates and reminders from school and submit homework for feedback via the app.

THIS IS ESSENTIAL AS THIS IS HOW WE WILL LET YOU KNOW IF A CLASS OR CLASSES NEED TO REMAIN AT HOME AND SELF-ISOLATE. If you are having trouble getting or using the app please let us know. We will help you sort it out!



Dates for your Diary

- Tuesdays & Thursdays—P7 Cycling Proficiency
- Wednesday 12th May—P2-P4 Football starts
- Friday 28th May—School closed Exceptional Closure
- Monday 31st May—School closed Bank Holiday

Holidays for 2021-2022 will be included at the end of the newsletter. You can keep track of the school holidays by following our school website: <https://www.myballyhenryps.co.uk>



Nut Free School—We are Allergy Aware

We have recently been informed of two children who have a severe food allergy to peanuts and nuts. It is important that there is a strict avoidance of these foods in order to prevent a life-threatening allergic reaction. We are asking for your help in order to provide all our pupils with a safe school environment. To help reduce the chance of this occurring, we are asking that you do not send your child to school with any products containing peanuts or nuts. It is the responsibility of whoever makes the lunch/snacks to ensure that there are no nuts or peanuts listed on the packaging. We will return items that may contain nuts/peanuts unopened. Remember that we are unable to share treats sent into school due to the allergy policy. This unfortunately includes birthday cakes and party bags. Thank you for your support with these procedures. It is essential that we are allergy aware.



Illness

Any child who is unwell should remain at home until they are fit enough to attend school. Anyone with vomiting or diarrhea should remain at home for 48 hours following the illness. Please use the app or the form below to inform us of your child's absence.

Measles, chickenpox and shingles

One of our pupils has recently received medical treatment for leukemia which puts them at risk if they are exposed to measles, chicken pox and shingles. Please let us know immediately if your child is suspected of having measles.

Our pupil is also at risk from chicken pox and would need to be given an injection within 3 days of contact. If your child is suspected of having chicken pox you should let us know immediately.

It is also important that you let us know if there is shingles in your household.

Your child is not at any risk whatsoever from this situation. However, the health and well-being of our pupil who is at risk, does depend on the co-operation of all other parents and we hope you can help us.

Please phone or email lknocker496@c2kni.net if required. Thank you for your support.

Covid-19

DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF THEY ARE SHOWING COVID-19 SYMPTOMS:

- **a new continuous cough**
- **fever**
- **loss of taste/smell.**

If anyone in your household is displaying symptoms, your child should remain at home. This is in keeping with the government guidance for Coronavirus. You should let the school know as soon as you can that there is someone at home that is unwell. We will then work with you, the Education Authority and the PHA to determine what should happen next. Anyone who has had a traceable contact with someone who has tested positive, must remain at home for the 10 day isolation period even if they have tested negative.

Remember we can provide lots of support if your child is off isolating. Work will be provided on Teams, we can arrange zoom sessions and a food parcel can be delivered if your child is entitled to free school meals.

If your child is ill, it is extremely important that you let us know by either completing the absent note on the app or filling in this form: <https://bit.ly/SympTrack20>

If your child is isolating:

Report your child's illness: You can complete an absent form via the app or by submitting this link: <https://bit.ly/SympTrack20>

Zoom—Virtual meetings offer a chance to catch up with staff and pupils. Zooms catch-up session will be offered to anyone who are forced to remain at home due to isolate at home due to isolation or illness. Please contact us to arrange a meeting.

TEAMS —Work and activities are uploaded regularly here for Homebased Learning if required.

Devices--We can lend you a laptop to support homebased learning if you need it.

Covid Restrictions

Schools have been asked by DENI to remind pupils and parents/carers of the need to continue to respect the Covid-19 Protocols as we continue to move through the stages of Education Restart. Some restrictions are in the process of being lifted but we are still expected to maintain our class bubbles, maintain as much space as possible, make use of the outdoors and ensure good hygiene. We have also been asked to limit adult visits to essential visitors only. We thank you so much for your support in these matters.

EDUCATION RESTART

WE ALL MUST DO IT TO GET THROUGH IT

LIMIT SOCIAL CONTACTS | KEEP DISTANCE | WEAR FACE COVERINGS | WASH HANDS

EVERYONE HAS A ROLE TO PLAY IN KEEPING OUR SCHOOLS SAFE AND HELPING TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19.

EVERYONE SHOULD CONTINUE TO:

- Wash hands regularly
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Wear a face covering where necessary
- Practise social distancing
- Follow the latest public health advice

WHAT SHOULD I NOT DO?

- Don't send your child to school if they have COVID-19 symptoms or if they have been identified as a close contact
- Don't allow your child to use public transport unless you have no alternative
- Don't gather at the school entrance/gate
- Don't allow your child to share food/drinks with friends

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

- Do let the school know if your child will be absent due to COVID-19 symptoms
- Do follow the advice given if you have been contacted by the PHA Contact Tracing Service
- Do encourage your child to socially distance if it is possible
- Do encourage good hand hygiene
- Do use alternative transport if you can
- Do walk or cycle if it's safe and appropriate to do so
- Do use park and ride or other car-parking facilities (if available), and walk the remainder of the journey to school
- Do avoid parking close to or at the school gates
- Do encourage the use of face coverings on school transport and in post-primary schools/ settings
- Do encourage and supervise your child to carry out a COVID-19 test if they have been invited to participate

FURTHER INFORMATION, INCLUDING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS, CAN BE FOUND ON THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S WEBSITE AT: WWW.EDUCATION-NI.GOV.UK

LET'S ALL KEEP OUR SCHOOL SAFE

We need your help! We want everyone to be safe, healthy and enjoy school.

So, make sure you follow these new rules...

IF YOU ARE SICK, YOU MIGHT HAVE TO STAY AT HOME

Going to school is really important, but if you have a bad cough or feel very warm, tell a grown-up right away.

GIVE EACH OTHER SPACE

Keep a safe distance from your teachers and friends as much as you can. You should try to stay in your bubble.

CATCH YOUR COUGHS & SNEEZES

Cover your face with your elbow, or use a tissue. (Don't forget to put used tissues in the bin)

WASH YOUR HANDS

Wash your hands lots of times during the day. (Make sure you wash them as soon as you get to school too!)

HOLD ONTO YOUR OWN ITEMS

You should not share things like pencils, food and drinks with your friends.

IT'S OK TO HAVE QUESTIONS! YOU CAN ALWAYS ASK A PARENT, CARER OR TEACHER.

EDUCATION RESTART

Department of Education
www.education-ni.gov.uk

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Safety Around School

As we return to a more normal life, the traffic around school is increasing. We have had several calls from parents and members of the community about the speed of drivers and parking. It seems it is appropriate to remind everyone to drive and park safely around school:

- Slow down and drive extra cautiously.
- Load and unload children in a safe location.
- Park safely and courteously. Do not double park; it blocks visibility for other children and vehicles. Remember to leave room for residents to access to their own driveways.
- Stop and yield to pedestrians crossing with patrol.
- Be prepared for children to appear in unexpected places, like from between parked cars; if they are on bikes, prepare for them to turn in front of you without looking or signaling.

Book Fair

Thank you so much for supporting our Book Fair. Due to your engagement, we have been able to raise £690 for our school library. We are absolutely delighted and these books will be a fantastic addition to our library. Thank you!

New P1s

We are looking forward to welcoming our new pupils in September 2021. Hopefully, you will have received notification of your child's place via the EA Admissions Hub. We will be emailing all families on Monday to welcome you to school and to inform you of our tentative plans for induction. This has been delayed as we wait for clarification from the EA regarding Covid Restrictions. If you are uncertain of your child's current admission status or you would like to talk to us about anything, please send me an email lknocker496@c2kni.net. I am happy to help in any way I can.



Rights Respecting School



We aim to be a school where children's rights are at the heart of our ethos and culture, to improve well-being and to develop every child's talents and abilities to their full potential. As part of this plan we are working towards recognition as a 'Rights Respecting School', an award given to schools on behalf of Unicef UK.

Unicef is the world's leading organisation working for children and young people and their rights. In 1989, governments across the world agreed that all children have the same rights by adopting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). These rights are based on what a child needs to survive, grow, participate and fulfil their potential.

Ballyhenry pupils will learn about their rights by putting them into practice every day. A Rights Respecting School models rights and respect in all its relationships. It is a part of the Ballyhenry Way: **SAFE-READY-RESPECTFUL**.

We started on this journey just prior to Lockdown and we are delighted to return our focus. We really hope that you will be able to support our school on our journey towards becoming a Unicef UK Rights Respecting School.

Each week we will be looking at a different Article from the United Nation Convention on the Rights of the Child. This week we will looking at:

Article 12: I have the right to be listened to, and taken seriously.



Breakfast Club and B'Happy

We are delighted to tell you that we can resume wrap around care. This will be done in adherence with Covid-Secure procedures.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club will operate from 8:00-8:45 daily. Children will sit with their class bubble at tables in the assembly hall. They will be served breakfast and be able to play with their class friends. They will be able to watch videos and play games. They will need to stay in their bubble during breakfast club.

Cost: £1.75/session (includes breakfast)

B'Happy

B'Happy is our after school programme which currently operates from 2:00 to 5:00 daily. Children will go to the hall and play in their class bubbles while indoors. They will be given an afternoon snack. The programme involves stories, games, ICT and outdoor activities. When outdoors children are free to play together. Covid-Secure procedures are in place and children will wash/sanitize their hands between activities. We have altered the system to allow parents/carers to book in 30 minute sessions in order to offer the best service for our families. Children join B'Happy at the start of the hour (i.e. 2:00 p.m. or 3:00 p.m. to facilitate staggered dismissal).



Cost: £1.50/30 min session

Traditionally B'Happy operates until 6:00 p.m. but there is currently no demand for this service. If you need help please ring school or email lknocker496@c2kni.net for help.

Dinners/Lunches

Lunchtimes will be timetabled to ensure social distancing. Our dinner choices are completed online and delivered to the classroom. It is essential that book your child's meals for the week by Sunday at 9:00 p.m. The kitchen is working on a skeleton staff and as such late bookings will not be accepted. The form will not open after 9:00 p.m. *This week we have extended the time to 9:00 p.m. on Monday as school is closed for staff training on Monday.*

BOOK DINNERS VIA THE LINK BY 9:00 P.M. ON MONDAY EVENING LATE BOOKINGS FOR DINNERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. <https://bit.ly/PackLunch20>

Attendance

DENI expects all pupils to return to school except in very special circumstance:

- pupils who have been advised by their medical teams to remain at home;
- pupils who have been required to self-isolate due to Track and Trace Guidelines;
- pupils who have an illness (including COVID-19).

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
JR	1:55 P1 & Siblings	1:55 P1	1:55 P1	1:55 P1	1:55 P1 & Siblings
Playground	2:00 P2 & Siblings	2:00 P2	2:00 P2	2:00 P2	2:00 P2 & Siblings
	2:05 P3 & Siblings	2:05 P3	2:05 P3	2:05 P3	2:05 P3 & Siblings
	2:10 P4 & Siblings	2:10 P4	2:10 P4	2:10 P4	2:10 P4 & Siblings
SR	2:10 P5 & Siblings	2:55 P5	2:55 P5	2:55 P5	2:10 P5 & Siblings
Playground	2:15 P6 & Siblings	3:00 P6	3:00 P6	3:00 P6	2:15 P6 & Siblings
	2:20 P7	3:05 P7	3:05 P7	3:05 P7	2:20 P7

Keep in touch!

We know that working from home can be difficult and we want to provide as much support as we can. Please email lnocker496@c2kni.net if you need anything. There will be someone at school every weekday from 8:15 to 4:30 p.m.

Remember that we can only do our best and together we will get through this challenging time!

Stay safe,

Mrs. Knocker

HOLIDAY LIST 2021/2022

Autumn Term- 2021

School commences: Thursday 26th August (school ends 12pm no dinners)

Friday 27th August (school ends 12pm no dinners)

August Bank Holiday: Monday 30th August (school closed)

School Continues:

Tuesday 31st August (school ends 12pm no dinners)

Exceptional Closure 1: Friday 24th September (school closed)

Exceptional Closure 2: Monday 25th October (school closed)

Halloween: Tuesday 26th October – Friday 29th October (inc)

Christmas: Monday 20th December (half Day *)

Christmas: Tuesday 21st December – Monday 3rd January 2022 (inc)

Spring Term- 2022

School recommences: Tuesday 4th January 2022

Exceptional Closure 3: Monday 14th February (school closed)

Half Term: Tuesday 15th February – Friday 18th February (inc)

St Patrick's Day: Thursday 17th March

Exceptional Closure 4: Monday 11th April (school closed)

Easter: Tuesday 12th April – Friday 22nd April (inc)

Summer Term- 2022

School recommences: Monday 25th April

MAY DAY HOLIDAY: Monday 2nd May

Exceptional Closure 5: Wednesday 1st June (school closed)

Jubilee Holiday: Thursday 2nd June – Friday 3rd June (inc)

End of School year: Thursday 30th June (half day *)

* Half Day- School closes at 12.00 pm (No Dinners).

The above holiday dates are all inclusive and subject to change.