



NEWSLETTER 14 —30/11/2018

BALLYHENRY PRIMARY SCHOOL

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Breakfast Club

8:00 to 8:45 Cost: £1.50

B'Happy

2:00 to 5:00 Cost: £2.00 per hour

YOU MUST PREBOOK YOUR SLOTS FOR B'HAPPY. Use this link to book B'Happy

<http://bit.ly/2os8QJAHAPPY>

Dinners/Healthy Break

Week 4

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Ballyhenry Tots 9:00 to 10:30 £1.50	Thursday Football has been changed to Tuesday due to the early closure on Thursday.	Christmas Dinner Children are invited to wear Christmas Jumpers	School ends at 1:50 for all pupils to prepare for Christmas Fair	Ballyhenry Tots 9:00 to 10:30 £1.50
Judo P1-P3 2:00 to 3:00 P4 to P7 3:00 to 4:00		NO TEACHER LED CLUBS	Please Join us for Christmas Fair 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.	Junglenastix has now ended.
No Good News Club	NO TEACHER LED CLUBS			

Good Luck P7 Pupils!

We want to wish everyone who is sitting the Final AQE test this Saturday the very best of luck!

CHRISTMAS FAIR—06/12/2018

We are all looking forward to this event. Christmas Crafts and games will be on offer. Children will also have the opportunity to visit Santa's Grotto and have their picture taken with the big man himself! There will be a number of stalls at the fair.



Please help! We need:-

- People interested in having a stall
- Small wrapped toys for Brann Tub
- Cakes and Buns
- Christmas Items
- Bottles for a Bottle Stall

School will close at 1:50 p.m. to allow for preparation. B'Happy will operate as normal.

VISIT SANTA AT THE FAIR—PRE-BOOK NOW!

Does your child wish to visit Santa while at the Christmas Fair? This is such a popular activity that Santa has set up an appointment system! Pre-Book your slot using the link and then send your money to Miss Collins who will make arrangements with the elves! Your appointment time will be sent to you once the arrangements have been made. Payment must be sent in advance.

It costs £3.50 to visit Santa including a gift and photo. Additional photos are £1.

<http://bit.ly/2zoSANTA>

OPEN NIGHT—Thank you

Wow what a turn out! Thank you so much for braving the weather and joining us for Open Night! That was by far the largest crowd in many a year. We were delighted that many parents/grandparents and friends took the opportunity to tour the school and celebrate the success of our pupils. We seem to be a very popular choice for many parents so if you haven't registered an interest please use this link to add your name to our contact list. <http://bit.ly/EnrolinP1> We can make sure that you get all the information regarding the new digital admissions as well as other special events!

Subway Voucher winner is.....Lilia Cromie.

Register your interest for P1 using this link: <http://bit.ly/EnrolinP1>

CALLING ALL FUTURE P1

Applications for admission to pre-school and primary one will open on Wednesday 2 January 2019 at 10.00am and close for punctual applications on Thursday 31 January 2019 (midnight). Those people who register an interest in attending P1 will be kept up to date with key dates, be provided with paper copies of the form (if desired) and be given support to apply for school digitally.

Follow this link to register: <http://bit.ly/EnrolinP1>

Christmas Resources for Outdoor Play

We need some help resourcing our outdoor play area with a Christmas theme. Maybe you have some old bits and pieces lying around the house that you no longer need, but we could make great use of!

Our wish list:-

- Tinsel
- Old tree decorations
- Christmas jumper/ t shirts
- Ribbon
- Christmas stockings
- Santa or Elf hats

If you have any of these items that you could donate to us, we would be very grateful. Please send in to either P1 or P2. Many thanks in advance.



Joint Outdoor Christmas Play Based learning takes place on Friday 7th December for children in Ballyhenry Nursery and our P1 Class. Do you have anything to contribute?

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION 13TH DEC. AT 9:30 AND 14TH DEC. AT 1:30

Our Christmas Celebration is next **Thursday & Friday**. All parents and friends of the school are invited to come along and join in our Christmas Celebration. All children from P1-4 are involved. We are planning to sell photos of the performers. These will be on display with order forms on the day.



Doors open at 9.00am on Thursday and the performance will begin at 9:30 (approximately). On Friday doors will open at 12.45 and the performance will begin at 1:15 (approximately). Light refreshments will be available as you arrive and service will end when the show begins. All pupils will go home following the show on Friday (approximately 2:15 p.m.) as so many parents will be at school. B'Happy club will operate if needed

School ends at 2:15 p.m. following the Nativity on Friday 14th December. B'Happy will operate if needed.

CAROL SERVICE AT BALLYHENRY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH- 19TH DECEMBER



We are holding our traditional Carol Service at Ballyhenry Presbyterian Church on **Wednesday 19th December**. The service will start at **1.00 pm** and will last for about an hour. The retiring collection at the Service will be donated to Operation Christmas Child. All children will go home following the service at **2:00 p.m.** B'Happy Club will NOT operate on this day.

We are trying something new! Children should be collected from the church after the service. Children DO NOT NEED THEIR SCHOOL BAGS. LUNCHES SHOULD BE SENT IN A DISPOSABLE BAG. The children will not return to school.

School ends at 2:00p.m. following the Carol Service for all pupils. Pupils should be collected from Ballyhenry Presbyterian Church. No B'Happy

WEBSITE UPDATE

Introducing our new and improved website! Go to www.myballyhenryps.co.uk to find out more!



Schools NI
Receive school updates
via your phone

Download App

A total of 76 people have download our app and are getting calendar reminders and news flashes! ARE YOU? Those people got a timely reminder of our early closure this week via our calendar reminder! We all forget but you could have had your memory jogged! You will also get reminders like "School Starts again on Thursday 3rd January". Spread the word, you don't want to miss our news and reminders!

Going forward we would like this to be our main way of communicating with you as this service is free! This will save us £70 per text. Based on the number of text messages sent this year we could have saved £1,820! Can you imagine what we could have done with that money? WE CAN!

However, until we are confident that the messages are getting through on our app the newsletter will be emailed in addition to using the app. We will continue to send text messages but only in emergency situations (i.e. unexpected school closures)

MUMS AND TOTS

We have really enjoyed hosting our Mums and Tots this term! Thank you to everyone who has come along. The last session will be Monday 10th December 2018. We will resume on Monday 7th January 2019.

ATTENDANCE

Excellent attendance at school is essential if our pupils are to make good progress with their learning and fulfill their potential. We wish to celebrate those children who arrive to school on time each day ready to learn! They are rewarded with a House Point per day of timely attendance. The vast majority of our pupils arrive on time every day! Well done!

Please see below the pupil attendance figures for each class for the month of November 2018...

P1- 92.6% P2 – 96.7% P3P - 96.8% P3P - 93.6%

P4 – 95.9% P5 – 92.4% P6- 96.5% P7- 89.4%

Well done Primary 6 – you are the WINNERS!

We monitor closely the attendance of all pupils in school and seek to support those whose attendance could improve. Letters will go out this week to carers of children whose attendance falls below 90% this level of attendance is considered to be poor. Unfortunately, some children attend less than 85% of the time. This is considered very poor and requires Education Welfare involvement.

Education Welfare

Education Welfare work in partnership with children, their families, the schools, other education services as well as statutory and voluntary agencies. The law says there is an entitlement to education for children for 12 years (7 in primary, 5 in secondary). In fact, most children go to school and enjoy the opportunities school has to offer. However, some children have attendance or other problems that they need help to overcome. It is a parent's responsibility to ensure that their children go to school. But Education Welfare Officer can offer support and advice if attendance is challenging.

If your child's attendance falls below 85% you will be required to attend a meeting with the principal to discuss ways to improve attendance. This is mandatory as a referral to the

 **EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS –**
Every single day a child is absent from school equates to a day of lost learning.
Attendance percentages can be misleading.

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed	Excellent
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Satisfactory
90% Attendance	18 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Poor
85% Attendance	27 Days of Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Very Poor
80% Attendance	36 Days of Absence 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Unacceptable
75% Attendance	45 Days of Absence 9 Weeks and 1 Day of Learning Missed	Unacceptable

For some parents, 90% may seem like an acceptable level of attendance, but the reality is that 90% attendance means that your child will miss half a school day each week or 19 days of school during the school year – that's nearly 4 school weeks.

Education Welfare Officer is required at this level. Parents/carers whose children are frequently late will be required to attend a restorative meeting with the principal.

The school is compelled to hold these meetings in order to meet the legal obligation.

BALLYHENRY NURSERY OPEN AFTERNOON

Our neighbour, Ballyhenry Nursery School are having their Open Afternoon on Thursday 6th December between 2.30pm and 4.30pm.

Stars of the Week

Each Thursday in Assembly children are recognised for their contributions to school life.



This week's awards were given for achievements in **Numeracy**. We congratulate....

Year 1 — Emily for super counting and making sets of 10!

Year 2 — Luci for brilliant work on subtraction!

Year 3P—Eden for fantastic work on block graphs!

Year 3F— Molly for fantastic work on block graphs!

Year 4 — Adam for super subtraction!

Year 5 — Erin for great effort in rounding and adjusting strategies!

Year 6 — Keely for great coordinates!

Year 7 — Bartosz for Magnificent Mangahigh Maths!

Corridor Teddy goes to P2

Corridor Cup goes to P6

CONTACT SCHOOL

We are here to help! Here are some of the ways you can get in touch.

Website: www.myballyhenryps.co.uk Facebook: **Ballyhenry Primary School—Official** (closed group)

Email: lknocker496@c2kni.net Tel: (028) 90841318



CHRISTMAS FAIR

Thursday 6th December 2018

6:30-8:00 pm.

Ballyhenry Primary School

Admission: adult £150 Children 50p



Christmas Crafts and games will be on offer.
Enjoy Festive Foods! Visit Santa's Grotto and have
their picture taken with the big man himself!

