

NEWSLETTER 3—15/09/2019

Ballyhenry Primary School



Dates for your Diary



Breakfast Club

8:00 to 8:45 a.m. Cost: £1.50

Must be booked in advance on-line* via the app by 8:00 a.m. daily.

B'Happy

2:00 to 6:00 p.m. Cost: £2.50/hour

Must be booked in advance on-line* via the app by 9:15 a.m. daily. Unfortunately we cannot accept telephone bookings or late bookings.

If your child is staying until 6:00 p.m. please send them an evening snack

Special B'Happy P1 Arrangements for September

12:00 to 2:00 p.m. Cost: £5.00

P1 children staying for B'Happy must be booked into dinners or bring a packed lunch

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Ballyhenry Tots 9:00 to 10:30 £1.50	Football P1 to P3 2:00-3:00 P4 to P7 3:00 to 4:00	Swimming P5 & P6		Ballyhenry Tots 9:00 to 10:30 £1.50
AQE Revision (P7) 3:00 to 3:40				Cool for School Photography 8:30 to 12:00 noon. Younger siblings are free to come for family pictures from 8:30
Judo Starts next week				House Activities P4 to P7 1:00 to 2:00
				Junglenastics Starts next week

Roald Dahl Day

We joined the worldwide celebrations for Roald Dahl Day on Friday 13th September. Pupils engaged in a variety of exciting activities in their classrooms. Pictures to follow!



Supporting Our Children's Positive Mental Health

One of the things you highlighted in your School Development Plan feedback was the need to support our children's positive mental health. We agree that this is something that needs to be addressed in school and by outside agencies. We have started a number of initiatives that will address this important area of our children's health and well-being.

Outdoor Play

Children in P1 and P2 engage in outdoor play at least 2 times per week (weather permitting). P3 Pupils have at least 1 outdoor play session per week. We know that engaging in outdoor learning helps to develop children's curiosity for the world around of them as well as developing self-esteem, resilience and build social skills. This programme has been running successfully for a little more than a year and we can clearly see the impact. Remember that P1 to P3 pupils must have a pair of wellie boots in school and should come to school daily with a coat. As the weather changes they will need a hat and mitts to access this area of the curriculum.

House Activities

House activities were introduced this week and were a great success! Children worked in mixed age groups (Houses) to take part in Outdoor Learning, Collaborative Art, Multi-Sports and Mindfulness. Though these activities it is hope that children will build resilience, learn to work as a team, find out more about the World Around Us, STEM and increase their Physical Fitness.

Lunch Time Fun

Feedback from our pupils has indicated that they want more to do in the playground. We agree and so do you!

Junior Playground (P1 to P3)

We are trying to introduce more equipment to the Infant Playground. It is a small playground so there needs to be some clear rules so we can minimize risk and ensure that our play is safe and respectful. Our Red Caps help us to ensure that the pupils stay safe. Thank you!

Senior (P4 to P7)

For 2 years we have zoned the balls and create safe areas for classes to play. This has worked well in terms of ball safety but some issues have developed:

Not everyone wants to play with a ball! Football and Netball does not appeal to everyone so we are now looking for alternatives. The pupils suggested cheerleading areas (with music), skipping area,

reading and drawing in the playground. We have also been asked to get picnic tables in the Senior Playground so that pupils can play board games (like chess). We are looking for a way of funding these improvements.

We do have some issues with how children play with balls. Whether it is football or netball we seem to get frequent arguments regarding winning and losing. We expect our children to be SAFE, READY AND RESPECTFUL. We appreciate your support in this matter!

Lunch Time Alternatives

We know that playing outside after lunch can be challenging. For some children, a big playground filled with people is just overwhelming, for others they might find it hard to find something to do or maybe they just feel a bit lonely. We are looking for ways to provide alternatives for anyone who needs them.

Love Reading (Mondays and Friday, P4 to P7)

Children can enjoy some time in the library reading books or doing book related activities. Children are encouraged to enjoy books quietly so as to allow the friends to do likewise. If there are too many children there may be need to restrict numbers.

ECO Club (Tuesdays, P4 to P7 beginning 24/09/2019)

These children will go outside and tend to environmental concerns including gardening, bird feeding and tidy environment. On days of extreme weather, the club will learn to play chess. We have received a donation of 15 chess board from the international chess association and would like to develop our pupils' skills. Chess has been shown to support brain development, enhance problem solving skills and even support reading. These children may need to engage in the gardening first followed by their lunch. We thank the kitchen for being supportive in this matter.

Zen Den (Tuesday to Thursday P2 to P3 Break time, P4 to P7 Lunch Time)

We are working with Mrs McCurry, a trained councillor with many years of experience with children and young people with mental health issues. There will be 10 to 15 passes available to pupils who need an alternative to break and lunch. If your child is interested they simply need to let us know and we will try to meet their needs. Given the popularity of this club there may be a waiting list

In School Support for Mental Health

Using the resources at our disposal we are hoping that this informal programme which will support our pupils, parents and staff.

Individual and Group Support

Mrs McCurry is a trained counsellor with many years of educational experience. She will work with pupils and families to support positive mental health. Our programme is not intended to replace support available outside but meet the needs of children in school. We are very excited about the prospect and being able to help our pupils.

Positive Behaviour Management

Most children are settling well into school and we are very proud of them. Here is our new and improve School Charter and the related to the three key words we use to guide our behaviour in school.

Ballyhenry Primary School Charter We are Safe, Ready and Respectful		
SAFE	READY	RESPECTFUL
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Walk sensibly and quietly in the corridors;• Keep our hands and our feet to ourselves;• Exercise self-control.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arrive at school on time;• Wear our school uniform;• Look after our belongings;• Line up quickly and respectfully when the bell rings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Show respect to everyone in school;• Be truthful, well-mannered and kind;• Take pride in our school building;• Set a good example to others.
<p>UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: "Rights" are things every child should have or be able to do. All children have the same rights. These are some of the 54 articles that relate most to life in school.</p> <p>Article 1—Everyone under 18 has these rights.</p> <p>Article 2—All children have these rights, no matter who they are. No child should be treated unfairly on any basis.</p> <p>Article 3—All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.</p> <p>Article 7—You have the right to a name, and this should be officially recognized by the government.</p> <p>Article 12—You have the right to give your opinion, and for adults to listen and take it seriously.</p> <p>Article 13—You have the right to find out things and share what you think with others, by talking, drawing, writing or in any other way unless it harms or offends other people.</p> <p>Article 19—You have the right to be protected from being hurt and mistreated, in body or mind.</p> <p>Article 28—You have the right to a good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level you can.</p> <p>Article 29—Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.</p>		

Health Reminder

As we return to another school year a little reminder about head lice.

Head lice and nits are very common in young children and their families. They do not have anything to do with dirty hair and are picked up by head-to-head contact. Head lice can make your head feel:

- itchy
- like something is moving in your hair

The only way to be sure someone has head lice is by finding live lice.

You can do this by combing their hair with a special fine-toothed comb (detection comb). You can buy these online or at pharmacies. Pharmacies can also supply treatment products

School Sensation (P2 to P7)

Remember to mark our School Sensation Day on your calendar. This is your chance to visit the school and see your child in class. See you in the hall at 2:00 p.m.

School will finish at 3:00 p.m. for all P2 to P7 children. B 'happy Club will run as normal.

A little note about P1 Pupils. School Sensation takes place on the Thursday of their first week of full days. We think it would be a little much for them to participate. Parents are welcome to come to the parent talk and then tour the school. B'Happy will be available to P1 Pupils between 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. if required.

School Sensation Thursday 3rd October

Photo Permission and Personal Data

The policy relating to GDPR necessitate a further response regarding photo permission and privacy. Unfortunately this means that you need to complete an additional form being even more specific regarding photos and personal data. Many of you have already completed this form. Thank you! We now just need to cross-reference this information. Pictures should start to appear next week.

Data Capture Forms

Data Capture Forms contain essential personal information that ensure that your child's information is accurate. This allows us to contact you if your child is unwell. It also ensures that we are aware of any medical issues your child might have. Due to GDPR these forms were sent home in a sealed envelope marked "Private and Confidential". It is essential that you return the data capture forms to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Free School Meals

Please remember you need to reapply for Free School Meals every year. If you think you are entitled and would like an application form, please speak with Mrs. Reid in the Office who will be happy to help. You can also download an application form from the Website.



You can also get more information from the Education Authority Website by clicking on this link.
www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-school-uniform-allowance

Extra funding in our school is based on our percentage of Free School Meals so please apply even if your child does not want dinners! You will benefit from Uniform Grants. If your child has a statement for Special Educational Needs they may also be entitled to Free School Meals. We can't get this extra funding without you! We need another 20 people to apply in order to meet the funding target!

Dates for your Diary

Remember that our school website has a calendar app that can be downloaded to your mobile device so that you receive reminders of upcoming events. Please note the following:

- Friday 20th September—Cool for School Photography (Return photo forms)
- Friday 27th September--School will be closed to facilitate staff training;
- Thursday 3rd October--School Sensation. Find out more about school and how you can help your child.
- Friday 18th October—Harvest Assembly. Join us for our Harvest Assembly and Coffee Morning.

- Friday 18th October—Parent Book Look. See the hard work your child has completed. Return books on Monday.
- Tuesday 22nd October to Thursday 24th October—Parent-Teacher Interviews. School closes at 12:30 p.m. but Special B'Happy Hours will still operate.
- Friday 25th October—Pumpkin Party. School ends at 12:30 p.m.
- Monday 4th November—Back to school

Communication and Payment App



Wow! 205 people have taken the time to download our Communication and Payment app. Thank you! This is easily done from the iTunes store or Google Play by downloading the app (search for Ballyhenry Primary School). The app is free! You are also free to have other members of your family and child minders download the app as emails, newsletters, text messages and payments can all be done through this app.

Step by Step

1. Download the Ballyhenry Primary School App
2. Enter the password: 11111
3. Select the notifications you would like to receive (i.e. which class your child or children are in). Be sure to **“enable notifications”**

Use the app to:

- Book and pay for services on-line
- Receive notifications and text messages
- Complete consent forms. All parents must currently sign and submit:
 - Policy Acknowledgement
 - Intimate Care Permission

- Photo Permission
- Acceptable use of the internet.
- Inform the school of information relevant to your child:
 - Medical Conditions & Special Diets
 - Absent Notes
 - Communication Messages (i.e. if your child needs to leave school early for an appointment)

Thank you for supporting us as we try to make communication more effective and easier for parents/carers. We are happy to show you how to use it. Simply drop into the office for a little extra help.

B'Happy

We are trying something new! Remember you must pre-book for the week on Monday morning. This should be done through our app online by 9:15 daily. Payment is required when you book your slots. For a very short period of time we will be able to accept cash bookings on Monday morning for the week. Emergency bookings can only be done online before 9:15 a.m. This is due to the high number of participants and the need to ensure adequate staffing. Please help us to help you!



When a pupil arrives in B'Happy they are given a snack (i.e pancakes, toast, biscuits). They also have access to a fruit bowl throughout their time in the room.

If your child is going to stay beyond 5:00 you should provide them with a snack or light meal.

P1 children can book special hours. This should be done in advance (i.e. before 9:15 daily, preferably on a weekly basis). Remember to ensure that your child has a lunch or is booked into dinner!

Stars of the Week

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

This week awards were given for achievements in Literacy. We congratulate.....



Year 1	Kayla for super retelling of nursery rhymes.
Year 2	Georgie for super effort at building CVC words.
Year 3	Oscar for excellent work unjumbling sentences.
Year 4C	Ben for super capital letters.
Year 4F	Beth for amazing work with capital letters.
Year 5	Eva for super use of capital letters.
Year 6	Amy for excellent opposites.
Year 7	Maison for great effort with parts of speech.
Corridor Teddy	P1 and P3
Corridor Cup	P5

Contact School

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

Website: www.myballyhenryps.net

Facebook: **Ballyhenry Primary School—Official** (closed group)

Email: lknocker496@c2kni.net

Tel: (028) 90841316