

Newsletter 15 (12-12-20)

Ballyhenry Primary School



PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE THE APP ON YOUR PHONE SO THAT YOU CAN RECEIVE REGULAR UPDATES FROM SCHOOL. IF YOUR CHILD, OR SOMEONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD, HAS TESTED POSITIVE PLEASE IMMEDIATELY EMAIL (lknocker496@c2kni.net or pcollins598@c2kni.net) TO LET US KNOW. TRY NOT TO WORRY WE WILL GET THROUGH IT TOGETHER.

REMINDER THAT SCHOOL ENDS AT 12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER.

Illness in School

Children MUST NOT ATTEND SCHOOL if they have COVID-19 symptoms:

1. A new and continuous cough
2. High temperature/fever
3. Loss or change in sense of smell or taste

Anyone with these symptoms should contact their GP/PHA to inform them and book a test when it is appropriate to do so.

ANYONE EXPERIENCING THE 3 RECOGNISED COVID19 SYMPTOMS (EVEN IF ASSOCIATED WITH A COLD) MUST REMAIN AT HOME. IF YOU HAVE BEEN TESTED YOU MUST REMAIN AT HOME UNTIL TEST IS RETURNED AS NEGATIVE. YOUR CHILD HAS NOT BEEN TESTED BUT HAS HAD ANY COVID-19 SYMPTOMS, THEY MUST NOT RETURN TO SCHOOL FOR 10 DAYS.

Please complete the Absent Form on the Ballyhenry App if your child is ill or needs to remain at home to self-isolate. These notes go directly to your child's teacher! It is important that you complete this so that we can ensure that we use the correct code and support your child with homebased learning.

Christmas Celebrations



We were delighted with our Christmas Celebration Video and this has been shared on our FaceBook Page and our Website. We are so proud of the resilience of our pupils and the dedication of our

staff that has made this production possible. We hope that it brought you as much joy as it has given us!



Working from Home

Schools have been instructed by DENI to ensure that we are open for onsite learning unless instructed to make alternative arrangements. We have every intention of meeting this statutory requirement and look forward to learning together with those who are able to attend.

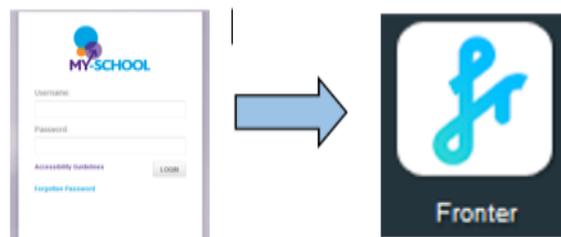
However, we have been approached by many parents who are concerned about their children continuing with Face-to-Face teaching during the week beginning 14th December. You have shared with us your wish to follow the advice of the Chief Scientific Advisor to self-isolate for the two weeks prior to 23rd December in order to protect vulnerable members of your festive bubbles. We do understand. Following our positive cases and the rise in local community transmission, we feel that caution is prudent. If you make this choice for your child and they complete the work set while they are at home, their attendance will indicate that they were self-isolating during this period.

Covid-Work Folder

Every child has received a work folder in September. This work was to be completed if they were asked to isolate with their class bubble. Most of these folders are therefore still intact and can be used in the run up to Christmas. Please complete an appropriate amount of work from this folder and return it to school in the new year.

Online Learning

If your child has already completed this work, more work can be provided via email. The teachers will also be up loading some festive activities to My School -- Fronter. In your child's emergency folder you will find usernames and passwords that will allow to access "My School" and then "Fronter". If you are having trouble getting online, it is essential that you make contact and we will do our best to help.



Hint: search <https://www.c2kschools.net> for "My School" then enter your child's username and password. Their homepage should load and then find the fronter logo (see above). If fronter does not load automatically when clicked then give "my school" a few moments and retry.

Zoom

We will also arrange to make contact with pupils via Zoom to encourage virtual engagement and support good mental health.

Careful consideration has gone into making this decision. We are giving you the opportunity to do your own risk assessment. Only you know your personal circumstances and what decision is right for you. What works for one family will not be right for another. Please allow us to support you in any way we can.

The P6 Class Bubble

The P6 Bubble is scheduled to return to school on Monday 14th December 2020. However, we appreciate that some children may continue to work from home until the new year.

We would appreciate it if you would let us know your intentions regarding your child's attendance this week by completing this form. <https://bit.ly/ChristmasIsol8>

Virtual Visits (Open Night)



The poster for Ballyhenry Primary School features a central text area surrounded by circular images of children. At the top, there are five small circular images showing various school activities. Below these is the school's name, 'Ballyhenry Primary School', followed by the text 'A special invitation to all prospective pupils and parents.' The main text reads: 'Sign up for updates on our Virtual Visits in December 2020 and Face-to-Face appointments in January 2021'. Below this is a 'Click sign up' button with the URL 'https://bit.ly/InterestP12021'. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner. At the very bottom, the school's motto is written in italics: 'Achieving Success in a Caring Environment.'

Ballyhenry Primary School

A special invitation to all prospective pupils and parents.

Sign up for updates on our Virtual Visits in December 2020 and Face-to-Face appointments in January 2021

Click sign up
<https://bit.ly/InterestP12021>

"Achieving Success in a Caring Environment."

Our Virtual Open Night Video has been posted on our website and public FaceBook page. We are so proud of the whole school for their participation. Our pupils have shown themselves to be responsible and mature citizens. Our staff did the school proud by sharing their thoughts, ideas and smiles. Thank you!

We hope that we will be able provide Face-to-Face appointments to meet prospective parents/pupils in January. Many of our children have younger brothers/sisters at school. We would

love you to sign-up for these updates too so that we can ensure that we provide you with the most up-to-date information from the Education Authority regarding P1 Admissions.

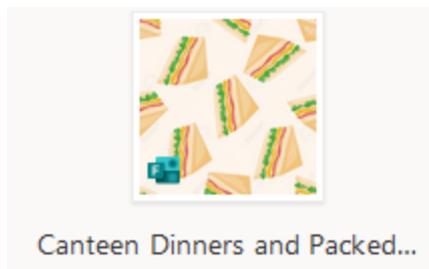
<https://bit.ly/InterestP12021>.

Free School Meals

It is not too late to apply for Free School Meals. This can be done online via the Education Authority. We only need 4 more children to be accepted for Free School Meals in order to receive our addition funding next year. If you are eligible, please apply! Parents who receive Free School Meals will now receive a food grant during every holiday until Easter 2022.

The meal service has also informed schools that they will provide Food Packs to children who are forced to remain at home due to Covid-19. Please contact school if you believe you are entitled to this provision.

Ballyhenry Primary School Kitchen



We are so pleased to be able to offer hot dinners on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays. These will be delivered to the classroom complete. We are here to help. The canteen continues to offer brown bag lunch on Tuesday and Thursday. The lunch will include a filled sandwich, baguette, wrap or muffin (see menu), piece of fruit, dessert and a bottle of water.

Carers, you simply need to tell us your child's preferences. It is important that you complete this form even if your child takes free school meals.

Please complete this link to select sandwich fillings and Monday/Wednesday/Friday Hot Dinner options. <https://bit.ly/PackLunch20>

PLEASE BOOK BY 7:00 A.M. ON MONDAY FOR THE WEEK. THE SPREADSHEET IS PRINTED AND SENT TO THE KITCHEN BY 7:30 A.M. ON MONDAY.

We do accept additions but this is challenging and takes away from teaching time. We really appreciate your help in this matter.

14 th December – 18 th December				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Goujons, Sautéed Potatoes & Sweetcorn **** Tub of Ice Cream, Fruit & Juice Tuck: Toast & Fruit (alternative diets also catered)	Filled Sandwich **** Fresh Fruit, Cookie & Juice Tuck: Bagel & Fruit	Sausage, Chips & Beans **** Yoghurt, Fruit & Drink Tuck: Toast & Fruit (alternative diets also catered)	Filled Sub Roll **** Milkshake & Biscuit Tuck: Muffin & Fruit	SCHOOL CLOSSES at 12 noon FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS
School Meals: 1 day - £2.60 2 days - £5.20 3 days - £7.80 4 days - £10.40 5 days - £13.00 HB Tuck Shop: 1 day – 30p 2 days – 60p 3 days – 90p 4 days - £1.20 5 days - £1.50 Please pay via the Ballyhenry PS App Make your choice https://bit.ly/PackLunch20 ¹¹				
PLEASE NOTE: FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON ALLERGENIC INGREDIENTS OR IF YOUR CHILD HAS A DIETARY REQUIREMENT PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL. ANY ALLERGY CLAIMS <u>MUST</u> BE ACCOMPANIED BY A DOCTORS LETTER. DUE TO ANY UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES THAT MAY OCCUR, THE MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.				

<https://bit.ly/PackLunch20>

Support before and afterschool



- Breakfast Club-- 8:00 to 8:45
- B'Happy— 2:00 to 5:00 (booked in 30 minute slots).

YOU MUST BOOK BY 7:00 AM ON MONDAY. SORRY, NO DROP-IN OR CASH PAYMENTS. Both clubs work with Covid-19 Safety Procedures in place. B'Happy will not operate on Friday.

Pastoral Care in School and at Home

We know that things are a little different right now and this can have an impact on our mental health. Mrs McCurry has been working with us to support pupils in addressing their mental health needs. Mrs McCurry is also happy to talk to parents who may need a little help. As part of her role, I have asked her to make contact with families who are having to self-isolate to offer support. We hope that you will find it helpful to talk to someone from school.



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

Note: Please contact school if you or a family member has symptoms of Covid-19. It is essential that you let us know if someone in your family has tested positive. If this is out of hours please send a communication slip via the app or email lknocker496@c2ni.net. Include a contact number so that I can call you back to discuss next steps. Try not to worry. We will figure this out together. This information will be kept confidential.

HOLIDAY LIST 2020/2021

Autumn Term- 2020

School Starts: Monday 24th August (P7 Only, ends 2pm, bring packed lunch)

Thursday 27th August P2-P7 (Bubble 1, school bring lunch)

Friday 28th August P2-P7 (Bubble 2, school ends bring lunch)

Bank Holiday: Monday 31st August (school closed)

School Continues: Tuesday 1st September (P1 See Special arrangements, Bubble1)

Except Close 1: Monday 19th October (school closed to pupils)

Extended Half-Term: Tuesday 20th October-Friday 23rd October (**school closed to pupils**)

Halloween: Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October (inc)

Christmas: Friday 18th December (half Day *)

Christmas: Monday 21st December – Friday 1st January 2021 (inc)

Spring Term- 2021

School Re-starts Monday 4th January

Except Close 2: Monday 15th February (**school closed to pupils**)

Except Close 3: Tuesday 16th February (**school closed to pupils**)

Half Term: Wednesday 17th February – Friday 19th February (inc)

St Patrick's Day: Wednesday 17th March (Staff in)

Except Close 4: Friday 26th March (school closed to pupils)

Easter: Monday 29th March – Friday 9th April (inc)

Summer Term- 2021

School recommences: Monday 12th April

MAY DAY HOLIDAY: Monday 3rd May

Exceptional Closure 5: Friday 28th May (school closed to pupils)

MAY BANK HOLIDAY: Monday 31st May (school closed)

End of School year: Wednesday 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.