



BALLYLIFFORD PS

NEWSLETTER

Term 2 - 2018



CEREMONY OF LIGHT

Well done to all the P7 pupils who celebrated the Ceremony of Light along with Derrychrin PS in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

It was lovely to see so many family & friends supporting the school at our joint Ceremony of Light celebration

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to our P7 pupils who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on Friday 9th February. It was a beautiful occasion for both Ballylifford PS and Derrychrin PS with Dean Kevin Donaghy as celebrant.

A special word of thanks must also go to our P3-P6 pupils in the school choir and our tin whistle group who were also fantastic.



SIOLTA CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Thank you to Derrychrin PS for hosting our P7 Siolta Retreat Day in February which was in preparation for Confirmation. It was brilliantly lead by Bosco from Siolta and the pupils learned so much about their faith. Great to see both Parish schools learning together and sharing the experience.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Well done and congratulations to our P4 pupils who made their First Penance last week.

A special thank you to Fr Donnelly who celebrated the Mass, Ms Hurl who prepared the children so well and all parents and family members who attended.



PARISH BULLETIN

You can now keep up to date with all Parish information by viewing the Parish Bulletin online using our school website and clicking on Parish News tab.

NEW SCHOOL SPORTS JERSEY

Our new school jersey design incorporating our new crest, motto & values has finally been completed after numerous designs.

We would like to say a massive thank you to Noel and Mary McCracken (TES Group) for his kind generosity in sponsoring the new kit for the school.

We are really impressed with the design and the pupils can look forward to representing Ballylifford PS with pride in all sporting competitions wearing the new sports kit as it gives a real sense of school identity and a great way of promoting our fantastic school.



There will be an option for all pupils and adults of purchasing the new jersey in the near future.

Details of when this opportunity will be made available has still to be decided by O'Neill's Sportswear but we will keep everyone informed in due course.

THE DAILY MILE

Like a lot of schools all over the world, we have decided to introduce The Daily Mile to our P3-P7 pupils and that they will benefit in many ways when we implement The Daily Mile.

Schools that are already involved say that they really value it. Teachers state that it improves learning readiness, concentration and behaviour - which leads to better attainment. They see how it builds the children's confidence, resilience and determination while they are enjoying being outside in the fresh air, running with their friends.

We will introduce The Daily Mile to children as a run or jog, not as a walk. If implemented as per core principles, almost all children will be able to run for most, or all of, the way after around 4 weeks. This level of fitness will be maintained or improved over the coming months and years. The pupils are very excited to be involved in the programme and are looking forward to participating in the daily challenge. A parent consent form has been issued to all pupils



FIRST AID TRAINING

A First Aid training course has been confirmed for **Saturday 14th April at 9:30am - 4:00pm**. There are only 12 places available and all places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

A number of gardening sessions have also been agreed to take place at the end of April / start of May, weather permitting.

These courses funded by People Plus NI will be facilitated on the Ballylifford Primary School premises with tea / coffee, refreshments / light lunch provided. This is a wonderful opportunity for our community to receive local, fully funded training which can benefit the whole school community. Future Irish Language and ICT courses are due to take place in the future with dates and times to be confirmed/

If you would like to attend the First Aid Training Course on **Saturday 14th April at 9:30am - 4:00pm**, please contact Ballylifford Primary School before 9th April 2018.

Tel: 02879418388 or Email:

info@ballylifford.cookstown.ni.sch.uk

MID ULSTER SCHOOLS SWIMMING GALA

Well done to our pupils who participated in the Primary Schools Swimming Gala recently at the Greenvale Leisure Centre organised by the Mid-Ulster District Council. It was the pupils' first experience of competing in a Swimming competition and they were fantastic, representing Ballylifford PS with pride. The boys won their heat in the Freestyle Relay event and were unlucky not to finish in the top three overall.

Congratulations to P5 pupil Nicole Higgins, who won all her heats in the Freestyle, Back Crawl and Breaststroke events and was placed 3rd overall in both the Freestyle and Backcrawl. Superb performance Nicole and surely a bright future ahead! Thank you to Mid-Ulster District Council for organising the event. Pupils already looking forward to it again next year.

MUST3 PROJECT

The MUST3 Project for the P3 and P4 pupils along with Coagh PS concluded recently, with our final celebration held in Ballylifford PS.

Over the five sessions the children from both schools developed the areas of Friendship and Feelings and Respecting Diversity along with an initial ice breaker session and final drumming session.

It was great to see parents from both schools in attendance to see the pupils perform superbly playing the drums and with a number of pupils reading, giving a recount of what their project was about.

Thank you to Stephen and Joan from Mid-Ulster Speedwell Trust for funding and organising the Project, Joe from The Gathering Drum for leading the drumming sessions, parents from both schools for supporting the final celebration and finally well done to all the pupils and staff for making it a success and collaborating so well together in all sessions and representing both schools with pride.

BALLINDERRY CREDIT UNION QUIZ

Well done to our P6 and P7 pupils who took part in the Ballinderry Bridge Credit Union Quiz on Monday 29th January along with Derrychrin PS and St. Patrick's PS, Loup. Thank you to Ballinderry Bridge Credit Union for the wonderful prizes that all teams received and to Derrychrin PS for being wonderful hosts.

BANK OF IRELAND

EASTER COLOURING COMPETITION

Well done to Aoibhin McKee who won a prize in the recent Bank of Ireland, Magherafelt Easter colouring competition.

CUMANN NA MBUNSCOIL QUIZ

Well done to the four P7 pupils, Dylan McAtamney, Tiernan Forbes, Odhran Bell and Joey Ferris who represented Ballylifford PS at the annual Cumann na mBunscol Quiz at Owenbeg. There were a large number of schools in attendance and the team performed really well.

ONLINE E-SAFETY

Ballylifford PS & Derrychrin PS held a joint Online E-Safety Information evening in Derrychrin Primary school on Thursday 1st February. Thank you to all parents who attended this excellent opportunity to inform them of potential of online dangers.

Thank you to our Digital Leaders team who presented their Safer Internet Day Assembly PowerPoint to our P1 and P2 class and then to our P3-P7 pupils.

'Create, Connect and Shared Respect: A Better Internet starts with you'



P1 and P2 Class Teacher

As you are all aware, Mr Sheerin who has been with us in Ballylifford PS since January will continue in his role as P1 and P2 teacher after the Easter holidays and for the foreseeable future in Mrs Sweeney's absence.

PTA - MINI EGG CHALLENGE

The Friends of Ballylifford PTA have organised an exciting fundraiser for the school called the 'Mini Egg Challenge'. Each pupil will receive a tube of mini eggs for them to enjoy over Easter but please ensure they hold on to the tubes as they are going to be key in helping them raise funds for the school.

The details of the fundraiser are included in the fantastic poem created by our wonderful PTA. The poem is attached to the tube so make sure you have a good read of what's exactly involved.

There will be a prize for the pupil/family who raises the most money, so get collecting all those 50p, 20p & 10p coins. If any family or pupil fills their tube and wants to collect more, they can empty their filled tube into a jar in school and we will record the amount collected.

Good luck to all the pupils!

All filled tubes are to be returned by Friday
18th May 2018



ECO-SCHOOLS FOOD WASTE CHALLENGE

Mr Chris Callan, Eco-Schools Project Officer visited the school recently to inform the pupils about the Food Waste Challenge, supported by DAERA and encouraged all families to register and enter the photo competition.

Thank you to each family who supported the event and continue to educate the children at home about the importance of food waste.

ECO-SCHOOLS TEAM 2018



Well done to the pupils in P3-P7 who were elected to represent our new Eco Schools committee. They produced some great manifestos and posters to raise their profile of how they could make a huge contribution in caring for our environment.

Thank you to Mr Sheerin for co-ordinating the area and establishing the new committee. We look forward to their ideas and how they will make a positive change to our school setting.

We hope to gain our green flag in the near future plus help the PTA in developing and improving our school garden area.

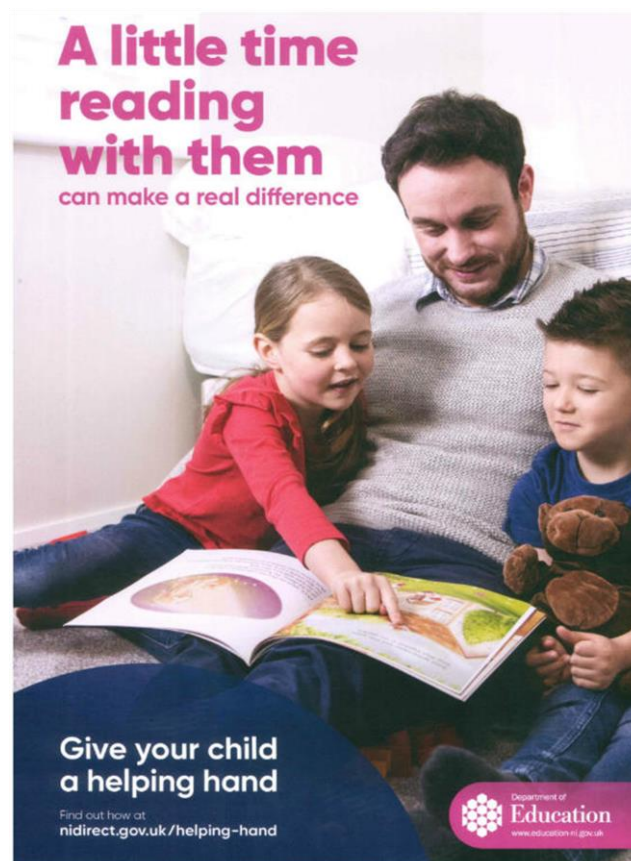
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GIVE YOUR CHILD A HELPING HAND

The Department of Education has launched a new campaign '**Give your child a helping hand**' highlighting the essential role that parents can play in helping their children do well at school and improve their life chances.

If you spend time playing, talking, reading and counting with your child, this can make a big difference in how well they do at school

Reading is essential for your child's success. Children who read outside class time are 13 times more likely to read above the expected level for their age

A child's family and home environment has a big impact on their numeracy and educational achievement



Find out how at:

www.nidirect.gov.uk/helping-hand



WORLD BOOK DAY

BALLYLIFFORD WORLD BOOK DAY

Well done to all the boys and girls who dressed up for World Book Day and thank you to the parents for supporting and assisting their children with their wonderful costumes. They looked fantastic and even Mr Sheerin and Mr McElroy joined in on the fun with their costumes.

The pupils also enjoyed completing reading activities throughout the day with KS2 pupils researching for their favourite quotes to inspire reading, favourite book reviews and assisting P1-P4 pupils with Green Screen to match their book cover image to their costumes.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Thank you to everyone who purchased books at our recent Book Fair.

We sold £636.82 in books and the school will receive £318.41 in commission which will go towards purchasing new Literacy Comprehension resources for the school.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Please refer to After School Clubs calendar issued in February

Gaelic Football: Monday
(Mr Sheerin/Mr McElroy)

Gymnastics: Tuesday (Miss Anna Devlin)

Transfer Club: Wednesday
(Mr McElroy/Ms Hurl/Mrs Muldoon)

Art: Wednesday (Ms Hurl/Mrs Muldoon)

Camogie: Thursday (Mr Sheerin)

PUPIL HOME TIME COLLECTION

Reminder: Pupil home time collection is from the school hall when there is wet/bad weather. The hall has been marked out for where the children are to line up. All parents and family members can collect their children from the hall at the back of the school. These doors will be opened for parents/family members to enter the hall whilst waiting on the children. We thank you for co-operation and support with this school procedure.

****The school bell will ring at 2:50pm daily to allow the P3-P7 children to get ready for home time to ensure they are collected on time and to avoid any delays for parents/ family members.****

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will take place on Friday 4th May.

Family group photos will take place at 9:15am, with individual photos, P1 & P7 class photos and a whole school group photograph taking place afterwards throughout the day.

REMINDER: SCHOOL CLOSURES

Easter Holidays: -

Good Friday 30th March - Fri. 6th April 2018

May Bank Holiday - Mon. 7th May 2018

May Bank Holiday - 28th May 2018
Staff Dev. Day - Tuesday 29th May 2018

Additional optional closure day will be taken on Friday 29th June 2018

FIRST COMMUNION

First Communion - Saturday 19th May 2018
at 11:00am

Education Authority, Southern Region - Ballylifford Primary School

School dinners: £2.60 a day. (£13.00 per week)

2nd April - 4th May 2018

	Week commencing: Monday 02/04/2018	Week commencing: Monday 09/04/2018	Week commencing: Monday 16/04/2018	Week commencing: Monday 23/04/2018	Week commencing: Monday 30/04/2018
MON.	School Closed – Easter Holidays	Lasagne, Spaghetti, Crusty Bread or Savoury Mince Carrots Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Choc. Sponge & Custard / Yogurt / Fruit	Beef Curry & Rice or Chicken Crumble / Chicken Breast Pieces & Gravy Mixed Veg. & M. Potatoes Jam Sponge & Custard / Yogurt / Fruit	Chicken Pie or Bacon Slices Mixed Vegetables Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Choc. Cracknel & Choc. Sc./ Fruit / Yogurt	HMOC Chicken Goujons or Vegetable Pasta Bake Sweet Corn Mashed Potatoes Rice Krispie Bar & Choc. Sauce / Fruit / Yogurt
TUES.		Steak Burger & Bap or Tuna Pasta Bake Sweet-corn / Salad Bar Chips / M. Potatoes Muffin & Milkshake / Yogurt	HMOC Chicken Goujons or Vegetable Pasta Bake Sweet Corn / Salad Bar Chips / Mashed Potatoes Creamed Rice & Fruit / / Yogurt	Beef Curry, Rice & Naan Bread or Tuna Pasta Bake Sweet-corn Chips / Mashed Potatoes Ice-Cream Tub / Fruit	Steak Burger in a Bap or O. Baked Sausages & Gravy Sweet corn/ Baked Beans Chips / Mashed Potatoes Semolina & Fruit / Yogurt
WED.		Steak Pie / Steak in Gravy or Salmon Fish Cake Peas Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Swiss-Roll & Custard / Yogurt / Fruit	Roast Beef, Stuffing & Gravy or Fish Fingers & White Sc. Peas / Sweet-corn Mashed Potatoes Lemon Sponge & Custard / Yogurt / Fruit	Roast Turkey & Stuffing Cabbage / Carrots Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Marble Sponge & Custard/ Fruit/Yogurt	B.B.Q. Chicken Breast & Noodles or Fish Fingers / Salmon Fish Cakes, Peas Mashed Potatoes Swiss-roll & Custard / Yogurt / Fruit
THUR.		Roast Chicken & Stuffing Cabbage / Carrots Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Mandarin Sponge & Custard / Yogurt	Homemade Hot Chicken & Cheese Baguette Salad Bar / Coleslaw Chips / Mashed Potatoes Frozen Yogurt / Fruit	Spaghetti Bolognese & Cheesy Bread or Chicken Breast Pieces, Peas Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Shortbread & Custard / Fruit / Yogurt	Roast Gammon, Stuffing Carrots / Peas Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Choc. Cracknel & Custard Sauce / Yogurt / Fruit
FRI.		Homemade Pizza or Chicken Wrap Sweet-corn / Baked Beans Chips / M. Potatoes Ice-cream & Jelly /Yogurt/ Fruit	Vegetable Soup & Hot -Dog / Salad Filled Roll Muffin & Milkshake / Fruit / Yogurt	Homemade Pizza or Cocktail Sausages Baked Beans / Sweet-corn Chips / M. Potatoes Artic Roll & Jelly / Fruit / Yogurt	Beef Curry & Rice or Chicken Wrap Sweet corn / Salad Bar Chips / Mashed Potatoes Frozen Yogurt / Fruit

Fruit & Yogurt available as per specification

Homemade bread available daily

Milk & Water available daily

Red / Brown / Chilli sauce available

Menu subject to deliveries

(Home Made Oven Cooked – HMOC)

(If a child has an allergy, please contact the Principal/ Unit Catering Supervisor)



Happy Easter