

# Bushmills Primary School & Nursery Unit



October 2015

As we have now reached the end of October, I would like to take this opportunity to say “Thanks” to you the parents and also all staff for your ongoing support and loyalty as we seek to continue to work together to provide the best opportunities we can for all our pupils here in Bushmills Primary.

Whether it be in the classroom or on the sporting field all our pupils certainly continue to “Do their best!”. I also feel it is important to point out that during the past



months it has been noted to myself on several occasions that the manners displayed by our pupils are a credit to the school. Comments like these really do make myself and all the staff feel proud to be associated with Bushmills Primary School and Nursery Unit. Well done boys and girls!

In conclusion, I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable half term break and look forward to seeing all staff and pupils back again (and well rested) on Monday 2nd November.

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## Sport for Life

“Sport for Life” health programme for Primary 4 and 5 pupils has got underway on Thursday mornings. This programme has been organised by the University of Ulster and aims to increase knowledge and understanding of the benefits of regular participation in sport and physical activity. The programme will run for a total of 12 weeks.



## Poppy Appeal Launch

On Wednesday 14th October, Bushmills Primary School played host to the launch of this year's Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Mr Andy McGugan (Royal British Legion Chairman) was here to explain to the pupils about the work of the British Legion and Canon Graham gave a brief talk based on the history of the poppy and why it is worn. Other representatives from



the British Legion included Mr & Mrs Heaney and Standard Bearer (Junior Section) Samuel Leslie.

Please note that poppies and other related merchandise will be available in school once we return after the half term break

## Football Tournament

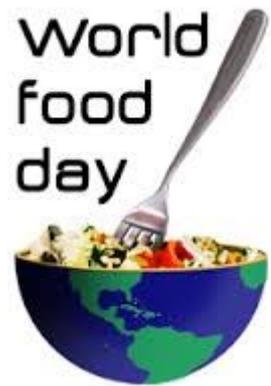
Our school football team took part in the first round of the Coleraine and District Small Schools Football



Tournament on Thursday 15th October at Ballycastle football grounds. The team played well and are now looking forward with anticipation to the next round.

## World Food Day

On Friday 16th October World Food Day was celebrated here in school. This proved to be an enjoyable event as pupils had the opportunity to try a selection of foods from different countries around the world. Special thanks must go to Mrs McConachie and all kitchen staff who prepared the wide selection of foods which were on offer.



## Tharp Family Visit

Once again this year our pupils enjoyed a visit from the talented Tharp family on Wednesday 21st October. All got involved in the singing and dancing and were delighted to receive a CD at the very end!

## Parent/Teacher Interviews

Parent/Teacher interviews took place on Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd October. Many thanks to all the parents who attended and as a school it has certainly highlighted to us that your child's/children's education is important to you! As a parent you play a very important role in helping to give your child the best start in life and your support is crucial!



## Hockey Coaching Sessions



As part of our primary 6 and 7 curriculum Hockey Coaching sessions commenced on Wednesday (21st October). These are being funded by Portrush Hockey Club and a trained coach is in attendance each week.

## Halloween Disco

Thanks to our PTA who organised a successful Halloween Disco last night (22nd October). A large number of pupils were in attendance and an enjoyable evening was had by all (including the adults who took to the dance floor!). Special thanks must go to Darren Hutton who was our DJ for the evening, also to Philip Brace (Ballymoney Indoor Market) who kindly donated a selection of Halloween hats which all pupils in Nursery and Primaries 1, 2 and 3 received before going home.



## “Wear Pink” Day

The term has finished off today with a special “Wear Pink” theme where pupils were allowed to swap their uniforms for a day and “Wear Pink” at a small fee of £1.

The aim of today was not only for our pupils to have a “Fun Day” taking part in a range of organised activities but also to raise money for Breast Cancer Awareness.

Our PTA kindly organised a coffee morning and kitchen staff very kindly donated all monies from snack sales to the chosen charity.

Look out in next month’s newsletter for a final total along with photos revealing the range of pink Outfits!.



## Farewell to Mrs Walker

Sadly at our whole school assembly on Wednesday 30th September we said farewell to Mrs Ivy Walker, who retired from her position as lunch-time supervisor. Mrs Walker had faithfully served this school for a remarkable 28 years and we, as a whole school, wish her a long and happy retirement!



## October Assemblies

Visitors to our assemblies throughout the month of October were as follows:

Wednesday 7th October — Robert Plant

Wednesday 14th October — Canon G Graham

Wednesday 21st October — Rev. A. Buick

## Children's Halloween Party

Portballintrae Resident's Association is having their annual children's Halloween Party on Friday 30th October 2015 in Portballintrae Village Hall from 2:00—4:00pm

- Admission is by ticket only at £1 each and can be ordered/purchased by contacting Fran Tel 028 207 31868
- Entertainment is by Mr Hullabaloo
- Fancy Dress is optional
- A lantern parade from the village hall led by the Samba band will take place at 7.30pm (Free lanterns will be given out to children from 7.15pm in the hall)
- On Saturday 31st October there will be a craft fair in the hall from 11:00am—4:00pm



## Friday CEF

Representatives from the local CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship) continue to take workshops on Friday afternoons between 2:00pm and 3:00pm with the pupils in Primary 3 to Primary 7.

## Inter-House Sports Tournaments

Congratulations to our winning house "Portcamon" who won September Sports Tournament.

The results were as follows:

- 1st - Portcamon
- 2nd - Blackrock
- 3rd - Klondyke
- 4th - Lissanduff



## Golden Child

Congratulations to Kenzie Saul (Primary 2/3) who was our "Golden Child" for the month of September.



Runners up were:-

- Devon Sharkey (Primary 4/5)
- Kayleigh Crawford (Primary 6/7)
- Sophie Greer (Primary 1)

## Attendance

The attendance cup for October will be presented at a whole school assembly on Wednesday 4th November.



Well done to Miss Logan's Primary 4/5 class

Results are as follows:

1st:	Miss Logan (Primary 4/5)	97.6%
2nd:	Miss Fulton (Primary 2/3)	97.1%
Joint 3rd:	Mrs Garrett (Nursery)	95.8%
	Miss McBride (Primary 6/7)	95.8%
5th:	Mrs McAllister (Primary 1)	93.6%

## AQE Tests

As we are now at the end of October our Primary 7 pupils sitting the AQE transfer have been working hard preparing for tests. This first test will take place on Saturday 7th November and we wish all of our pupils well.



## Diary Dates

Monday 2nd November

New term begins @ 9:00am

Flu Vaccine administration

Thursday 5th November

PTA committee Meeting @ 6:00pm

Thursday 12th November

Open Afternoon 1:15pm—2:30pm

Please note the change of date

(School will finish for all pupils at 1:00pm)

Thursday 3rd December

Christmas Show — details to follow

Friday 4th December

Staff training Day

Friday 18th December

Term finishes — all pupils finish at 12 noon

Monday 4th January

New term begins @ 9:00am

