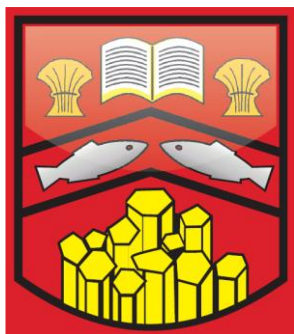


Bushmills Primary School
&
Nursery Unit



January 2023
Newsletter

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Head lice

Again, can I remind all parents/guardians that it is your responsibility to regularly check your child's hair. Treatment can be obtained for free from your local chemist. We would request that any pupils with long hair please tie their hair up.

Contact Details

If you have changed your address, mobile number or any other contact information please inform the school as soon as possible, to keep records up to date. This is important for all pupils, Nursery to Primary 7.

New Year

As we begin a new year, we look forward with excitement and anticipation of what lies ahead.

As you are aware, sadly, due to matters out of the school's control, the difficult decision was made to postpone the Christmas production until after the Christmas holidays.

On a brighter note, the new year kicked off with a fantastic performance of "No One Wraps Like An Elf" which was held on Tuesday 10th January.

Unfortunately, I was not here for the performances however I was delighted to hear it was a huge success and all staff and pupils should be proud of all the hard work they put into the performances.

Thank you and well done to everyone!

If you were unable to come into school to enjoy the performances, it was recorded and over the next few weeks hopefully you will be able to view it on You Tube.

Car Parking

Sadly, as you have already been informed, once again, we have received a letter from the Management Company for the Ritchies Wood Development, which is on the opposite side of the Priestland Road from the school, requesting that we ask parents not to park in their car park when dropping off or collecting your child/children from the school as this is a private development. Unfortunately, this is continuing to happen and therefore I would urge those involved to adhere to the request we as a school have received.

Cinderella

I am delighted to hear that all pupils (P1 to P7) along with staff and PTFA members had an enjoyable day on Friday 6th January when they travelled to the Grand Opera House in Belfast to see their production of Cinderella. Once again, our pupils were well mannered and well behaved throughout the day.



Football

The second round of this years Coleraine and District Small School's Football Tournament took place on Thursday 26th January when once again our team travelled to Ballycastle to take part and yet again this was another successful day for Bushmills Primary!



Not only did the team perform well on the pitch, their attitude and behaviour continued to remain exemplary even when they were not playing - Thanks to each and every one of you - you have made us proud!

Shared Story Reading

Shared Story Reading afternoons for our Primary 1 and Primary 2 pupils have commenced on Monday afternoons with most pupils staying each week. There is no charge for the pupils attending this programme and it runs for one more week on Monday 6th February, before pupils can visit Waterstones Bookshop in Coleraine. Further details about this trip will follow when available.



Library Van Service

Please be reminded that the mobile library van continues to visit our school every fortnight on a Monday morning. Please note the last visit was last Monday 23rd January. However, due to reasons beyond our control, the next visit will not be until Monday 6th March. Please don't forget that pupils can return their library books to their local library in Ballymoney, Coleraine, Portrush or Portstewart.



Swimming

Swimming lessons for our Primary 5/6 pupils finished last Friday and achievement certificates awarded to all pupils will be given out at our whole school assembly tomorrow morning - Well done to all for working so hard!



This now means that swimming lessons for our Primary 6/7 pupils (Miss Swanson's class) will commence this Friday, 3rd February, at Coleraine Leisure centre.

Assemblies

Whole school assemblies continue on Wednesday mornings, and we have been delighted to welcome back the following visitors:



Wednesday 18th Jan Lynda McAuley
 (CEF)

Wednesday 25th Jan Rev. Morrow
 (Bushmills Free Presbyterian)

Classes also continue watching 'Hope for Youth Ministries' assemblies online when possible.

Attendance

Attendance at the end of the month of January has seen a significant improvement from the last few months of 2022. This is great to see, and we hope that this improvement will continue throughout the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.

The attendance cup for January will be presented to the winning class at the whole school assembly tomorrow morning.. The overall attendance for January was 90.5%.

Results are as follows:

1st:	Miss Swanson	P6/7	94.4%
2nd:	Mrs Sheridan	P3/4	93.3%
3rd:	Miss Brown & Miss Rowe	P5/6	91.5%
4th:	Miss Fulton	P1/2	90.1%
5th:	Miss Rowe & Miss Cochrane	Nur	80.3%



Well done to Miss Swanson's class!

As you are aware unfortunately, in these uncertain times we have been seeing a lot of absences from school. If your child is ill, please telephone the school office to advise us of your child's absence and of the cause.

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	19 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Poor
85% Attendance	28 Days of Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Very Poor
80% Attendance	38 Days of Absence 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Unacceptable
75% Attendance	46 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 of a school day each week or 19 days of school during the school year – that's nearly 4 school weeks.

Give your child the best start in life – every school day counts!

Star of the Week

This year we are continuing to reward one pupil from each year every week for their achievements. These certificates are being issued in each class on a Friday.



During the month of January, the following pupils were awarded 'Star of the Week':

	13/01	20/01	27/01
Yr 1	Priya Henderson	Oliver Ferguson	Cody Wilmont
Yr 2	Emma Simpson	Lyla Mulholland	Milly Chen
Yr 3	Emme Gault	Jacob Greer	Emily Wilmont
Yr 4	Lola McKay	Daniella Deineha	Zara-Mae Mairs
Yr 5	Grace Moge y	Sophia McKenna	Ryan McAleese
Yr 6	Kaley Corscadden	Logan Scott	Cameryn Greer
Yr 7	Evan Cauley	Millie Montgomery	Leo Harrison

Footballer of the Week

The following players of the week have been picked for the month of January:

	13/01	27/01
Yr 4 to Yr 7	Ollie Costello & Sam Thompson	Cameryn Greer & Harvey Gault



Diary Dates

Term 2		
Autism NI Superhero Week	06-Feb-23 to 10-Feb-23	See details sent home today
School Photographer	13-Feb-23	Further details to follow
Half-Term Holiday	16-Feb-23 to 20-Feb-23	Inclusive
Term Restarts	21-Feb-23	9:00am sharp for all pupils
Peace Proms	26-Feb-23	Further details to follow

SUPERHERO WEEK

6TH - 10TH FEBRUARY 2023

Autism NI
Northern Ireland's Autism Charity

Get your school's superheroes to assemble for Autism NI's **SUPERHERO WEEK** and help raise autism awareness in your school and at home!

Wow!

FUN



cool!

- Each pupil will be given five superhero tasks to do at home.
- Once all pupils complete their superhero tasks, they will receive their Superhero Status from Autism NI and hold a dress up day.

**CS Moments
photographer will
be at your school...**



**Monday 13th
February**

**Make sure you look
your best!**



Follow us

Northern Ireland's Premier School Photographers
P 028 2556 7220 **M** 07710 638 031 **E** orders@csmoments.co.uk