

Bushmills Primary School & Nursery Unit

April 2018 Newsletter



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Now that Easter is over, the final term of this academic year will just fly past very quickly. We once again have another very busy term ahead which includes a number of important school events to be fitted in such as Revision Week,

Assessment Week, Sports Day, Treasure Trove Day, School Prom, Blast from the Past!, Prize Day and Nursery Graduation. Please note that further details regarding these events will be sent out in due course - please check school bags every day for updates!



Congratulations & Well Done!



those parents who transported pupils to and from the church on the day!

Congratulations to Mrs Witherow (nee McBride) and her husband, David, on their recent Wedding which took place on Tuesday 3rd April at Hazelbank Presbyterian Church in Coleraine. Also 'Well Done' and 'Thanks' to all choir members and musicians who took part on the day making it a memorable event for all involved. 'Thanks' also to

I-Food!



Following the Easter break on Wednesday 11th April, Primary 6 and 7 pupils along with Mrs Nicholl and Miss Thompson, travelled to the University of Ulster in Coleraine as part of the I-Food Entrepreneurship Project.

This project had been taken by Ulster University students who had been visiting the school on a weekly basis to teach pupils about entrepreneurship and how to market food products before allowing pupils to plan their own products.

On the day pupils got involved in a range of activities before marketing their planned products. An enjoyable day was had by all and pupils gained a lot from this experience.

Festival Congratulations!

Huge congratulations to over 20 of our pupils who took part in this year's Music Festival in Coleraine (Speech and Drama Section). All performed well with many being placed in their class.



All pupils obtained high scores and 'Thanks' to Miss Fulton and Mrs McAllister who helped to prepare the pupils for their performances.

Also congratulations to those pupils who competed in the piano solo section of the festival with again some being placed in their class.

Finally, 'Well Done' to our Infant Choir (Primary 1 to Primary 4) who for the first time entered the "Hymn Singing Class" at the festival and gained 2nd place in their class. 'Thanks' also to Mrs Nicholl who helped Miss Logan train the choir and also conducted on the Day!

Walk Down Memory Lane!

Governors, staff, pupils and parents (past and present) along with invited guests met on Wednesday 18th April for our 60th Anniversary 'Walk Down Memory Lane' event. This was a very successful evening which allowed everyone to hear from the past Principals and other invited guests before taking the opportunity to walk around and look at old photographs and other memorabilia which had been on display that evening.



Please note that photographs along with a full report about the evening will appear in the local press over the next week or so. I am also excited to inform you that a special '60th Anniversary supplement' will be appearing in next week's Chronicle (Tuesday 8th May)!

Woodhall School Trip

On Monday 23rd April, 24 pupils (along with Miss Cochrane and Miss Milliken) had their bags packed and set sail for Woodhall Residential Centre in Kilrea for this year's residential school trip. Four days were spent at Woodhall when pupils were given the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities which included orienteering, forest survival, team building games and not forgetting the 'banana boating'. A super time was had by all and a huge 'Thanks' must go to Miss Cochrane and Miss Milliken who also spent the four days in Kilrea (not forgetting Mrs Witherow and Miss Logan who were there in the evenings!)



Anti-Bullying Ambassador Training

On Friday 27th April, 14 pupils (from Primary 4 to Primary 7) along with Miss Fulton, Miss Thompson and Miss Logan, travelled to Dunclug College in Ballymena to take part in an “Anti-Bullying Ambassador Training Day” which was organised by the Diana Award Anti-Bullying Campaign and sponsored by Comic Relief.

The overall aim of the event was to allow pupils to explore and understand the topic of bullying and be trained as Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. A range of fun activities were on offer and pupils were able to work with other children from other schools to share ideas and also received basic training looking at the skill required to support others and stay safe.

All pupils enjoyed a fun-filled day and represented our school well!



Zumba Time!

As part of our Extended Schools Programme Zumba classes have taken place for pupils in Primary 4 to Primary 7 on Tuesday afternoons from 3:00pm to 4:00pm. These have been well attended and are taken by Mrs Nicholl. The final two sessions will take place on:

- Tuesday 1st May
- Tuesday 8th May



Sports

Sports continues on a Tuesday afternoon between 2:00pm and 3:00pm for Primary 1 to Primary 3 pupils. The final three sessions will take place on:

- Tuesday 1st May
- Tuesday 8th May
- Tuesday 15th May



Football

Football will continue on Thursday afternoons for pupils in Primaries 4 to 7 between 3:00pm and 4:00pm. The last football session will be on Thursday 21st June 2018.



Breakfast Club

Just a quick reminder that 'Breakfast Club' continues as usual on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings between 8:20am and 8:50am.

Please note Breakfast Club does not open until 8:20am.



Bonjour Amigos



Spanish lessons for Primary 1 to Primary 7 continue on Friday mornings with our language tutor Christina McGarvey, as well as Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils also experiencing some French lessons. I am also delighted to report that our Nursery Pupils have the opportunity

to learn a little Spanish each week. These lessons will continue on Friday mornings here in school throughout the month of May.

Swimming Lessons

Primary 6 and Primary 7 continue to attend swimming lessons on Friday mornings at Coleraine Leisure Centre. These will continue on the following dates:



- Friday 11th May
- Friday 18th May
- Friday 8th June (Last day swimming)

Please note there will be **NO** swimming lessons on:

- Friday 25th May
- Friday 1st June (Sports Day - weather permitting)
- Friday 15th June (Treasure Trove Day)
- Friday 22nd June (Prize Day)

Library Van Visits!

The mobile Library van continues to visit our school every two weeks on a Monday morning. The scheduled visits for the remainder of this term will be:

- Monday 21st May
- Monday 4th June
- Monday 18th June



April Assemblies

Once again each week we have welcomed visitors to school to take part in our whole school assemblies held on Wednesday mornings. Assemblies during April were taken by:



Wednesday 18th April

Rev. McLernon
(Bushmills Free Presbyterian)

Star of the Week

Each week one pupil from each class will be rewarded for their achievements. A special assembly is held each Friday afternoon to celebrate these awards. During the month of April, the following pupils were awarded 'Star of the Week'.



P1 Jayden Mulholland
Logan Scott

P2 Braylen Daley
Lily-Mae McAfee

P3 Matthew McAleese
Charlotte Hume

P4 Kelbie Burns
Caprice McCrellis

P5 Alex Hogg

P6 Troy Edwards
Maddy O'Hallloran

P7 Taylor Maxwell

Ryan Wilmont

Attendance

The Attendance Cup for April will be presented at a whole school assembly on Wednesday 9th May 2018.

1st:	Miss Logan (P4/5)	99.1%
2nd:	Mrs McAllister (P1/2)	96.9%
3rd:	Miss Fulton (P2/3)	96.3%
4th:	Mrs Nicholl (P6/7)	96.3%
5th:	Miss Cochrane (Nursery)	72.9%



Well Done Miss Logan's P4/5 class!

Sadly, the issue of attendance at school (especially in the afternoons) has been causing some concern over the recent weeks. A large number of pupils are being collected 'early' in the afternoons and unfortunately valid reasons are not being provided. Please be reminded of the finishing time for all pupils as set out below.

P1 & P2	1.50pm Daily
P3	1.50pm Tuesday & Thursday
	3.00pm Monday, Wednesday & Friday
P4 -P7	3.00pm Daily

I am aware that on occasions, older pupils are required to be collected at 1:50pm along with their siblings, however this should not be a regular occurrence and it is the responsibility of you as parents to make alternative arrangements.

School Collection

Could I remind all parents that if your child is being collected by someone different after school, details of these arrangements must be forwarded to the school (in writing where possible) so that the child's class teacher is aware of any changes. It is important that your child is also aware of any such changes in order to avoid not only confusion but also any upset which can be caused to the pupils who are unaware of any changes.



Security System updated

As you may or may not be aware the door entry system to the school has now been updated. On arrival at the front door of the school, please note that the white doors will be open to allow any visitors to enter the building (into the entrance porch). Once inside you should press the 'buzzer' (to the left side of the purple doors) and a member of staff will be alerted and will be able to let you enter when you should report to Mrs Collins in the school office.



Diary Dates

May Day Holiday	02-May-18 to 07-May-18	Inclusive
Revision Week (P1-P4)	08-May-18 to 11-May-18	Inclusive
Assessment Week (P1-P4)	14-May-18 to 18-May-18	Inclusive
Revision Week (P5-P7)	14-May-18 to 18-May-18	Inclusive
PI Health Appraisal	18-May-18	Further details to follow
Assessment Week (P5-P7)	21-May-18 to 25-May	Inclusive
School Closure	28-May-18 to 29-May-18	Inclusive
PI Health Appraisal	30-May-18	Further details to follow
Sports Day	01-Jun-18	Weather Permitting
Treasure Trove Day	15-Jun-18	
School Prom	20-Jun-18	Further details to follow
Prize Day	22-Jun-18	
Nursery Graduation		To be confirmed
End of Term	29-Jun-18	12:00noon for all pupils