

Ballycraigy Primary School

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

PASTORAL

Attendance - UNCRC Article 28 – You have the right to good quality education. You should be encouraged to go to school.

Average attendance for January 2016 is 96%

P1 – 93% P2 – 98% P3 – 98% P4 – 96%
P5 – 92% P6 – 99% P7 – 97%

Child Protection

Our updated policy for Pastoral Care and Child Protection is available from the office or on our web site. The designated teacher for Child Protection is Dr Edwards and Mrs Fowler and Mrs Little are her deputies.

Start/Finish Times

Children should be encouraged to arrive at school before the 8.50am bell. School starts at 8.55am sharp. Children arriving after this time will be recorded as late on the school register. Persistent lateness will be reported to the Education Welfare Service. Remember breakfast club is available from 8.15am daily.

Article 45 Schedule 1 of the Children NI Order states that the Education Welfare Service can fine families up to £1000.00 for failing to ensure that their children attend school. The Education Welfare Officer visits school regularly to monitor attendance.

Parents of P2-P7 children are reminded that they should not enter the school playground but leave their child/children at the school gates.

P1 – P3 children MUST be collected each day from school by a responsible adult. They should not walk home alone.

Nits

Please remember to check your child/children's hair on a weekly basis. Should you find any 'visitors' please treat in the appropriate manner.

ADMINISTRATION

Holidays/Early Closures

School will be closed on Friday 12th February 2016 due to Northern Ireland Electricity updating our meter, school will be without electricity.

School will be closed on Monday 15th February – Tuesday 16th February 2016 inclusive.

Wednesday 17th February 2016 school will close at 1.00pm.

PTA

Our next PTA committee meeting will be on Tuesday 23rd February at 6.30pm.

The PTA Film Night raised £163.00 for school funds.

Our next PTA event is the Valentine Disco on Tuesday 9th February Tickets cost £2.00

Prior Notice – We are celebrating World Book Day from Monday 14th March – Friday 18th March. Lots of fun activities will be held in the school all week finishing with children coming in fancy dress on Friday the theme for Fancy Dress is Fairy Tales or Myths & Legends.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Dogs

Due to Health & Safety reasons dogs MUST not enter our grounds.

Car Parking

Please remember that only car park permit holders are allowed to use the school car park at 'peak' times in the morning and afternoon.

Some children and adults are still walking through the car park gate to enter the school grounds. Please use the pedestrian gate beside the playground.

E-Safety

The Internet can be a great place but it is important to remember there are people out there who may wish to abuse, exploit, intimidate or bully you online – if this happens to you, tell someone immediately.

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SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY

Mon 1 st and Mon 8 th Feb	P3/4 Film Club
Tues 2 nd Feb	P6/7 A.N.B.C Sport's Hall Athletics
Wed 3 rd & Thurs 4 th Feb	Primary 7 Transfer Interviews
Fri 5 th Feb	NSPCC Visit to P6 & P7
Tues 9 th Feb	PTA Valentines Disco Tickets £2
Tues 9 th Feb	Safer Internet Day
Fri 12 th Feb	SCHOOL CLOSED due to lack of electricity
Mon 15 th & Tues 16 th Feb	School closed for Half Term
Wed 17 th Feb	School closes at 1.00pm for Staff Training
Fri 19 th Feb	P5 – P7 Cheerleading rehearsal
Fri 19 th Feb	P5 – P7 Trip to see Belfast Giants match
Mon 22 nd – Fri 26 th Feb	"Superheroes Week" – More details to follow
Tues 23 rd Feb	PTA Committee meeting at 6.30pm
Fri 26 th Feb	P5 – P7 A.N.B.C Cheerleading Competition
Fri 26 th Feb	Visit from Stranmillis Students

EXTENDED SCHOOL ACTIVITIES DURING FEBRUARY

Monday at 9.30am - Parent and Toddlers

Mondays & Tuesdays - P4 – P7 Homework Club (selected children only)

Tuesday 2nd and 9th - P4 Circus Skills

Tuesday 2nd and 9th - Primary 2 Jo Jingles

Tuesday 23rd - Primary 1 Jo Jingles

Weds 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th - P4 – P6 Boot Camp

Fri 5th, 19th, 26th - P1 – P3 Jump, Jiggle, Jive

COMMUNITY

Sure Start Precious Moments Crèche will be on Friday 5th February from 10.00am – 11.00am.

Families Together

The Families Together Project started in January in our school and is a partnership between Parenting NI and New Life Counselling. This is being run in 3 other Antrim Primary Schools over 5 years.

Nicola McKeown is the Coordinator of the Project and she will be offering support to parents through programmes and other activities, all **free**. She is based in the school, so drop in for a coffee after dropping off your children, have a chat, and find out more about what's on offer.

Nicola will be running **Time for me**, a 4 week coffee time beginning on the 25th February 9:15-11:15am in the school. There will be tips on how to relax, how to find time for yourself in a busy house, and building your own confidence as a parent. Register for the programme by the 18th February, call into the school office or see Nicola for details or email antrim@parentingni.org



RIGHT OF THE MONTH

Safer Internet Day 9th February 2016

Article 17

.....*Children have the right to reliable information.*

CHARITIES/FUNDRAISING

Kids4School - Please remember to bring a 10p each Friday.

NI Cancer Fund for Children

We will be organising a day for NI Cancer Fund for Children in conjunction with Sam Mouldings this month. More details to follow



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