



# Ballymoney Model Integrated Primary School



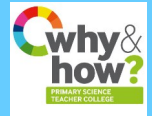
## October Newsletter 2020

Learning Together

School App



School  
Facebook Page



**Please remember school is a nut (including horse chestnut) and egg free zone**



We are pleased to have completed our first month with all our pupils back. This month we welcome Mr McGarrigle in the role of Acting Vice-Principal to Ballymoney Model Integrated Primary School.

We continue to work at implementing government guidance for the *new school day*. Within school we continue to work mainly in class protective bubbles but on some occasions we work in year group protective bubbles. Pupils have all adapted well to the new school day and are enjoying being back at school. School staff continue to go over and above every day to make everything work as best as possible.

One situation that we are unable to find a solution for at present is Breakfast Club. Thank you to the parents that completed the survey or contacted school to let us know of their interest. From the data collected, the Board of Governors and myself have spent much time trying to find a workable solution but unfortunately to date one just can't be found that enables sixteen class protective bubbles to be successfully maintained.

During October we will continue to have a staggered morning arrival with parents bringing their child/ren to school between 8.45am—9.15am. Please note the first few minutes of this period continue to be very busy and we ask parents to do everything they possibly can to ensure appropriate social distancing. Following our parental survey we will continue with staggered home times during October.

During our normal school year we look forward to holding parent teacher meetings to discuss with you your child/ren's progress. With such a large school, four hundred and eight pupils and over two hundred and sixty families, we again have spent much time discussing how best to do this in relation to government advice. In conclusion we think it best to provisionally plan parent teacher progress meetings for the week after half term but at present are unsure whether we will be holding these in person or by telephone.

We have never had so many Year 5—7 pupils walking home from school. Within every classroom we have a road safety calendar which teachers refer to weekly to help remind their pupils of the importance of road safety. This week Mrs Robinson has also sent out on the app important information that parents can cover at home with their child/ren. It is very distressing for the school staff when we are informed of the foolish behaviour of some of our pupils on their way home from school. The last thing we wish to hear is one of our pupils being involved in a road traffic accident.

Our School Council continue to play an important role in our school. Where possible we always endeavour to involve them in decision making and they have decided to have a non-uniform day as a half term treat on Friday 23rd October.

Our two main priorities at the moment are keeping our school open and safe. With us all working together we are enabling to do this and we hope this continues into the future.

Mrs Jamison

**COVID-19 UPDATE**

<b>WE ALL MUST DO IT TO GET THROUGH IT</b>		
	STAY SAFE	SAVE LIVES



## Year 7 Parents

AQE applications need to be returned by Friday 9th October 2020 and  
PPTC(GL) applications by Friday 9th October 2020.

Maths Week 12th — 16th October  
Practise your maths skills using Mathletics!

## Road Safety Poster Competition

To help promote and encourage good road safety we have launched a competition to design a road safety poster. Pupils are encouraged to use either their creative drawing, painting or computer designing skills to create a road safety poster. Entries are to be returned by Monday 19th October.

Competition winners will be announced on Ditch the Dark Day — Thursday 22nd October

Ditch the Dark Day — Thursday 22nd October  
Enhance your uniform by wearing some bright and colourful  
to school on Ditch the Dark Day

We would like to organise a Zoom Parent Council meeting  
on Thursday 22nd October at 3.30pm.

If you would like to be involved please let Mrs Jamison know by completing  
a Communication Form on the new school app.



## School Council — Half Term Treat

Friday 23rd October — children can come in non uniform to school

School Funds — We would love a £1 contribution per child or £2 per family  
to purchase additional iPads — please pay through the school app.



## School Development Days (staff only, no pupils)

Day 1 - Monday 2nd November 2020

Please note

There will be four other School Development Days during the school year.

These dates have not been finalised at present.



### ★ Data Capture

★ At the beginning of a new school year we always review our data capture information. Have you moved house? Have your emergency contacts changed? Please let the school office know. We are sure you can appreciate that when an emergency arises, we must be in a position to respond to the needs of individual children.

★ Due to current Human Rights Data Protection legislation and the Children (NI) Order 1995 and child protection requirements, it is essential that the school keeps up to date information on file. It is your obligation to provide us with whatever information is necessary to meet these expectations. We would therefore ask that you advise us if there are any current court orders or parental responsibility issues relating to your child — e.g. Parental Responsibility Order, Residence Order, Non-Molestation Order, etc. We must emphasise that it is essential that you make us aware if any changes in contact telephone numbers, circumstances, parental access or court orders as they occur during the school year. All such information will be treated with the utmost confidence and will only be disclosed to those staff who need to know to ensure your child's safety and well-being at all times. As the Non-Molestation Order gives legal directions regarding exclusion of a certain individual, it is useful for the school to have a copy of this order to keep on the child's file. This enables us to act quickly should such a situation arise.

### ★ Medical Issues

★ Legally, schools are not compelled to administer medication to children unless absolutely necessary, i.e., chronic conditions — diabetes, epilepsy and anaphylaxis. Ideally the administration of other medication to children should be given by parents and if your child requires regular short-term medication we believe that the child would convalesce better at home. Should your child require antibiotics during school hours we would ask parents/carers to come at the necessary time to administer the antibiotics to their child as required.

★ Please remember to update the school during the course of the year of any changes in your child's medical history. It is very important that we are made aware of all conditions and allergies of the pupils in our care. Mrs Boreland, Year 3 teacher, is responsible for Pupils' Medical Needs within school. If you would like to speak to Mrs Boreland, please phone the school office or complete a Communication Form which is available on the school app to make an appointment at a suitable time.

### ★ School Uniform

★ As it is now October pupils should be wearing the school winter uniform. Y3—7, shirt and tie. **Please can any hair accessories be small and discrete and in keeping with the colours of our school uniform.**

### ★ PE Uniform — Y5—7

★ The School Council agreed that pupils in Year 5—7 would come to school in shorts/ jogging bottoms/leggings with their PE t-shirt under their school jumper/cardigan. Year 5—7 pupils will wear their trainers to school on PE days.

### ★ Healthy Breaks

★ Following the guidance from the Department of Education we encourage children to have a healthy break. Pupils have a fifteen minute break mid-morning and the children are encouraged during this period to eat only fruit, yogurt, vegetable or bread based products and drink only milk and water.

### ★ School Dinners

★ School dinners are currently £2.60 per day. If your child/ren wish to have a school dinner it must be ordered online by using the new school app. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals you still need to order their dinner online through the app.





★ **Free School Meals & Uniform Forms**

★ Please contact the school or see the EA website to make an online application.

★ **Travel Assistance**

★ If Ballymoney Model CIPS is your nearest Integrated School and you live more than a distance of two miles from school you may be entitled to Travel Assistance. To apply for Transport Assistance please see the EA website to make an online application.

★ **Religious Education and Sacramental Preparation**

★ Sacrament preparation is an important part of being an integrated school.

★ In school we run curriculum Religious Education classes at the same time throughout the school to allow Sacramental preparation to take place for all Catholic pupils from Year 3 to Year 7.

The order of Sacraments is as follows:

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated in Year 3.

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion is celebrated in Year 4.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is celebrated in Year 7.

★ If you wish your child in the future to be included within Sacramental preparation classes please let the school office know. Mrs Thom leads the Sacramental preparation in school. A Baptismal Certificate is required before any Sacraments are taken, therefore it would be helpful if a copy of this was forwarded to the school at the earliest convenience.

★ If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to get in contact.

★ **Extra-Curricular Programme**

★ With pupils working in class or year group protective bubbles this half term we will only be running our Year 7 Challenge Club.



## Good Communication

At Ballymoney Model we are eager for good communication between home and school. As an Eco-School and with Covid-19 we are also trying to reduce the amount of photocopying that we do by communicating with parents through our school apps and website. If you are unable to access the school apps and website please contact the school office and we will endeavour to help you find a solution.

### SCHOOL JOTTER



#### School Jotter App

- All main notes and newsletters are added to our School Jotter App.

(Apple or Play Store – School Jotter – Ballymoney Model Integrated Primary School)



#### School Communication App

- Communication Form
- Absence Form
- Bookings — School Dinners
- Bookings — Milk Order Form
- Forms – such as booking a slot for parent teacher progress meetings etc

(Apple or Play Store – Ballymoney Model Integrated Primary School)



#### School Facebook Page



#### Seesaw

- Each class has their own Seesaw page for teachers to communicate with parents and parents to communicate with their child's class teacher.

### Important Documents

Thank you parents for completing the following consent forms

- Photographs and Video Footage Consent—2020-21
- Parents' Guide to Pastoral Care — September 2020

## Safeguarding Team

Within school we regularly remind pupils if they are worried about anything they are to talk to an adult or one of these teachers.



**Mrs Jamison**  
Principal



**Miss Hemphill**  
Year 1 Teacher  
Designated  
Teacher



**Mrs Thom**  
Year 5 Teacher  
Designated  
Teacher

### ALLERGIES

Many parents are now aware of the increasing number of children who suffer allergic reactions. A child with an allergy can be affected even if, for example, the product that they are allergic to is in someone else's lunchbox or on someone's hands following eating the product. We have a number of children with allergies in the school and therefore ask that everyone cooperates by not sending in the following products.

All nuts including horse chestnuts  
Eggs - hard boiled and egg sandwiches

Any breaks or packed lunches brought into school must not contain the above products.  
PLEASE NOTE: Many chocolate spreads DO contain nuts. Please check ingredients carefully.

Recyclable materials e.g. cardboard from products containing nuts must not be brought into school for junk art.

Unfortunately, due to issues arising from the labelling of products, birthday cakes must not be sent into school.

It is parents' responsibility to make sure any medication that is held in school for their child is in date.



**School Council have been meeting regularly since the beginning of the school year.**

**Before half term we would like to try and give an opportunity to our other school groups to also meet.**



**Thursday 8th October – 2pm**

**DIGITAL  
LEADERS**

**Thursday 22nd October – 2pm**

School Office Hours Monday — Thursday 8.45am — 4pm Friday 8.45am — 3.30pm

Mrs Arlow is assisting pupils coming into school at the main entrance between 8.45am—9.15am and unable to answer the phone during this time. Please complete the Communication Form on the new school app.