



BPS Biz & Reminders

Opt Out Day

Thank you to all of our families for their very kind donations to our PTA organised 'Opt Out Day'. There were some very happy children running around in onesies and with coloured hair last week (especially knowing they had no homework!). We raised the magnificent total of £936 which will all go towards resources for the children!

Summer School

The Department of Education has announced a voluntary summer scheme programme for this summer. We have only recently received information about the expected parameters for this scheme and we have been working with other local Primary Schools to establish if it would be possible for us to provide this service in the summer. Unfortunately, for the following reasons the Ballynahinch Primary Schools have decided that it will not be possible to go ahead with a summer scheme. There would be social distancing expectations in place, along with the requirement to keep children in bubbles and to operate a track and trace system. The scheme would also not be open to all pupils and schools would be expected to select the children who could attend. There are also requirements to have members of staff on site who are specifically trained in Child Protection and First Aid. It would be difficult to operate a summer scheme around the normal deep cleaning procedures that are carried out during summer closure. It is very late in the school term for staff to plan and organise such a scheme, while ensuring pupils and staff members are kept safe. The scheme is not designed to be a 'catch up' or involve formal learning, so we believe that local leisure facilities may be best placed to provide any summer facilities.

Reports

Reports will be issued to all families on Thursday 24th June. We are acutely conscience that these have been a very disruptive 16 months for all our children, therefore each teacher will take this into account with their comments. We will be including Progress Test scores within the P3 – P7 reports however, standardised tests are set at pre-Covid 19 levels and have not been readjusted to acknowledge the effects of the pandemic. We did though feel it was important for us to assess the children to give the teachers specific learning data on each child come the start of the new academic year in August.

Sports Day

As we continue to follow the guidance issued to all schools, unfortunately we cannot invite parents into school for Sports Day this year, but we will instead be holding it in school on those days when the weather allows us. Photographs / video & results will be sent home to families.

Breakfast Club

Following discussions with the Board of Governors, we have had to take the decision to halt our Breakfast Club until the start of the new school year. Numbers were much lower than previously, which we understand with more people working from home, but we do need a minimum number to cover the salaries of the staff. We would be hopeful for a return to normality in August. Thank you for your understanding.

Double Congratulations

Miss McKernan received some wonderful news recently when she heard she has passed her final Autism training exam and then (on her birthday) she was greeted by the sight of her partner down on one knee when she came home from school! We wish them all the best for the future. As well as a marriage in the future (2 when we include Mr Robinson getting married this December), we also congratulated Mrs Majury on the recent birth of her first grandchild, a bouncing baby boy called Ezra. Again, we wish the family good luck.

Nursery News!

Our theme is "Mini Beasts"

The have been making lots of mini beast imprints and enjoying playing in our 'bug den'.

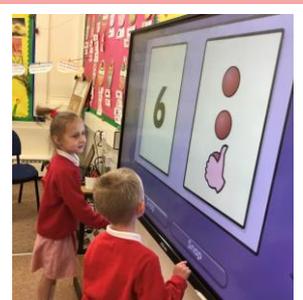
We have also been looking at lots of patterns found in nature, helping Mr Robinson with some gardening work and spending lots of time outside playing in our fabulous school grounds!

Please remember:

- The weather is starting to warm up, but please send your child in with a coat;
- Make sure you know when the transition day to P1 is for your child;
- School is closed to all pupils from Wednesday 26th May – Monday 31st May.

More details included in the full Nursery News

P1 loved their Maths Week activities!



Calendar Dates

MAY

- 24th – Ulster Scots Drums – P5
- 26th & 27th – School Development Days
(school closed to pupils)
- 28th – Exceptional Closure
(school closed to pupils)
- 31st – Bank Holiday

JUNE

- 1st & 2nd – Ganaway Trip – P7
- 3rd – P7 Leavers photos
Nursery transition day. P1 pupils home early
- 4th – Cricket Sessions – P6 & P7
- 7th – Ulster Scots Drums – P5
- 8th & 9th – Nursery transition day. P1 pupils home early
- 10th – Board of Governors Meeting
- 11th – Cricket Sessions – P6 & P7
- 14th – Ulster Scots Drums – P5
- 15th – Montalto Sponsored Walk – PTA Event
- 18th – Cricket Sessions – P6 & P7
- 19th – P7 post primary schools issued
- 21st – Ulster Scots Drums – P5
- 22nd – P7 Prize Day (pupils only)
- 24th – P7 Fun Day
- 25th – Last day of term for P7 pupils
- 30th – End of Term for all pupils – lunch time finish

Friends of Ballynahinch Primary School



Thank you all for the support of our Opt Out Day!! It raised a superb amount of money and we know the school can put it to good use! Next up is our Montalto Estate Sponsored Walk on the 15th June. All the details for this will be sent home closer to the time.

Keep sending in those pennies as well because the end of the year prize is still up for grabs – who wouldn't want a week off homework in June!!

#MORETHANJUSTA SCHOOL

Outdoor learning!

P7 Cycling Proficiency – Complete!



Nursery – Check out our wonderful patterns!

