

Newsletter 7 (10-10-21)

Ballyhenry Primary School



Covid-19--Warn and Inform (NEW)

WE HAVE HAD A POSITIVE CASE IDENTIFIED IN OUR PRIMARY 5 CLASS. THE PHA WILL CONTACT TRACE CHILDREN WHO MAY HAVE HAD CONTACT WITH THE PUPIL SOCIALLY. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT YOUR CHILD WILL BE IDENTIFIED AS A CLOSE-CONTACT IF THEY HAVE NOT HAD CONTACT WITH THE POSITIVE CASE OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM. CHILDREN SITTING NEXT TO A POSITIVE CASE ARE NO LONGER CONSIDERED "CLOSE CONTACTS".

That said, Warn and Inform" letters have been sent out and we ask that all parents/carers reply to acknowledge that you have received this information. I will contact anyone who has not replied this evening. PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM IF YOUR CHILD IS IN P5:

<https://forms.office.com/r/rz5z3GpBYS>

EMBED LINK

We appreciate that parents may want to take the precaution of having their children tested especially if there are clinically extremely vulnerable people in your child's class or family. We are happy to support you in this matter and are more than willing to provide online learning. This will be uploaded to Teams tomorrow morning.

HOUSEHOLD CLOSE CONTACTS

THE PHA CURRENTLY STATES THAT A CHILD LIVING WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS TESTED POSITIVE CAN RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER THEY TEST NEGATIVE ON DAY 2 AND SHOULD RETEST ON DAY 8. EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT US THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN THE SAME HOUSEHOLD OFTEN TEST POSITIVE ON DAY 8 EVEN IF THEY WERE NEGATIVE ON DAY 2. PARENTS/CARERS ARE FREE TO DECIDE TO ISOLATE THEIR CHILD (OR CHILDREN) UNTIL THE CONTAGIOUS PERIOD ENDS.

CLASSROOM CLOSE CONTACTS

The PHA has taken over contact tracing within schools and are using a restricted definition compared to that used for the general public. The definition is as follows:

"Within a school setting, your child would only be identified as a contact if they have had prolonged close contact with the case (someone who tests positive for COVID-19). This could mean a child in the same household or someone who has stayed overnight. It will also include intimate contact for

example, kissing and where a child has received help with personal care in a school. It does not include all children in the same class or all those who sit next to each other, because the risk of COVID spreading in the school setting is much lower than in a household."

This has several implications for school:

- it is less likely that whole class bubbles will need to isolate;
- parents/carers will be asked who their child has had prolonged contact with during the school day or after school;
- schools are relying on the PHA to complete contact tracing quickly to protect people in school.

If your child tests positive or is A close contact you will be telephoned. The number used is **028 9536 8888** please add this to your phone contacts.

Online Learning

If your child is at home and they are well enough we are happy to provide online learning.

Report your child's illness: You can complete an absent form via the app or by email

lknocker496@c2kni.net

[If your child is ill with Covid-19 Symptoms...](#)

DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL IF THEY ARE SHOWING COVID-19 SYMPTOMS:

- **a new continuous cough**
- **fever**
- **loss of taste/smell.**

Anyone with these symptoms should be tested immediately. If you are concerned your child might have Covid-19 you should contact the school so that we can support you and your child.

Actions to take if you are concerned that your child's illness might be related to Covid-19

- **BOOK A TEST FOR YOUR CHILD.** IT SHOULD BE A PCR TEST. A PCR Test is the government test available from drive-through/walk-through centres. You can also order these tests and return them to Gov.uk. The results are emailed or sent by text. Follow this link to book a test. <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>
- Your child should isolate until their test result is returned.
- If the PCR test is positive, they should self-isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms or, if they have no symptoms, for 10 days from the test result. **IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT SCHOOL IS INFORMED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ABOUT ANY CHILD WHO TESTS POSITIVE.**
- If the PCR test is negative, they can return to school as long as your child is well enough to do so.
- Regardless of your child's test results, please email a copy to lknocker496@c2kni.net if possible. It is important that you make us aware of your child's illness as soon as possible so we can take appropriate steps in school. You can inform us using the communication slip on the app, fill in the embedded form or email lknocker496@c2kni.net.

EMBED LINK

Be Aware

Nut Free School--Allergy Awareness

We have children in school who have a severe food allergy to peanuts and nuts. It is important that there is a strict avoidance of these foods in order to prevent a life-threatening allergic reaction. These children are at risk if they come in contact with peanut/nut or eat them. We are asking for your help in order to provide all our pupils with a safe school environment. To help reduce the chance of this occurring, we are asking that you do not send your child to school with any products containing peanuts or nuts. It is the responsibility of whoever makes the lunch/snacks to ensure that there are no nuts or peanuts listed on the packaging. This includes peanut butter, cereal bars, Snickers bars, packets of nuts. Staff are committed to checking the children's lunch boxes. We will return items that may contain nuts/peanuts unopened.

Remember that we are unable to share treats sent into school due to the allergy policy. This unfortunately includes birthday cakes and party bags. Thank you for your support with these procedures. It is essential that we are allergy aware.

NO PEANUTS/NUTS IN SCHOOL. THIS INCLUDES ANY PRODUCT THAT CONTAINS PEANUTS/NUTS.



General Illness

Any child who is unwell should remain at home until they are fit enough to attend school. Anyone with vomiting or diarrhea should remain at home for 48 hours following the illness. Please use the app or the form below to inform us of your child's absence.

Link: <https://form.jotformeu.com/92405217367356>

Chicken Pox, Measles or Shingles

One of our pupils has recently received medical treatment for Leukemia which puts them at risk if they are exposed to measles, chicken pox and shingles. Please let us know immediately if your child is suspected of having measles.

Our pupil is also at risk from chicken pox and would need to be given an injection within 3 days of contact. If your child is suspected of having chicken pox you should let us know immediately.

It is also important that you let us know if there is shingles in your household.

Your child is not at any risk whatsoever from this situation. However, the health and well-being of our pupil who is at risk, does depend on the co-operation of all other parents and we hope you can help us.

Please phone or email lknocker496@c2kni.net if required. Thank you for your support.

October Interviews (**Updated**)



Tuesday 19th to Thursday 21st October 2021

We are running our October Interviews via telephone in accordance with Covid-19 Secure Procedures set out by the Department of Education Northern Ireland (DENI). It states that schools should take a cautious approach to face-to-face meetings and continue to use alternative methods to conduct these meetings.

School will end at 1:00 p.m. on these dates to facilitate the interviews. B'Happy will be available from 1:00 p.m. on these dates. Note: School will also close at 1:00 p.m. on Friday 22nd October for Half-Term.

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Steps


1. Book your preferred times slots via the attached form by Sunday 10th October at midnight.
2. Teachers will use your booking preferences to assign you a day and time. We will coordinate times so that siblings are given times which do not overlap but are in a similar time slot if desired.
3. Teachers will send out your date and time on paper on Tuesday 12th October.
4. At your assigned time, your teacher will call you. It may be from a withheld number. You will have a chance to chat about how your child has settled into the school year, their

progress in literacy and numeracy and discuss any concerns. If your child is on the Special Needs Register, their IEP will be shared with you.

5. If your teacher is running late, they will contact you as soon as they can.
6. If you do not answer your phone, the teacher will try you at another time during that week when they have a gap in their timetable.

Feedback from last year's phone interviews was positive. Parents/carers liked being able to catch-up with their child's teacher without interrupting their afternoon too much. We were able to contact 95% of our parents compared to 80-85% of families who respond to face-to-face interviews. However, nothing replaces face-to-face interactions, and we look forward to meeting in person for interviews in February! Keep your fingers crossed!

INTERVIEW TIMES & REMINDERS WILL BE SENT OUT ON TUESDAY.

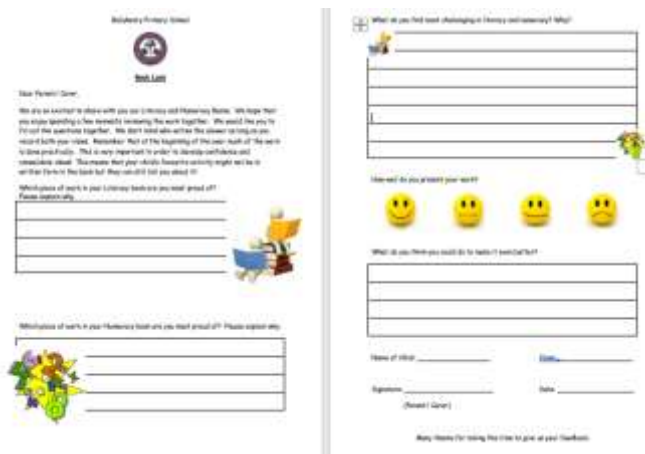
 Well done to everyone who has completed a booking form online or via the paper reminder. There are still 40 people who have not booked their interview. Please use the link to book online, send an email to lknocker496@c2kni.net or telephone on Monday to make arrangements. We can't wait to update you regarding your child's progress.

Link to form: <https://forms.office.com/r/Y5YXDvQFWY>

EMBED LINK

Book Looks (NEW)

In Ballyhenry we believe that it is so important to work with parents/carers to share information and build on each child's success at school. Before you chat with your child's teacher, we want to give you a peak at the work your child has been doing in school. On Friday a selection of your child's work will be sent home along with a feedback form for you and your child to complete together. We envision that you and your child will take some time during the weekend to look through their books, chat about their work and complete the form. Feedback from previous years has shown that children really enjoy this experience and like telling parents/carers about the activities in the book. Remember to return all the books on Monday.



The image shows two versions of a feedback form. The left form is a paper version from Ballyhenry Primary School, titled 'Book Look'. It includes a 'Dear Parent/Carer' section with an introduction about the school's goal to share work and receive feedback. It has two sections for 'Identification of work in your child's book' and 'Feedback', each with a grid for notes and a space for a signature. The right form is a digital version with a title 'What do you feel best about in Henry's work/learning? What?'. It features a grid for notes, a smiley face rating scale, and a section for 'What do you think you could do to help?' with a grid. It also includes fields for 'Name of child', 'Date', 'Signature (Parent/Carer)', and 'Date'. At the bottom, it says 'Many thanks for taking the time to give us your feedback.'



Important Reminders (**Update**)

There are so many forms to complete at the start of the school year! We know that it is easy to forget. Here is a check list of reminders. You will also receive a paper copy of any items which are still missing on Tuesday along with your child's interview time, attendance etc.

Have you remember to...

School Fund

The Board of Governors would like to ask each family for a small donation of £15.00 to our school fund. School fund can be paid termly (i.e. £5 in September, January and April)



Your support is very much appreciated.

 **Link:** <https://form.jotformeu.com/92405425522350>

Photo Permission

We are so excited to be able to share photographs and videos of your children learning and playing in school. If you have not already done so, please complete your child's Photo Permission Form.



Thank you to all of you who have already completed this form.

 **Link:** <https://form.jotformeu.com/92585898009373>

Homework Survey (**Updated**)

We want to know what you think about homework and how we can best fit in with busy family life! Please complete this homework survey to help shape the school's homework policy.



THIS FORM WILL CLOSE AT 7:00 A.M. ON MONDAY 11TH OCTOBER.

 **Link to form:** <https://forms.office.com/r/bneLNhhdN7>

Intimate Care (Essential for P1 to P4)

When we need to support your child if they get hurt (i.e. Scrap their knee) or have a toileting issue, Intimate Care Permission is required. This is a legal safeguarding requirement. Please complete the Intimate Care Form.



 **LINK:** <https://form.jotformeu.com/92405673980363>

Permission to Walk Home (Essential for P5 to P7)

Does your child walk out of the school gates on their own? It is essential that you complete the "Permission to Walk" form.



 **LINK:** <https://form.jotformeu.com/92406219045352>

Policy Acknowledgement (Essential for Eldest Child)

Please let us know that you are aware of the school policies on the Website. This is required by law and must be completed annually.



 **LINK:** <https://form.jotformeu.com/92413148324351>

Acceptable Use of the Internet (Essential for Eldest Child)

Parents/carers are expected to complete the “Acceptable Use of the Internet” form on an annual basis as part of the legal requirement to safeguard children.



 **LINK:** <https://form.jotformeu.com/92405841045352>

Communication Confirmation (Essential for Eldest Child)

Please confirm that you are able to receive online updates through the app, facebook or via the website. **CONFIRM THAT YOU HAVE DOWNLOAD THE APP BY COMPLETING THIS FORM.**

 **LINK:** <https://forms.office.com/r/5xKB3ru7Xs>

Medical and Dietary Information (Essential for every child on the Medical Register)

It is essential that you update this information annually. If you have included medical conditions on your data capture form you need to follow-up with the appropriate medical form. The EA requires that this is done annually.

- Special diets (i.e. Vegetarian, Gluten Free, Lactose Intolerant, Halal)

 **LINK:** <https://form.jotformeu.com/92405537609360>

- Children medical conditions should also complete the appropriate form:
 - AM1: Long-term medical conditions (i.e. ADHD, ASD, Asthma)

 **LINK:** <https://form.jotformeu.com/92405297229361>

- AM2: This is a short-term medical condition (i.e. ear infections)

 **LINK:** <https://form.jotformeu.com/92406048424353>

- AM3: Self-Administration (i.e. to manage their own inhaler in school)

 **LINK:** <https://form.jotformeu.com/92405347509358>

Weekly Services and Reminders

Weekly Services

Breakfast Club— Daily from 8:00 to 8:45 a.m. *Cost: £1.50 per 45 min session. Book via the app*

Gives children a chance to come into school a little early, enjoy breakfast with friends and play and create before school starts. All Covid-Secure Procedures are in place.

Healthy Break—*Daily Cost: 30p/day Book via the app*

School will provide a healthy break delivered to the classroom at your child’s designated breaktime.

School Dinners—*Daily Cost: £2.60/day. Book via the app*

If your child is **NOT** entitled to Free School Meals, you must book and pay by via the app. Dinners will be served in the dining hall so there is no need to select your child's menu choices. If your child is entitled to FSM we will book them a dinner unless you tell us not to do so.

B'Happy— *Daily from 2:00 to 5:30 Cost: £1.25/30 min session*

Wrap-around care is available every week day with Covid-Secure Procedures in place. Children are provided with a snack and can play in their class bubbles. Bubbles are allowed to mix when the children are playing outside which they are able to do weather permitting. The dedicated B'Happy staff ensure that their afternoons are filled with crafts, games and fun.

Ballyhenry App—*free*

Download the app for free Google Play and App Store, get updates and reminders from school and submit homework for feedback via the app.

Please confirm that you are able to access online information via the app, closed Facebook Page or Website by completing this form. **LINK:** <https://forms.office.com/r/5xKB3ru7Xs>



Whole School Reminders (**Update**)

- Return Data Information forms and Flu Forms please
- Interview times will be sent home on Tuesday.
- Book Looks will take place on Friday.

Class Reminders

Primary 1 Pupils:

- P1 pupils will attend until 2:00 p.m. daily.
- P1 PE day is Thursday. Children should wear trainers and ensure that long hair is tied back.
- Friday Book Look—Children will bring home their books for parents/carers to review. These should be returned with the reply slip on Monday

Primary 2 Pupils:

- School ends at 2:00 p.m. each day
- P2 PE day is Wednesday. Children should wear trainers and ensure that long hair is tied back.

- Friday Book Look—Children will bring home their books for parents/carers to review. These should be returned with the reply slip on Monday

Primary 3 Pupils

- Monday, Wednesday and Friday you will finish school at 2:00 p.m.
- **Remember:** Tuesday and **THURSDAY** will be your longer days and school will end at 3:00 p.m.
- P3 children should wear their PE Kit on Wednesday. Please ensure that long hair is tied back.
- Friday Book Look—Children will bring home their books for parents/carers to review. These should be returned with the reply slip on Monday

Primary 4 Pupils

- Monday, Wednesday and Friday you will finish school at 2:00 p.m.
- **Remember:** Tuesday and **THURSDAY** will be your longer days and school will end at 3:00 p.m.
- P4 children should wear their PE Kit on Tuesday. Please ensure that long hair is tied back.
- Friday Book Look—Children will bring home their books for parents/carers to review. These should be returned with the reply slip on Monday

Primary 5 Pupils

- Monday and Friday you will finish school at 2:00 p.m. All siblings leave together on these days.
- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday school ends at 3:00 p.m.
- P5 children should wear their PE Kit on Monday. Please ensure that long hair is tied back.
- Friday Book Look—Children will bring home their books for parents/carers to review. These should be returned with the reply slip on Monday

Primary 6 Pupils

- Monday and Friday you will finish school at 2:00 p.m. All siblings leave together on these days.
- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday school ends at 3:00 p.m.
- P6a children should wear their PE Kit on Friday. Please ensure that long hair is tied back.
- P6o children should wear their PE Kit on Thursday. Please ensure that long hair is tied back.
- Friday Book Look—Children will bring home their books for parents/carers to review. These should be returned with the reply slip on Monday

Primary 7 Pupils

- Monday and Friday you will finish school at 2:00 p.m. All siblings leave together on these days.
- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday school ends at 3:00 p.m.
- Tuesday is AQE Club from 3:00 to 3:40 p.m.
- P7 children should wear their PE Kit on Thursday. Please ensure that long hair is tied back.

- Friday Book Look—Children will bring home their books for parents/carers to review. These should be returned with the reply slip on Monday



Afterschool Activities--Football and Junglenastics

These classes will take place outside weather permitting so children participating must bring a coat. If the weather is very bad the dinner hall will be used to complete an adapted programme. Children should wear their PE Kit (Black bottoms, white polo shirt and maroon jumper) to school on these days.

Junglenastix (**Update**)

Tuesday 19th October is an interview day and all children finish at 1:00 p.m. Junglenastix will run from 1:00-1:50 for all participants. Extra staff will be present to facilitate the larger class.



AMJR Coaching (**Update**)

Thursday 14th October football will run as normal. P1-3 will be 2-3pm and P4-7 will be 3-4pm. Mrs Gibney is aware that the P3 children participating will need to leave class to do so and has planned her curriculum accordingly. Thursday 21st October is one of our parent interview days when all children finish at 1pm. To accommodate our last football session both age groups will be 1pm-2pm. Extra coaches will be in place to allow the groups to run at the same time in different areas.



Ballyhenry Primary School Dinners (**Updated**)

Remember that dinners are now being served in the dinner hall. There is no need to select what your child wants to eat. It is assumed that if your child is entitled to Free School Meals, they will have a dinner. However, you are welcome to send a packed lunch. If your entitlement has not been authorised you should send a packed lunch and let Mrs Knocker know. Those paying for dinners should do so via the app.

11th October – 15th October

Monday

- Goujons, Mashed Potatoes & Beans
- Veggie Bites, Mashed Potatoes & Beans

- Halal Goujons, Mashed Potatoes & Beans

Tub of Ice Cream

Tuck: Baguette & Fruit

Tuesday

- Lasagne, Crusty Bread & Sweetcorn
- Veggie Pasta, Crusty Bread & Sweetcorn
- Halal Bolognese, Crusty Bread & Sweetcorn
-

Jelly & Fruit

Tuck: Toast & Fruit

Wednesday

- Gammon, Roast & Mashed Potatoes, Turnip & Gravy
- Quorn Fillet, Roast & Mashed Potatoes, Turnip & Gravy
- Halal Chicken, Roast & Mashed Potatoes, Turnip & Parsnips & Gravy

Sponge & Custard

Tuck: Bagel & Fruit

Thursday

- Fish, Diced Potatoes, Peas & Tomato Sauce
- Pizza, Diced Potatoes, Peas & Tomato Sauce

Milkshake & a Biscuit

Tuck: Toast & Fruit

Friday

- Beef Burger, Chips & Salad
- Veggie Burger, Chips & Salad
- Halal Beef Burger, Chips & Salad

Yoghurt & Fruit

Tuck: Muffin & Fruit

PLEASE NOTE: FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON ALLERGENIC INGREDIENTS OR IF YOUR CHILD HAS A DIETARY REQUIREMENT, PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL. ANY ALLERGY CLAIMS **MUST** BE ACCOMPANIED BY A DOCTOR'S LETTER. ANYONE WITH ALTERNATIVE DIET REQUIREMENTS NEEDS TO COMPLETE THE SPECIAL DIET FORM ON THE APP. <https://form.jotformeu.com/92405537609360>

DUE TO ANY UNFORSEEN CIRCUMSTANCES THAT MAY OCCUR, THE MENU IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.



Contact School

We are here to help! Here are some of the ways you can get in touch

Website: www.myballyhenryps.net

Facebook: *Ballyhenry Primary School—Official* (closed group)

Email: lknocker496@c2kni.net

Tel: (028) 90841316

Website Calendar

Take a peek at our online calendar that can be found on our website: www.myballyhenryps.net. The calendar can be downloaded to your phone or mobile device so that you won't miss important events!



Covide-19 Further Information

We currently have one positive case and several individuals who have been identified as close contacts and are following the appropriate procedures. Please contact school if you or a family member has symptoms. It is essential that you let us know if someone in your family has tested positive. If this is out of hours please send an email or a communication slip via the app. Include a contact number so that I can call you back to discuss next steps. Try not to worry. We will figure this out together. This information will be kept confidential.

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This has several implications for school:

- it is less likely that whole class bubbles will need to isolate;
- parents/carers will be asked who their child has had prolonged contact with during the school day or after school;
- schools are relying on the PHA to complete contact tracing quickly to protect people in school.

If your child tests positive or is close contact you will be telephoned. The number used is **028 9536 8888** please add this to your phone contacts.

Warn and Inform

Schools are still allowed to inform parents/carers if there has been a positive case in school. We will send out a "Warn and Inform" letter to the relevant class or classes. We appreciate that parents may want to take the precaution of having their children test especially if there are clinically extremely vulnerable people in your child's class or family. We are happy to cooperate with you in this matter and are more than will to provide online learning if required.

Online Learning

If your child is at home and they are well enough we are happy to provide online learning.

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lknocker496@c2kni.net

Zoom—Virtual meetings offer a chance to catch up with staff and pupils. Zooms catch-up session will be offered to anyone who are forced to remain at home due to isolate at home due to isolation or illness. Please contact us to arrange a meeting.

Devices--We can lend you a laptop to support homebased learning if you need it just email lknocker496@c2kni.net

TEAMS —Work and activities are uploaded regularly here for Homebased Learning if there is anyone learning from home.