



-o-o- December Dates! -o-o-

It's hard to believe that Christmas is just around the corner and that the current school term is almost at an end. The final three weeks though promise to be busy ones, as is the case every December. Keep an eye on the dates listed below to know what is happening at school this month.

Monday 2nd : Schools' Library van will visit Ballytober

Monday 2nd : Bible Club with Mr Colin Tinsley -

'Hope For Youth Ministries' Day 1

Monday 2nd : Last day of Dance after school club P3/4/5/6/7

Monday 2nd : Last day of Coding after school club P4/5/6/7

Monday 2nd : Iron Fist Session 5....7.30pm to 8.30pm

Tuesday 3rd : Bible Club with Mr Colin Tinsley -

'Hope For Youth Ministries' Day 2

Tuesday 3rd : Piano tuition - Mrs Grace Steele

Tuesday 3rd : Strings tuition - Miss Renee Neeson

Tuesday 3rd : Wind tuition - Mrs Jill Kutlu

Wednesday 4th : Bible Club with Mr Colin Tinsley -

'Hope For Youth Ministries' Day 3

Wednesday 4th : Roots of Empathy pre-family visit on "Emotions" for P4

Wednesday 4th : Last day of Cookery after school club P3/4

Wednesday 4th : Last day of Football after school club P5/6/7

Wednesday 4th : Ballybogey Christmas Lights 5pm onwards....all invited

Thursday 5th : Bible Club with Mr Colin Tinsley -

'Hope For Youth Ministries' Day 4

**Thursday 5th : P5/6/7 pupils will visit Dunluce to see "Mary Poppins"
- leaving school at 9.30am and returning at 12.15pm**

Thursday 5th : Last day of Sports' Skills after school club P3/4/5/6/7

Friday 6th : Mrs Alice Mc Alary will take Assembly

**Friday 6th : Choir will perform at Ballyliken Garden Centre
from 11.00am to 12 noon**

Friday 6th : Christmas Dinner will be served in school

Friday 6th : The Daily Mile for P1-7

Monday 9th : Roots of Empathy family visit on "Emotions" for P4

Monday 9th : Eco Council will meet

Monday 9th : School Choir will perform for the Probus Club at 2.00pm

Tuesday 10th : Piano tuition - Mrs Grace Steele

Tuesday 10th : Strings tuition - Miss Renee Neeson

Tuesday 10th : Wind tuition - Mrs Jill Kutlu

**Tuesday 10th : P6/7 pupils will visit Ballycastle High to watch
"Sniffing Sid"**

Tuesday 10th : Festive Fun for Tober Tots - 6pm - 7.30pm

Wednesday 11th : Carol Service Practice in Dunluce Church

- drop children off at church between 8.45am and 9.00am

Wednesday 11th : School Council will meet

Thursday 12th : School closed for the General Election

Friday 13th : Carol Service in Dunluce Presbyterian Church Hall

- collection for Northern Ireland Children to Lapland Trust

- Monday 16th : Schools' Library van will visit for the last time in 2019**
- Monday 16th : School will visit The Millennium Forum to see "Snow White"**
- Monday 16th : Deadline for return of unsold Christmas Draw tickets**
- to allow time for redistribution to others
- Tuesday 17th : Watt Fun will visit Ballytober from 10.00am to 11.30am**
- Tuesday 17th : Final piano tuition in 2019 - Mrs Grace Steele**
- Tuesday 17th : Final strings tuition in 2019 - Miss Renee Neeson**
- Tuesday 17th : Final wind tuition in 2019 - Mrs Jill Kutlu**
- Tuesday 17th : Roots of Empathy post-family visit on "Emotions" for P4**
- Wednesday 18th : Deadline for return of Christmas Draw stubs and money**
- Thursday 19th : Eco Council's fundraising Movie Night**
- Thursday 19th : Provisional date for Board of Governors' meeting**
- Friday 20th : Robert Plant will take assembly**
- Friday 20th : Christmas Jumper Day for pupils and staff**
- Friday 20th : The Daily Mile for P1-7**
- Friday 20th : Christmas Draw will take place**
- Friday 20th : Santa will visit at 11.00am**
- Friday 20th : AR reading attainment will be reviewed**
- Friday 20th : Attendance rates will be reviewed at pupil, class and
whole school levels**

As you can see, the Carol Service will take place on Friday 13th, starting at 9.00am sharp. The collection will be donated to The Northern Ireland Children to Lapland Trust. This is the charity Ethan Pollock in P7 has been fundraising so successfully for in recent months. He completed 1,400 lengths of the swimming pool to raise money for the trust. Hopefully his total will be given quite a boost once the donations from the Carol Service have been added to the current total.

Please ensure your child comes to school with a warm coat for their outdoor play. The temperatures have definitely been dropping and it's set to

become colder....if the forecast is to be believed. The pupils are encouraged to bring hats and gloves as well if it means they are warm enough to enjoy being outside at break and dinnertime. Make sure items of clothing are clearly labelled to avoid any confusion at home time.

The attendance rate for November was 96.3%. As mentioned before, attendance is now a standing item on the agenda for Board of Governor meetings. The governors understand that some children will experience genuine sickness at some point through the school year, but they are concerned about the number of absences created by holidays taken during term time. Unfortunately, these absences affect the attendance rate of the school overall, as well as the attendance of specific classes.

Class awards for the promotion of the value of Respect were distributed by Alice Mc Alary during her visit for Assembly last month. The pupils who demonstrated respect particularly well are listed below. We take this opportunity to congratulate them on their well-deserved award. The value currently under the spotlight is Independence.

P1 Tillie Mc Collum

P2/3 Josh Mc Caughan

P4/5 Ellen Carson

P6/7 Katie McMullan

Thank you for supporting our charity efforts last month. As in previous years, a good number of boxes were collected in school on behalf of Operation Christmas Child with almost 30 boxes being donated. These are now well on their way to their various destinations and will definitely make a difference to the children fortunate enough to receive one of the Ballytober boxes.

BALLYTOBER'S SAFEGUARDING TEAM

Mrs Cheshire : Designated Teacher

Miss Archibald : Deputy Designated Teacher

Miss Mc Afee : PDMU co-ordinator

Mrs Elliott : ICT co-ordinator

Mrs Anderson : Principal

Rev. Alan Buick : Designated governor

Mrs Melissa Hartin : Designated Governor

School will close at 12 noon on Friday 20th December. It will re-open on Monday 6th January at the usual time.

We wish you all a thoroughly enjoyable Christmas and hope that 2020 brings happiness and contentment.

Elaine Anderson
Principal

