

Bushmills Primary School
&
Nursery Unit



January 2022
Newsletter

Inside this issue.....

New Year! Healthy Kids	3	Attendance	8
Shared Reading	4	Every Day Counts	9
Queen's Platinum Jubilee	5	Star of the Week	10
Library Van Visits Football Breakfast Club	6	Footballer of the week Diary Dates	11
Music Lessons Swimming Lessons Assemblies	7	Valentine's Day menu	12

Head lice

Again can I remind all parents/guardians that it is your responsibility to regularly check your child's hair. Treatment can be obtained for free from your local chemist. We would request that any pupils with long hair please tie their hair up.

Contact Details

If you have changed your address, mobile number or any other contact information please inform the school as soon as possible, to keep records up to date. This is important for all pupils, Nursery to Primary 7.

New Year!

As we begin a New Year, we look forward with excitement and anticipation of what lies ahead. Already since our return to school on Tuesday 4th January life here in school has been busy for all classes and it is hard to believe that our half-term break is not far away!

As tomorrow marks the beginning of a new month, can I once again remind you to continue to keep an eye on our Facebook page, school website and See-Saw app as updates are posted on these on a regular basis. Finally, can I say a huge “Thanks” to you the parents for your ongoing support in working alongside us here in school to help everyone settle back into the new school term!



Healthy Kids

Our school has been selected to participate in the ‘Healthy Kids’ pilot project for pupils in Primary 7, which has been organised by Causeway Coast & Glens Borough Council in partnership with Sport NI and PHA (Public Health Agency). This programme runs for 11 weeks and focuses on physical activity, nutrition and mindfulness. So far our P7 pupils have enjoyed 3 ‘Healthy Kids’ sessions on Tuesday mornings and these will continue until the end of March.



Shared Reading

Shared Story Reading afternoons for our Primary 1 and Primary 2 pupils have commenced on Monday afternoons with all pupils staying each week. There is no charge for pupils attending this programme and it runs for a further two weeks in February (Monday 7th February and Monday 14th February). As part of this programme, all pupils will be visiting Waterstones Bookshop in Coleraine later in February. Further details will follow when available.



Queen's Platinum Jubilee

As part of this year's celebrations to mark Her Majesty's historic 70 year reign I am delighted to report that our school was involved in the first of many events which have been planned to take place over the coming months.

A marathon planting session took place across 16 primary schools in #NorthernIreland at the end of last week involving 250 children planting silver birch #Jubilee trees for the #queensgreencanopy!

We were delighted on Thursday 27th January to welcome visitors from the Queen's Green Canopy along to our school to plant a special tree and present our Primary 7 pupils with certificates and badges to recognise their involvement in celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Special mention goes to Deputy Lord Lieutenant Edward Montgomery, local MP Ian Paisley as well as local councillor John McAuley.

As a whole school we are proud to have been part of this special event to mark the Queen's historic 70year reign.



Library Van Visits



Unfortunately, the mobile library van has not been visiting school since our return at the beginning of the month. This was a decision which was taken by the Education Authority at the beginning of January, although I do hope that visits will resume again soon.

In the meantime, if your child currently has any books which they have borrowed from the mobile van, please send them into school and we can hold them until the mobile library van service resumes.

Football

The final round of this year's Coleraine and District Small School's Football Tournament will take place on Thursday 3rd February when once again our team will travel to Ballycastle to take part. Please note this means there will **NO** after schools football this week!



Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club continues every morning (Monday to Friday) from 8:00am for all of our pupils. Numbers have remained steady since opening again in the New Year and this club is growing from strength to strength.



Music Lessons

Just a reminder that piano lessons continue here in school on Thursday mornings. If your child is currently in Primary 3 to Primary 7 and would like to start lessons, please do not hesitate to contact the school office for further information.

Woodwind and violin lessons also continue on Tuesdays here in school.



Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons for our Primary 6 pupils finished on Friday 28th January when all pupils were tested and awarded certificates.



Swimming lessons for our Primary 7 pupils will now commence this Friday, 4th February.

Assemblies

Assemblies continue on Wednesday mornings as usual when classes meet in their different key stages.

This month we have welcomed a number of new visitors to our school to take assemblies.

Assemblies for this month were as follows:

Wednesday 12th January

Rev Morrow

(Bushmills Free Presbyterian)

Wednesday 19th January

Valerie Bray

(Causeway Methodist)

Wednesday 26th January

Rev Stevenson

(Causeway Methodist)



Classes also continue watching Hope for Youth assemblies online when possible.

Attendance

The attendance cup for January will be presented to the winning class in the next few days. The school's overall average attendance for the month of January was 88.5%.

Results are as follows:

1st Equal:	Miss Fulton	(P1/2)	90.8%
	Miss Brown	(P6)	90.8%
3rd:	Miss McCabe	(P3/4)	90.4%
4th:	Mrs Strong & Miss Cochrane		
		(Nur)	90.0%
5th:	Miss Logan & Mrs Witherow		
		(P5)	84.5%
6th:	Miss Swanson	(P7)	81.4%



Well done Miss Fulton & Miss Brown's to classes!

As you are aware unfortunately, in these uncertain times we have been seeing a lot of absences from school. **If your child is ill, please telephone the school office to advise us of your child's absence and of the cause.** When your child returns to school you can send a note into school on their first day back or send an email to the Principal (jlogan335@c2kni.net) to confirm why your child has not been attending school. The reason for this is to ensure the correct codes are applied in relation to your child's absence.

Every School Day Counts

Every single day a child is absent from school equates to a day of lost learning.

Attendance percentages can be misleading.

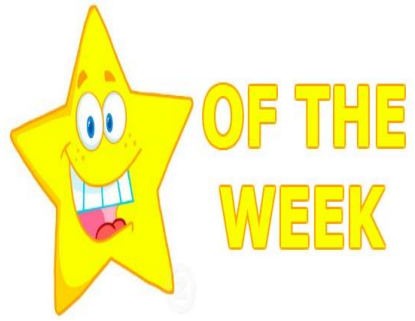
100% Attendance	0 Days Missed	Excellent
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Satisfactory
90% Attendance	19 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed	Poor
85% Attendance	28 Days of Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Very Poor
80% Attendance	38 Days of Absence 7 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed	Unacceptable
75% Attendance	46 Days of Absence 9 Weeks and 1 Day of Learning Missed	Unacceptable

For some parents, 90% may seem like an acceptable level of attendance, but the reality is that 90% attendance means that your child will miss half of a school day each week or 19 days of school during the school year - that's nearly 4 school weeks.

Give your child the best start in life - every school day counts!

Star of the Week

We are continuing to reward one pupil from each class every week for their achievements. Due to classes being in their “bubbles”, these certificates are being issued in each class on a Friday.



During the month of January, the following pupils were awarded ‘Star of the Week’:

	7th Jan	14th Jan	21st Jan	28th Jan
Nur	Oscar Parke	Lacey Connor	Matthew Cheung-Harrison	Amber Dornan
Yr 1	Sam Mogey	Grace McElhinney	Evie McKeown	Emily Dick
Yr 2	Freddie Speers	Emme Gault	Finlay Taylor	Jacob Greer
Yr 3	Charlie Gilmour	-	Hollie McKay	Casey McKay
Yr 4	Poppy Armstrong	-	Grace Mogey	Victoria Gilmour
Yr 5	Cameryn Greer	Callum Jamieson	Olivia McFaull	Jayden Mulholland
Yr 6	Isaac Horner	Lily-Mae McAfee	Liam Nutt	Brayley Daley
Yr 7	Charlotte Hume	Matthew McAleese	Sophie Greer	Iona Sharkey

Footballer of the Week

The following players of the week have been picked for the month of January:

	13th Jan	20th Jan	27th Jan
Yr 1 to Yr 3	Emme Gault	Reuben McIntyre	Evie McKeown
Yr 4 to Yr 7	Brayley Daley	Isaac Horner	Leo McKendry

Diary Dates

Term 1		
Football Tournament	03-Feb-22	Details enclosed
School Photographer	14-Feb-22	Further details to follow
Staff Development Day	16-Feb-22	School closed to ALL pupils
Half Term	17-Feb-22 to 18-Feb-22	School closed to ALL pupils
Primary 1 Health Review	08-Mar-22	
Bank Holiday	17-Mar-22	School closed to ALL pupils
Staff Development Day	18-Mar-22	School closed to ALL pupils
Easter Holiday	14-Apr-22 to 22-Apr-22	

VALENTINE'S DAY LUNCH

Monday 14th February 2022



Lasagne
Chicken Nuggets
Baked Beans, Salad, Coleslaw
Chips or Baked Potato



Strawberry Milkshake
Heart Shaped Shortbread
Chocolate Brownie

