

Bushmills Primary School  
&  
Nursery Unit



May 2024  
Newsletter

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### 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.

## Summer is nearly here!

The past few weeks have been extremely busy here in school and have been taken up with assessments for all our Primary 1 to Primary 7 pupils. I am pleased to report that these have now all been completed. Our pupils need to be congratulated, all have worked hard and overall results have confirmed this!

As we approach the end of yet another school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff for their continued support to myself as Principal as well as their on-going commitment, hard-work and dedication throughout this past year.



## COLOUR RUN REMINDER

Please be reminded that we are hosting 'The Ultimate Colour Run' here in school on **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> June**. As previously mentioned the aim of this event is to help raise some much-needed funding for our school and I can confirm that all pupils who have signed up for this event have now been sent home with their individual sponsorship forms. We do hope that our pupils are encouraged to fill up their sponsorship forms and that good weather will hold out for this event!! (As you are aware we have not held many events this year and trust that this one is not only enjoyable but also proves worthwhile for our school!)

## Assemblies

Assemblies continue every Wednesday morning as usual when all classes, Nursery to Primary 7, come together to meet as a whole school.

This month assemblies were taken by the following visitors:

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May      Alice McAlary  
(Family Support Worker)

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> May      Rev A Buick  
(Dunluce Presbyterian)

## Breakfast Club

Just a reminder that Breakfast Club continues every morning, Monday to Friday from 8:15am for all pupils, Nursery to Primary 7.

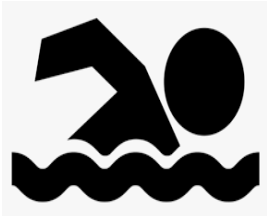


## Library Van Service



Our next visit by the Library Van is due to take place on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June with the last visit of the year being on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Please ensure all library books are returned in preparation for these visits.

## Swimming



Swimming lessons for our P6/7 pupils, Miss Swanson's class, continue every Friday morning at Coleraine Leisure Centre with the final lesson taking place on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June.

## Music Lessons

Violin lessons continue every Monday with woodwind lessons continuing every Tuesday here in school.



## **SPORTS DAY FRIDAY 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE**



### MENU

**Beef burger in a Bap  
with Cheese  
or  
Chicken Nuggets**

**Carrot & Cucumber Sticks**

**Chips**

**Choc Ice**

**Apple / Orange Juice**

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## Attendance

The attendance cup for May will be presented to the winning class at the next whole school assembly. The overall attendance for May was 87.6%.

Results are as follows:

1st:	Miss Rowe	(P3/4)	91.8 %
2nd:	Miss Logan	(P5/6)	88.8%
2nd:	Miss Swanson	(P6/7)	88.8%
4th:	Miss Garrett	(Nur)	86.9%
5th:	Miss Fulton	(P1/2)	81.9%



**Well done to Miss Rowe's class!**

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.

## 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

This year we are continuing to reward one pupil from each year every week for their achievements. These certificates are being issued in each class on a Friday.



During the month of May, the following pupils were awarded 'Star of the Week':

	03/05	10/05	17/05	24/05
Yr 1	Leanna-Grace Ramsey	Alfie Brown	Frankie Speers	Holly Simpson
Yr 2	Oliver Ferguson	Priya Henderson	Lacey Connor	Skyler Leighton
Yr 3	Scarlett Kennedy	Isaac Parke	Oliver McKendry	Emily Dornan
Yr 4	Emme Gault	Sam Mogeys	Reuben McIntyre	Finlay Taylor
Yr 5	Casey McKay	Anna Simpson	Martha - May Ramsey	Charley Keys
Yr 6	Sofia McKenna	Ryan McAleese	Victoria Gilmour	Jessy Chen
Yr 7	Marie Taggart	Callum Jamieson	Cameryn Greer	Summer Montgomery



## Parent Pay

As we are quickly approaching the end of the term, I feel I must highlight the issue of negative balances on Parent Pay. If you are unsure if you have a negative balance, please feel free to contact the school office and this can be checked for you.

In the event of you having a negative balance, please note these are supposed to be paid on a weekly basis and if you are unable to this, please contact Miss Logan immediately.

All Parent Pay balances MUST be cleared no later than Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> June to allow end of year reporting to be submitted to the Education Authority. Unfortunately at this late stage in the year I sadly have to report that a number of negative balances (even going back as far as last June) have **STILL NOT BEEN CLEARED!** As Principal of Bushmills Primary School & Nursery Unit I feel I must make parents aware of this embarrassing situation that we as a school find ourselves in. I have spoken to individual parents on numerous occasions regarding these outstanding balances (and have been willing to offer payment plans) however the situation has not changed. I have been contacted by the Education Authority on numerous occasions and to date I have aimed to persuade them that I will ensure this situation is resolved by the end of this academic year.

I cannot stress enough the seriousness of this situation and ask that if any parents find themselves with major negative balances that you please aim to get these cleared immediately - **PLEASE SPEAK TO ME IF YOU ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY GETTING THIS DONE!!!**

# Diary Dates

## Term 3

Sports Day	07-Jun-24	Further details to follow
Nursery Trip	11-Jun-24	Further details to follow
It's Your Move (P7 Pupils)	12-Jun-24	
Sponsored Colour Run	13-Jun-24	PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!!
Eco Fun Day	14-Jun-24	Further details to follow
P7 Leavers Trip to Emerald Park	18-Jun-24	
P7Leavers Assembly	21-Jun-24	Further details to follow
P5 & P6 End of Year Trip	25-Jun-24	Further details to follow
Nursery Graduation	26-Jun-24	Further details to follow
P1Induction (Parents Information talk)	26-Jun-24	Further details to follow
PrizeDay @ 1:00pm	27-Jun-24	Further Details to follow
End of Term	28-Jun-24	School finishes at 12:00noon for ALL pupils

## Holiday Dates 2024 - 2025

<h3>Term 1</h3>		
New Term Begins	28-Aug-24	Starts 9:00am sharp
Breakfast Club Starts	02-Sep-24	Doors open at 8:15am. Last entry at 8:35am
Extended School Starts	09-Sep-24	Please see the timetable for more information
Staff Development Day	27-Sept-24	School closed to ALL pupils
Parent/Teacher Interviews	23-Oct-24 to 25-Oct-24	School closes at 1:00pm for all pupils
Half Term Holiday	28-Oct-24 to 01-Nov-24	School closed to ALL pupils
Christmas Holiday	23-Dec-24 to 03-Jan-25	School closed to ALL pupils
<h3>Term 2</h3>		
Start of Term	06-Jan-25	Starts 9:00am sharp
P3 - P7 School Trip	10-Jan-25	Further details to follow
Half Term	13-Feb-25 to 18-Feb-25	School closed to ALL pupils
Staff Development Day	14-Mar-25	School closed to ALL pupils
Bank Holiday	17-Mar-25	School closed to ALL pupils
Easter Holiday	16-Apr-25 to 25-Apr-25	Inclusive
<h3>Term 3</h3>		

Start of Term	28-Apr-25	Starts 9:00am sharp
Bank Holiday	05-May-25	School closed to ALL pupils
Foundation & KSI Revision Week	06-May-25 to 09-May-25	
Foundation & KSI Assessment Week	12-May-25 to 16-May-25	
KS2 Revision Week	12-May-25 to 16-May-25	
KS2 Assessment Week	19-May-23 to 23-May-25	
Bank Holiday	26-May-25	School closed to ALL pupils
Staff Development Day	27-May-25	School closed to ALL pupils
End of Term	27-June-25	School finishes for all pupils at 12:00 noon