

Bushmills Primary School
&
Nursery Unit



April 2025
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.

Final Term

Now that Easter is over, the final term of this academic year will pass very quickly. It was great seeing all pupils and staff back and well rested following the well-deserved break.

We do have a busy term ahead, however, please keep an eye on Facebook, the school app and any letters which will keep you up to date on what is happening during the coming weeks.

For now, can I remind you of a few very important dates, i.e. Revision weeks and Assessment weeks, which can once again be seen in the 'Diary Dates' section at the back of this newsletter. Other events such as Sports Day and class trips will be taking place throughout this term and again updates and details will be sent out in due course.

P7 Cycling Proficiency

I am pleased to report that the P7 Cycling Proficiency Training Scheme has already commenced. The aim of this scheme is to teach children how to ride their bicycles safely and has a combination of theoretical and practical aspects. These sessions will continue to take place on the following dates:

Thursday 1st May	3pm to 4pm
Tuesday 8th May	3pm to 4pm
Tuesday 13 th May	3pm to 4pm

Thursday 15th May - FINAL ASSESSMENT



Please note pupils must attend **all** sessions to be fully prepared for both the **theory** (which will take place in school during the week commencing 6th May) and **practical** assessment at the end.

Term Two Tuesday Clubs Round-Up!



During Term Two, pupils were given a choice to attend different clubs. The clubs on offer were **badminton**, **construction club**, **film club** and **cookery club**.

Last term children enjoyed taking part in **badminton** sessions, this is a great sport for children as it helps improve their coordination, agility, and overall fitness. They learned the basic rules and had a lot of fun taking part in mini tournaments.

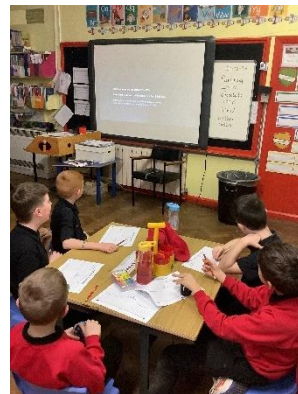


During **cookery club** children learned how to stay safe in the kitchen and food hygiene. We made a variety of treats including fruit skewers, chocolate covered rice Krispie buns and top hats. The children thoroughly enjoyed spending time with their friends, and they eagerly anticipated the next week to see what they were creating next. Getting to taste what they had prepared was perhaps the children's favourite part.

This term in **construction club** pupils had lots of fun designing and constructing their own creations using a variety of materials. They used playdoh and soft clay, hamma beads and lego and created coasters, animals, houses, rollercoasters and more! Great creative minds this month!



Last term in **film club** we explored different aspects of a range of films. We began with 'Wallace and Gromit', studying film techniques, the characters' roles, the plot, our first impressions and decided on an overall rating for the film. We then studied 'The Railway Children' in two segments. We created a 'character fact file' for our favourite character, including what happens to the character and famous lines from the character. During our final week we researched the director of the movie and created a 'film synopsis', including our favourite part of the film and drew the scene. We've had a great time- it's been fun and interesting!



Duck Dash

Just before we finished for Easter we had a House Tournament 'Duck Dash' to finish the term. All the children from Primary 1 to 7 had to work together has a team to transport ducks safely around a course, each duck was worth different points. The winning house was Portcamon! 🦆



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 12th May, please ensure all library books are returned in preparation for this visit. The final visits for this term will then be Monday 9th June and Monday 23rd June.

Swimming



Lessons for our P6/7 pupils, Miss Swanson's class, continue every Friday morning at Coleraine Leisure Centre.

Music Lessons

Violin lessons continue every Tuesday afternoon with Woodwind lessons taking place every Tuesday morning.



Attendance

During this school year, we seek to continue to attain high levels of attendance within our school.

The attendance cup for April will be presented to the winning class at our whole school assembly. The overall attendance for April was 78.6%.

Results are as follows:

1st:	Miss Swanson	P6/7	81.7%
2nd:	Miss Fulton	P1/2	80.2%
3rd:	Miss Logan & Miss Campbell	P4/5	80.1%
4th:	Mrs Sheridan & Mrs Bateman	P3/4	77.4%
5th:	Mrs Garrett & Miss Cochrane	Nur	72.1%



Well done to Miss Swanson'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.

Please also note a letter must be sent in with your child on the first day of their return.

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!

Diary Dates

Term 3

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-25 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
Sports Day	30-May-25	Further details to follow
P7 Leavers Assembly	20-June-25	Further details to follow
Prize Day	25-June-25	Further details to follow
Nursery Graduation	26-June-25	Further details to follow
End of Term	27-June-25	School finishes for all pupils at 12:00 noon