

Bushmills Primary School & Nursery Unit



September 2015

A settled September

Although September seems to have gone past in a flash I am pleased to report that all pupils have settled well into the new term and all Extended School activities are on again underway with attendance good.

Over all attendance at school remains high and I would like to take this opportunity to say "Thanks" to you the parents with regard to any "Absence Notes" which are sent in if required following your child's absence. This certainly helps us to authorize any absences and in turn keep in line with any guidelines as set out by the Department of Education.



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Water Bottles



With regard to the “School Water Bottles”, could I remind all parents that these should be filled with water only. I would also like to reassure all parents that if required, these can be refilled again in school during the day.

Football Skills

Football Coaching skills for all pupils in Primary 1— Primary 5 have once again got underway on Monday Afternoons. These are taken by IFA coach Reuben Smyth.



Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons for pupils in Primary 4 and Primary 5 have got underway this term. The pupils travel to Coleraine Leisure Centre every Friday morning and these arrangements are in place every Friday until Friday 12th February 2016.



School Uniforms



Unfortunately a selection of new school uniforms is gradually building up as many items (such as cardigans, coats, skirts and trousers) are being left behind in the school on a daily basis and as they have no names we are unable to trace them back to their owners. I would therefore urge you to ensure that all uniforms are clearly marked with the child's name and class (if possible).

Girls' Football Roadshow

On Wednesday 16th September our Primary 6 and Primary 7 girls (along with Mr Greer and Miss Thompson) travelled to the University of Ulster in Coleraine to participate in the Girls' Football Roadshow which was organised by the IFA and FIFA.

During the morning the girls took part in a range of activities including skills drills, small-sided games and football competitions. A number of female Northern Ireland International players were also in attendance and each girl received a FIFA wristband and Attendance certificate before returning to school.



Data Capture Forms

Could all Data Capture Forms please be completed and returned to your child's class teacher as soon as possible. This information is of great importance and allows us to easily contact parents or an appointed person should we need to get in touch during the school day.



Flu Immunisation Programme



Just a brief reminder that all consent forms must be returned to school by Thursday 1st October 2015.

Music Lessons

I am delighted to report that 8 pupils are currently taking piano lessons with Mrs Lorna Balmer every Tuesday morning.



Also 4 of our pupils have taken up violin lessons with Mr C Elliott (Education Authority Music Service Tutor) on Thursday afternoons.

House Captains

Our newly appointed House Captains for 2015-16 are as follows:

Lissanduff	-	Owen Kerr
Deputy	-	Billie Jane Thompson
Portcamon	-	Millie-Ann Saul
Deputy	-	Kayleigh Crawford
Klondyke	-	Rhianna Hartin
Deputy	-	Hannah Purcell
Blackrock	-	Timothy Parke
Deputy	-	Owen Cross



Congratulations to our newly appointed Captains and Deputies and we wish them well for the coming year as they each take on this new and exciting challenge.

Book Fair

Travelling Books visited our school from Wednesday 16th September until Wednesday 23rd September. All pupils were given the opportunity to visit the Fair and purchase new books, stationery etc. A total of £410.37 was spent on purchasing items which in turn has meant the school can now spend a total of £246.22 (based on commissions earned) on additional books for our classes and the school library.



Many thanks to all who purchased from the Fair and helped to contribute to this final total.

September Assemblies

Once again throughout September we have welcomed the following visitors to our monthly assemblies:-

Wednesday 9th September — Canon G Graham
Wednesday 16th September — Stephen Chamber (CEF)
Wednesday 23rd September — Rev. N. Cubitt

Diary Dates

Thursday 1st October

PTA Committee Meeting @ 6pm

Wednesday 21st October & Thursday 22nd October

Parent/Teachers Interviews 2:00pm-4:00pm

(All children go home @ 1:50pm on both days and crèche facilities will be available)

Friday 23rd October

Staff Training (School finishes @ 1:50pm for all pupils Primary 1— Primary 7)

Monday 26th October—Friday 31st October (inclusive)

Half Term Vacation

Monday 2nd November

New Term Begins @ 9:00am



Dates for
the Diary:

Attendance

As we begin a new school year we seek to continue to attain high levels of attendance within our school. The Attendance Cup for September will be presented in school assembly next week.

Results are as follows:

- 1st: Miss Fulton (Y2&3)
- 2nd: Miss Logan (Y4&5)
- 3rd: Miss McBride (Y6&7)
- 4th: Mrs McAllister (Y1)
- 5th: Mrs Garrett (Nursery)



Car Park Reminder

Could I please remind parents that all pupils (when leaving school) will be walked down by their teachers to the school gate, where they must be collected.

I would again request that cars should not be entering the school grounds to drop off or pick up pupils as the safety of our children is paramount!



Bushmills Primary School & Nursery Unit

5 Priestland Road
BUSHMILLS
Co. Antrim

Phone: 028 207 31416

Fax: 028 207 32767

E-mail:

info@bushmillsp.bushmills.ni.sch.uk

