

Links With Others

Updated Autumn 2025

<p><u>Parents</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Induction for new parents,• GRTL home learning packs• Settling in report• Parent involvement in fundraising• Open days,• Information evenings• Whats App• Class Dojo• Newsletter• Parents Notice Board• Website• Parent Meetings – Oct/April• Settling in Questionnaire• Parent Governors• Parent Volunteers – Coffee Morning, Stay and Play, Scarecrow Making, Christmas Show, Mothers Day Concert, Sports Day, Graduation, Ryan McBride soccer, parents with special skills, helping with jobs around the school, going on school trips.• End of year transition (primary school) photo display• My Little Gallery Book issued to parents at end of year• My Learning Journey Book issued to parents at end of year• End of year questionnaire• End of Year Report June
<p><u>Community</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fundraising –Macmillan, COS – Circle of Support• Visit to the library• We invite people who help us into the school to talk to the children eg Doctor, Dentist, Fireman, Policeman, Lollipop Person etc• Supporting the playtrail by attending forest school sessions throughout the year• Supporting local businesses, Jo Jingles, Banyan theatre, Parky the Magician, McGinleys café, local ice cream van, iPrint, florists, charity shops.• Repair and Share – borrowing tools and equipment• Men shed doing woodwork with kids in school• Litter busters• Volunteers from Mencap• Belmont Cottages next door – buy Christmas gifts.• Axa volunteers to help with outdoor jobs in summer term.• “Adopt a Spot” near the school and keep this area clean and tidy. Visiting local nursery homes to sing to the residents with Jo Jingles

Links with Primary Schools

- We have up to 13 feeder schools, with the majority however attending St Patricks Pennyburn.
- VP from St Patricks comes over for a visit in early June with a draft list of children and classes, we discuss each child, suitability for a particular class, looking at peer friendships, children with additional needs, quiet children (making sure they have a friend in their class)
- Some teachers from the different feeder schools arrange a visit to the nursery in June, to chat to the children that are heading their way.
- Jumpers from local primary schools for all home corner, so children become familiar with them before moving on to primary one
- End of Year report sent on to all the respective feeder schools
- PLPs and SEN paperwork also sent on to new schools
- Irish Dancers from St Patricks come over to perform for the children around St Patricks Day
- Key Stage 2 children from St Patricks come over to read stories to the children in small groups.
- Photographs of all our children beside the school/teacher that they are going to will be displayed on the hall notice board.
- Transition visits to their new school during the summer term.
- Any feeder school receiving children with SEN will be invited to have a conversation regarding that childs development
- Ardnashee School & College – we have organised play dates with some of their more able children

Links with Pre-School Centres

- Sure Start – we are invited to a transition meeting in June to find out some information on the children that will be coming our way.
- Teachers visit to Sure Start to see the children playing and chat to their keyworkers.
- Pennyburn Playgroup – we invite them to the nursery school for a play date. We invite staff to attend training when possible and support them with resources ie toys we no longer use.
- Teachers will visit the children at the play group and have a chat to the staff regarding the children.
- Mrs Burke delivers a short speech to parents of children moving from the playgroup to nursery during Term 3. She will discuss how to best prepare their child for the move to nursery school and what they can work on over the summer to help.

GSAP Greater Shantallow Area Partnership

- GSAP is a community support agency in the Greater Shantallow Area working on behalf of the local residents and community.
- Greater Shantallow ‘Talking To Our Babies’ is a community lead, early intervention initiative which aims to support and enable all in the community to have a deeper understanding of how children (aged 0-3 years) develop language. It also promotes, supports and enhances children’s communication skills.
- Mrs Burke is a member of the stakeholder and project committees.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belmont Nursery School have taken part in many of these community led early communication campaigns. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dummy Do ...Dummy Don't - Nursery Rhymes Are So Much Fun So Sing One With Your Little One - Activities for Talking Tots - Happy Bump, Happy Baby - Bedtime stories, sleepy fun - Language learning and your little one - Talk, sing, read and play - Starting Nursery, Talk Together - Talk to Me Often About Things That We See - Are You Screenwise? • Belmont Nursery School supports this initiative by lending resources for events, promoting events/courses. We have made use of their publications and promotional material. Staff have also attended training organized with TTOBs. • Referring parents for support from GSAP. • Christmas Gift appeal • Mini Professors, Little Mess Derry
<p><u>Nursery Principals Cluster Group</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A group of nursery principals has established a cluster network aimed at fostering collaboration and professional development. The purpose of this group is to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Share ideas and examples of best practice ▪ Pose questions and seek reassurance from peers ▪ Engage in professional networking and provide a supportive space for open discussion • In addition, we have coordinated joint training sessions across our nurseries, focusing on identifying and delivering the most relevant and current training needs. • Staff members are also encouraged to visit other nursery settings to gain insights into different approaches and environments. These visits help inform and enhance our own practices by learning from the experiences and methodologies of others. • WhatsApp support group
<p><u>Extended Schools Programme</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We receive funding from the Extended Schools Initiative. • Belmont Nursery School clusters with other nursery, primary & post primary schools in our area. • This funding has enabled the school to provide extra curricular activities to enhance the learning of our children. • The bulk of our funding has over the past few years been specifically for Speech & Language Support. We have been able to fund a S&L Therapist to come into school to support our children's communication and language skills. The children are arriving in school with increasingly poor communication and language development. This funding also supports staff training, meeting parents individually, parent language information sessions, joint parent teacher meetings, liaising with Trust SLT department, Wellcomm language toolkit programme, supporting ASD programmes, parent language tips and input into IEP'S.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other programmes funded through the extended Schools initiative have included <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Forest School at the Playtrail ▪ Yoga Classes
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Links with Regional College & Secondary Schools</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students attending childcare courses, teacher training colleges, foreign language students and those from local schools on work experience, form an essential part of life of Belmont Nursery School. • Students are welcomed into the Nursery School and given every opportunity to develop professional practice, to gain confidence and self-esteem and improve their skills. Staff supervise and support students within the classroom. • Students are encouraged to integrate and participate fully in the life of the nursery school and are encouraged to contribute new ideas and suggestions.