

Bushmills Primary School & Nursery Unit



April 2016

Another Successful Spring Fair

A huge 'Thanks' and 'Well Done' to everyone who helped make our Spring Fair yet another success for our school.

A special mention must go to the PTA committee members who worked tirelessly to help pull everything together. Also to the large band of helpers (both staff and parents) who come along on the night and volunteered their services, whether it was supervising at stalls, organising games, cooking the food, serving teas and coffees, please be assured your hard work and dedication never goes unnoticed. I am delighted to report that the total on the night has ended up at approximately £1,400.00.



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Ulster Scots Flagship Programme

As part of our involvement in the Ulster Scots Flagship Programme our Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils have continued to enjoy a range of workshops over the past weeks. These included learning about the Fiddle, Ulster Scots Language as well as the Living History Drama Workshop.



Ulster-Scots Agency
Boord o Ulstèr-Scotch

Nursery Trike Ride

Thankfully the weather remained on our side this morning and boys and girls from the Nursery Unit took part in their sponsored trike ride. After completing the 10 laps our pupils along with their parents enjoyed special party snacks which were supplied by Mrs Garrett and Mrs Laverty. The morning ended with a cheque presentation (totalling £492.00) being made payable to Children's Heartbeat Trust. Lynn from the charity was there to receive the cheque from all the Nursery. Please keep an eye out for photos in the Chronicle!



Sainsbury's Vouchers



Just a quick reminder that we are still collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers. Please post any vouchers in the box placed in the entrance hall in the school. Thank you for your help.

Cycling Proficiency

Cycling Proficiency will commence next week (Wednesday 4th May 2016) for all those children who returned the form.



RADAR Visit

Monday 4th April not only saw the beginning of a new term but also proved to be an exciting and enjoyable day for our Primary 6 and Primary 7 class. Our pupils (along with Miss McBride and Miss Thompson) left school early that morning to travel to the RADAR (Risk Avoidance Danger Awareness Resource) Centre in Belfast.

Opened in December 2015, RADAR is interactive, informative and fun and is Northern Ireland's first fully interactive, safety and life skills education centre. Throughout the visit pupils took part in a range of interactive workshops on Road Safety, Fire Safety, E-Safety, Personal Safety and Youth Justice. The centre contained a full sized street scene with a house, bus, train, court room, prison cell, shop, police station and much more. As you can imagine a great day out was had by all and the evidence can be seen in just a few of the photographs below:



Causeway Archers

Archery classes have continued on Tuesday afternoons for our Primary 5 to Primary 7 pupils. Already our first group of pupils have successfully completed the Basic Archery course which means they have achieved the required standard that enables them to apply for membership to a local club.



Anti-Bullying Workshop

On Thursday 7th April Kate, Angela and Emily from the 'PAIS Project' (linked to Causeway Coast Vineyard) visited Primary 4 to Primary 7 classrooms to help deliver one of their planned workshops. The theme for the afternoon was "Anti-bullying" and the workshop aimed to promote and develop the moral wellbeing of pupils and empower them to encourage each other. This workshop was thoroughly enjoyed by all of our pupils.



Breakfast Club

As you are aware our 'Breakfast Club' runs each week on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Initially attendance remained steady although unfortunately over the past few weeks numbers have been declining. In order to keep this worthwhile provision going I would encourage as many pupils as possible to attend. Quite often many of our pupils are arriving in school as early as 8:20am and just standing about outside. Could I please remind you as parents that 'outside supervision' only operates from 8:50am to 9:00am therefore please encourage your child to attend our 'Breakfast Club'.



Swimming Lessons



Swimming lessons continue on Friday mornings at Coleraine Leisure Centre for Primary 6 and Primary 7 Pupils. Unfortunately, earlier this week I received a letter from the Centre Manger of Coleraine Leisure Centre. The letter explained how essential works need to be carried out on the pool floor which will involves the draining of the pool. In order to carry out this important work there will be no school swimming programme during the month of June. This therefore means the final date for swimming will be Friday 27th May 2016.

Festival Success

Well done to 18 of our pupils who entered and took part in this year's Music Festival in Coleraine (Speech and Drama Section). Once again all pupils performed well with many being placed in their classes. Well Done to pupils in our choral group who successfully finished overall third in their class. A huge 'Thanks' to Miss Fulton who worked with all pupils over the



Football Success

Well Done to our school football team who took part in a fun football tournament which was organised by Coleraine and District Primary School's Football Association and held at Rugby Avenue in Coleraine on Tuesday 26th April. Also to our Primary 4 and Primary 5 team who travelled to Coleraine Showgrounds on



Wednesday 27th April to take part in the Harry Gregg Foundation P4/5 School 7A-Side tournament. The team finished overall third in the competition with Ryan Wilmont (P5) being runner-up to 'Player of the Tournament'.

Carrowmena Residential Trip

Just a quick reminder that the school residential trip to Carrowmena Activity Centre in Limavady takes place from Wednesday 11th May to Friday 13th May (inclusive). Pupils have now received detailed information regarding this trip although if you have any queries or concerns please feel free to speak to Miss Calvin or Miss Fulton (who will accompany pupils to Carrowmena).



#iFood

This week Primary 6 and Primary 7 were delighted to accept their awards for “Outstanding Contribution to Ulster University #iFood Innovators of Tomorrow 2016” Programme.

Over the past six weeks ,the class, lead by Molly, Ella and Amy, experimented with various healthy ingredients and combinations to produce their own healthy snack.

This programme then culminated in participating with other Primary Schools at the University where they enjoyed a morning of experiments, exercise and fun.

All pupils were delighted to have their “Oatie Bar” judged as Best Overall Product by Dr Lynsey Hollywood, Programme Director and Lecturer in Consumer Studies at the University of Ulster, Coleraine Campus.



We would like to thank the University for all their help and encouragement throughout this initiative.

Attendance and Punctuality

The Attendance Cup and Punctuality prizes for the month of April will be presented at the first whole school assembly on Wednesday 4th May 2016.

Attendance remains good with the average class attendance for April being 92.5%.

Results are as follows:



1st:	Mrs H McAllister (P1)	95.5%
2nd:	Miss S Fulton (P2/3)	95.0%
3rd:	Miss R McBride (P6/7)	92.4%
4th:	Miss J Logan (P4/5)	92.1%
5th	Mrs J Garrett (Nursery)	89.2%

Well done Mrs McAllister's P1 class.

April Assemblies

Once again on a weekly basis we have welcomed visitors to our school assemblies. Visitors during April were:-

Wednesday 6th April:	PAIS Team (Causeway Coast Vineyard)
Wednesday 13th April:	Canon G Graham (Dunluce Parish)
Wednesday 20th April:	Robert Plant
Wednesday 27th April:	Rev N Cubitt (Bushmills Presbyterian)



Diary Dates



Monday 2nd May	Bank Holiday (School closed for all pupils)
Thursday 5th May	Tempest Photographer (Groups—Football Team, Nursery, P7)
Wednesday 11th May to Friday 13th May	School trip to Carrowmena Activity Centre, Limavady
Monday 16th May to Friday 20th May	Revision Week
Friday 20th May	Sports Day Please note change of date
Monday 23rd May and Friday 27th May	Primary 1 Health Review with the School Nurse
Monday 23rd May to Thursday 26th May	Assessment Week
Monday 30th May to Friday 3rd June	School Closed for all Pupils
Friday 17th June	Treasure Trove Day
Wednesday 22nd June & Thursday 23rd June	Parent/Teacher Interviews (School will close for all pupils Primary 1 to 7 at 1:50pm)
Friday 24th June	Prize Day @ 1:00pm
Wednesday 29th June	Nursery Graduation @ 9:30am School finishes at 12:00 noon for all pupils
Thursday 30th June & Friday 1st July	School closed for all Pupils (Staff Development)
Thursday 1st September	New Term begins @ 9:00am sharp