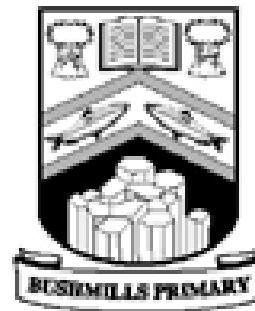


Bushmills Primary School & Nursery Unit



October 2016

It is hard to believe that already we have reached the end of October and I would like to take this opportunity to say 'Thanks' to you the parents and also all staff for your on-going support and loyalty as we seek to continue to work together to provide the best opportunities we can for all our pupils here in Bushmills Primary School & Nursery Unit.



I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable half-term break and look forward to seeing all staff and pupils back again (and well rested) on Monday 7th November!

happy holidays!

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Football Tournament

Our school football team took part in the first round of the Coleraine and District Small Schools Football Tournament on Thursday 13th October at Bushvalley Primary School. The team played well and are now looking forward with anticipation to the next round which is due to take place on Thursday 17th November here, at our own school.



Flu Vaccination

On Wednesday 19th October the School Nursing Team visited Bushmills Primary to administer the Fluenz Tetra Vaccine (nasal Spray) to pupils in Primaries 1-7. The benefits of this programme will be that children will be better protected against flu bringing both health benefits and also ensuring less time off school.



Parent/Teacher Interviews

Parent/Teacher Interviews have just taken place on Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th October. Many thanks to all parents who attended and for us as a school, it has certainly highlighted that your child's/children's education is important to you! As a parent you play a vital role in helping to give your child the best start in life and your support is crucial!



Hallowe'en Disco

Thanks to our P.T.A. who organised a successful Hallowe'en Disco last night (27th October). A large number of pupils were in attendance and an enjoyable evening was had by all.



October Assemblies

Visitors to our assemblies throughout the month of October were as follows:

Wednesday 5th October	-	Rev McLernon
Wednesday 12th October	-	Stephen Chambers
Wednesday 19th October	-	Rev A. Buick
Wednesday 26th October	-	Rev N. Cubitt



On Wednesday 26th October we held a very special 'Harvest' assembly which has been the first for our school for a number of years. At the assembly Primary 1 to Primary 3 pupils performed "The Little Black Cloud", instrumentalists (violins) played two pieces before Rev Cubitt gave a very interesting and appropriate epilogue. Our school choir then sang "The Harvest Song" before Rev Cubitt concluded the assembly with a short prayer. Once again our pupils stepped up to the challenge and an enjoyable morning was had by all who attended.

A local press photographer was in attendance so hopefully a few photos will appear over the next week or so — keep an eye out!

Friday CEF

Representatives from the local CEF (Child Evangelism Fellowship) continue to take workshops on Friday afternoons between 2:00pm and 3:00pm



Golden Child

Congratulations to Leon Myers (Primary 1) who was our "Golden Child" for the month of September.



Runners up were: -

⇒ Megan Mulholland (P2/3)

⇒ Devon Sharkey (P4/5)

⇒ Rebecca Cerutti (P6/7)

Attendance

The Attendance Cup for October will be presented at a whole school assembly on Wednesday 9th November. The school's overall average attendance for the month of October was 96.5%.



Results are as follows: -

1st:	Mrs McAllister	(P1)	99.7%
2nd:	Miss Logan	(P4/5)	98.2%
3rd:	Miss Fulton	(P2/3)	96.7%
4th:	Mrs Garrett	(Nursery)	95.0%
5th:	Mrs Sheridan	(P6/7)	93.8%

Well Done Mrs McAllister's P1 class!

Transfer Tests

As we are now at the end of October, our Primary 7 pupils sitting the Transfer Tests have been working hard preparing.



The first AQE Test will take place on Saturday 12th November, the second on Saturday 26th November with the final test taking place on Saturday the 3rd December 2016.

For those children who are completing the GL Examination registration closed on the 23rd September at 2pm and the exam will take place on Saturday 19th November 2016.

Poppy Appeal

Poppies and other related merchandise will be available in school for pupils to purchase once we return after the half term break.



Shared Reading Programme

Once again this year we are having a number of Shared Story Reading afternoons for our Primary 1 to Primary 3 pupils to which parents will be invited to come along and join our readers. These sessions will commence in January 2017 and will continue for 6 weeks. The dates will be as follows:

- ⇒ Tuesday 10th January 2017
- ⇒ Tuesday 17th January 2017
- ⇒ Tuesday 24th January 2017
- ⇒ Tuesday 31st January 2017
- ⇒ Tuesday 7th February 2017
- ⇒ Tuesday 14th February 2017



RADAR Visit

Tuesday 18th October proved to be an exciting and enjoyable day for our Primary 6 and Primary 7 class. Our pupils (along with Mrs Sheridan and Miss Thompson) left school at breaktime 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:



Christmas Cards

As you have already been made aware every pupil in our school (Nursery to Primary 7) has designed their own Christmas card. Over the past few days you have been provided with a free sample card(s) and along with this a short note and order form. As you can see cards are sold in packs of 10 at a cost of £6.00 per pack. If you wish to place an order you are asked to return the order form (along with payment) to your child's class teacher no later than Friday 11th November 2016. Once all orders have been received and posted off your cards should arrive back in school within 2-3 weeks (and certainly well in advance of Christmas!)



Toys! Toys! Toys!

Since the beginning of September staff have noticed an increase in the number of toys and electronic games pupils are bringing with them to school. Unfortunately this can at times lead to such personal belongings being lost or damaged and on occasions can cause 'little arguments' if others want to borrow something which does not belong to them. With this in mind, I would ask that pupils do not bring such items into school. Your co-operation with this issue would be greatly appreciated.



Great News!

Following my October Update which was sent out on Monday, I am delighted to report that Mrs Howard has now left hospital and returned home. Again we will keep her in our thoughts and prayers as she continues her road full recovery.

Diary Dates

Half Term Vacation	31-Oct-16 to 04-Nov-16	Inclusive
Start of Term	07-Nov-16	9:00am sharp
Izak 9 Parents Evening (95-P7)	15-Nov-16	6:30pm to 7:45pm (Further details to follow)
PTA Committee Meeting	16-Nov-16	6:00pm
Open Evening	23-Nov-16	6:00pm to 8:00pm
Christmas Production (P1 to P7)	15-Dec-16	10:00am and 7:00pm
Staff Training	16-Dec-16	School closed for ALL pupils
Nursery Christmas Production	20-Dec-16	9:30am
End of Term (Christmas)	21-Dec-16	School will finish at 12:00noon following the annual Carol Service @ 10:00am
Christmas Vacation	22-Dec-16 to 03-Jan-17	Inclusive
Start of Term	04-Jan-17	9:00am sharp

Dates for
the Diary: