

Bushmills Primary School & Nursery Unit

January 2018 Newsletter



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New Year, New Start!

Thursday 4th January marked not only the beginning of a New Year but also a new term for us here in School.



After a somewhat hectic December all at school returned in January for the first day of a new term feeling well rested and refreshed following the Christmas break! The following day (Friday 5th January) saw pupils in Primaries 1 to 7 travelling to the Lyric Theatre in Belfast to see their production of 'Beauty and the Beast'. I am thrilled to say 'a great day' was had by all and once again I am proud to publicly commend our pupils on their behaviour and conduct throughout the visit.

Meanwhile, our Nursery pupils enjoyed a 'Winter Cosy Day' when all pupils and staff came to school wearing 'cosy clothes' and brought along their pillows and blankets. They enjoyed a 'Winter Film' followed by a picnic lunch.

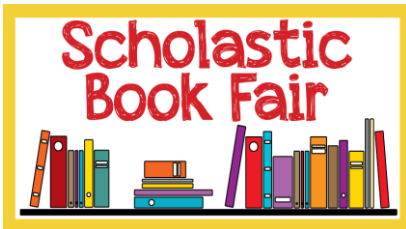
As we have now reached the end of January, although the mornings and evenings are gradually becoming clearer, I would once again remind you of the importance of ensuring your child/children wear reflective and high visibility items. Especially when travelling to and from school.

Shared Reading Programme

Our 'Shared Story Reading' afternoons for pupils in Nursery and Primary 1 will commence this Thursday (1st February) from 1:30pm to 2:30pm. Please note it is not too late to return reply slips. Please be reminded that as part of this programme pupils will then be visiting Waterstones Bookshop in Coleraine on Wednesday 14th March (Further details will follow).



Scholastic Book Fair



Scholastic Book Fair will arrive in school on Tuesday 6th February and will run until Tuesday 13th February. Pupils have now been given leaflets which allows them to see exactly which books will be available for them to purchase.

Classes will be given the opportunity to visit the fair during school hours with their teacher and it will also be open each day between 2:00pm - 2:15pm and 3:00pm - 3:15pm.

Bonjour Amigos



Spanish lessons for all pupils in Primary 1 to Primary 7 continue on Friday mornings with 'Bonjour Amigos' language tutor, Christina McGarvey. I am also delighted to add that Nursery Pupils have also commenced Spanish lessons and so far are really enjoying it!

Punctuality

Sadly, I feel that once again I have to highlight the issue of Punctuality. Can I please remind all parents that school starts for ALL PUPILS (Nursery to Primary 7) at 9:00am sharp!



I do hope you can appreciate that pupils arriving late can cause disruption to classes as not only are teachers working to complete registers and confirm dinner numbers but pupils themselves who are in class have already commenced the work set by the teacher. I really would appreciate your help and support with this very important matter and for the majority of pupils who do arrive punctually every day - Well Done and Keep it Up!

Breakfast Club



Please be reminded that Breakfast Club runs on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings, from 8:20am to 8:50am. All pupils from Nursery to Primary 7 will be made most welcome. Please note, pupils are

then supervised as usual in the playground from 8:50am to 9:00am. Please also note that final entry to the Breakfast Club will be at 8:40am in order to allow all pupils time to eat their breakfast before heading out to the playground.

January Assemblies

Once again we continue to welcome a number of visitors to our whole school assemblies on Wednesday mornings. During January we had the following visitors



Wednesday 10th January

Robert Plant
(Christian Evangelist)

Wednesday 17th January

Rev McLernon
(Bushmills Free Presbyterian)

Wednesday 24th January

Canon Graham
(Dunluce Parish)

Wednesday 31st January

Alice McAlary
(Family Support Worker)

Transfer Test Results!

Well done to all our pupils (Rebecca, Grace and Taylor) who received their AQE and GL assessment results on Saturday! You all worked so hard and should be so proud of yourselves. Please be reminded that Primary 7 Transfer Interviews are scheduled to take place on Friday 2nd and Monday 5th February.



Library Van Visit!

Please be reminded that the mobile library van visits our school **every two weeks** on a Monday morning. As the last visit was Monday past (29th January) the next visit is scheduled for Monday 12th February.



Swimming Lessons



Swimming lessons for Primary 4 and 5 pupils continue on Friday mornings and will run for a further two weeks (Friday 2nd February and Friday 9th February). Following the half term break swimming lessons will then commence for Primary 6 and 7 pupils with the first week being Friday 23rd February 2018.

Money Slips

Could I please remind all parents to make use of the money slips which are sent home every week to be used when sending money into school. As you can appreciate each teacher is receiving money for dinners, milk, after-schools, etc. on a daily basis and in order to avoid confusion it would be helpful if money slips are returned with the correct amount of money and are clearly labelled with your child's name.



Guides

Sarah (from Ulster Girl Guiding) visited the school on Monday 15th January to speak to all girls (Primary 1 to Primary 7) about Girl Guiding. I am please to report that some girls did attend the Guides and Brownies here in school following this talk!



Girlguiding

Dunluce Taster Day!

On Monday 22nd January our Primary 6 and 7 pupils enjoyed a 'Taster Day' which was held at Dunluce school. On the day pupils were given a flavour into how a day at Dunluce would run as well as taking part in a few classes including Art, Music and P.E. All pupils had an enjoyable morning and had a lovely lunch before returning to school.



Attendance

The Attendance Cup for January will be presented at a whole school assembly on Wednesday 7th February 2018. The school's overall average attendance for the month of January was 93.2%. Results are as follows:

1st:	Mrs McAllister (P1/2)	95.7%
2nd:	Miss Fulton (P2/3)	95.1%
3rd:	Miss Cochrane (Nursery)	93.4%
4th:	Miss Logan (P4/5)	92.5%
5th:	Mrs Nicholl (P6/7)	89.1%



Well Done Mrs McAllister's P1/2 class!

Star of the Week



Each week one pupil from each class will be rewarded for their achievements. A special assembly is held each Friday afternoon to celebrate these awards. During the month of January, the following pupils were awarded 'Star of the Week'.

P1	Lily Hunter	P2	Harvey Gault
	Ella McMullan		Yi Jean Aw
P3	William McKenna	P4	Kelbie Burns
	Megan Taggart		Millie Parke
P5	Lucy McKay	P6	Leah Wilmont
	Alex Hogg		Tori Neill
P7	Ryan Wilmont	P7	Chelsea Walker

Titanic

Primary 6 and 7 have been looking at the Titanic as part of their topic work. We had the pleasure of welcoming Mr Robert Plant into talk to the children as he has had a keen interest in this topic for many years and has built up an extensive collection of books on the subject. The children found the session very informative and interesting. They also had the opportunity to ask lots of questions. Primary 6 and 7 would like to thank Mr Plant for giving up his time to come in and talk to them.



Diary Dates

Scholastic Book Fair	06-Feb-18 to 13-Feb-18	Inclusive
Half Term	15-Feb-18 to 20-Feb-18	Inclusive
Start of Term	21-Feb-18	9:00am sharp
Peace Proms	25-Feb-18	Details to follow
Portstewart Music Festival	08-Mar-18 to 10-Mar-18	Details to follow
Portstewart Speech & Drama Festival	12-Mar-18 to 15-Mar-18	Details to follow
School Photographer	20-Mar-18	Class Photos - Nursery, P1 & P7, Football Team and Whole School Photograph
Parent/Teacher Interviews	27-Mar-18 and 28-Mar-18	Further details to follow
End of Term	29-Mar-18	12:00 noon finish for all pupils
Easter Vacation	30-Mar-18 to 10-Apr-18	Inclusive
Start of Term	11-Apr-18	9:00am sharp
60th Anniversary Event	18-Apr-18	'Walk Down Memory Lane' See the attached flyer

Bushmills Primary School

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2018

Walk Down Memory Lane

Wednesday 18th April 2018

6:30pm to 9:00pm

Come along and enjoy some light refreshments whilst reminiscing about days gone by at Bushmills Primary School.

We will have photographs, reports, registers, books, etc. laid out for all to view.

Bushmills Primary School

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2018

Celebrating 60 years!

Calling out for all past pupils
and staff.

Have you any information, old
photographs or memorabilia?

If so, we would love to hear
from you!

Contact us on 028 2073 1416 or
by emailing

bushmillsp60@hotmail.com or
find us on Facebook.

Keep an eye out for upcoming
events.