

PARENTS' NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2022



Some November information and updates for your calendar.

All outstanding Milk Money (£3 per child) and School Funds (£3 each or £5 per family) must be paid by Friday 11th November

OPEN DAY

This year's School Open Day (Primary and Nursery) will be held on Tuesday 29th November 9.15am – 11.15am and 5.30pm – 6.30pm. Please take this opportunity to view the school, feel the friendly atmosphere and get an insight into your child's learning. Look out for the open day leaflets, all parents welcome! There are special arrangements in place for our Nursery children-please look out on Nursery News for these details.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

The Poppy box will be offered to each class this week and next week. Please bring money in a sealed envelope clearly stating it is for poppies. The cost of donations for merchandise varies from 50p to £1.50.

NOTICE OF ABSENCE

If your child is absent from school, please ensure you either message the class teacher via Seesaw or email, or telephone to inform us of the reason. The **secretary's working hours** are from **8:45am-2pm** so please be aware that the phones are not always manned outside these hours.

The school has to code all periods of absence and it is necessary to apply the correct reason e.g. illness or appointment. If after a week no reason has been received it may be necessary for the school to telephone parents/guardians directly.

BELFAST COFFEE TRUCK

Belfast Coffee Truck will be back to serve us delicious hot drinks and tray bakes on Wednesday 30th November. Enjoy an early morning treat!

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2022

As we do every year, we will celebrate Anti-Bullying Week at Ballysillan P.S. Anti-Bullying Week aims to raise awareness of bullying and highlight ways of prevention. This year it will be celebrated the week of Monday 14th – Friday 18th November and the theme will be '**Reaching Out**'. During the week, all pupils will be completing fun, educational tasks.

On **Monday 14th November**, we would like all pupils to wear ODD SOCKS to school to highlight the importance of being unique. We will also celebrate WORLD KINDNESS DAY so watch out for our brilliant Ballysillan pupils sprinkling kindness wherever they go!

P2 RISE WORKSHOP

RISE NI will be providing a Pencil Skills workshop in Primary 2 on Thursday 10th November. The workshop will run for 5 weeks. The sessions will include 30 minutes practical activities in the hall and 30 minutes follow up in the classroom.

SHARED EDUCATION TRIPS

Lots of classes will be visiting W5 this month. Please look out on Seesaw for more details from the class teacher. Please see dates below.

P2:16th November

P4:24th November

P5:23rd November

P6:23rd November

P6 SHARED EDUCATION

This month P6 will be meeting with Scared Heart on the dates below. Please find more information via Mr Edgar on Seesaw.

7th Nov: BPS

14th Nov: SH

21st Nov: BPS

28th Nov: SH

CINEMA TRIPS-NOVEMBER TREATS

All classes will be getting to visit the cinema this month to celebrate NI Film festival. P1 & P2 will be watching Two by Two: Overboard, P3 and P3/4 will be watching Sonic the Hedgehog, P4/5-P7 will be watching Matilda. The cost of this trip will be £5. Permission slips will be sent home. We hope all children enjoy. Please see dates below;

8th November: P4/5-P7

24th November: P1-P2

25th November: P3-P3/4

P7 AQE AND GL TESTS

Good luck to all P7 pupils sitting tests throughout November and December. The children have been working extremely hard and we are proud of all they have achieved so far! All the best to; Alexis McCorkell, Connor Hutchinson and Reese Murray.

PARENTING AT HOME

Are you looking for support at home with your child? We have the right parenting

class for you! We have booked a private behaviour consultant here in Ballysillan to help support all our parents. This consultant is also an expert with ASD and ADHD so she will provide ideas and strategies for home life. This workshop will be held on Friday 18th November in the school assembly hall at 9.15am-11.15am. Lots more information will be posted on our school Facebook page closer to the time. You do not have to book a slot, however, if you are interested in this event, please can you let your teacher know via Seesaw or email info@ballysillan.belfast.ni.sch.uk.

CLUBS

Afterschool clubs will recommence the week commencing Monday 14th November. This term we have 2 new clubs starting: Mini Make and Bake (Primary 1-Primary 3) and Nursery Afterschool Club. More details will follow in term 1B regarding both clubs.

GETTING READY TO LEARN

As Getting Ready to Learn is relaunching in Nursery Primary 1 are also invited to join in on the project as a little added extra due to covid restrictions in previous nursery year. We are starting with the theme of 'Big Bedtime Read'! On Monday 7th November P1 and Nursery pupils are invited to Mr Hullabaloo's Story time in our school Assembly Hall from 2:00pm-3:00pm. Children must attend with 1 adult and we hope you enjoy this opportunity to have fun and participate in the show! Please let your child's class teacher know if your child is going and with what adult.

BIG BEDTIME READ

Furthermore, on Friday 11th November there will be a coffee afternoon and workshop based on the 'Big Bedtime Read' in our Assembly Hall for nursery and P1 parents. During this time Nursery and P1 children of parents attending the workshop will stay in their classroom for milk, cookies and enjoy a 'story sack' session. This will be followed up with a story on the interactive board. Please let your teacher know what adults are attending the workshop so we can plan for your child's story session in their classroom!

info@ballysillan.belfast.ni.sch.uk. There will be a charge of £15.

P6 ROAD SAFETY CYCLING TRAINING

Beverley and instructors from Sustrans have specially selected some students from P6 to part-take in a road safety bicycle course. Those children selected will be taken by instructors and taught how to ride a bicycle safely on the roads. The group will also have a workshop on how to mend and repair your bike. (Dates to be confirmed)

P7 CHRISTMAS MARKET TRIP

Primary 7 are so excited as they will be going to the Christmas Market on Wednesday 23rd November 2022. The children will be able to sample lots of the foods that are on offer at the stalls. There will be more details to follow from the class teacher.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Our Christmas Fair is Thursday 1st December. The fair will start at 5.30pm and finish at 7.30pm. This is a fantastic event we hope that all our families will avail of. We will be having Santa's Grotto, toys for sale, Colouring and Arts table, delicious food for sale and lots more! If you are interested in having a stall at our Christmas Fair please email

