

# PARENTS' NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2019



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 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

## CAR PARKING

To ensure the safety of everyone (including pupils) when entering and exiting the school please remember/abide by the following rules -

1. Drive very slowly and carefully when entering and exiting school grounds.
2. If parking, please use the appropriate car park spaces.
3. Do not block any entrance/exit routes at any time.
4. When/if reversing, extra vigilance is required.

**DO NOT PARK ON THE FOOTPATH AS IT OBSTRUCTS THE PATROL LADY.**

Many thanks in your co-operation.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Most After School Clubs will resume as normal the week beginning 4<sup>th</sup> November 2018. **Please note** there will be no Friday clubs this term as pupils will take part in singing practice for the school play - 2pm dismissal as usual for P3-P7.

Friday clubs will resume after the Christmas break when your child will be allocated a new club.

Transfer Club will take place on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November - attendance is essential.



## POPPY APPEAL

Poppies will be on sale until Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November at school with all donations going to The Royal British Legion. Many thanks for your continued support in this worthy appeal.

## ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

Next Week is Anti-Bullying Week in school. Each class will be taking part in Circle Times and discussions.

## EXCITING NEWS!

Ballysillan Primary School has been selected to take part in a campaign to stop bullying and focus on spreading kindness and positivity. On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November C2K will be in school to film activities which spread kindness. This will then be uploaded to the EA website and C2K News Desk. We will also put a copy on our website.

## BUN SALE

We will continue with our bun sale on **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November** as our 'Monthly Treat Friday' £1 per bun. Our bun sale will take place the **1<sup>st</sup> Friday** of every month. The following one will take place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December. All money raised will be going towards school funds so thank you again for your continued support!



## PHOTOGRAPHER IN SCHOOL

Individual school photos will take place on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November. These will be done throughout the day. Family photos will be taken at a later date. There has been a note sent out for those who are interested in a family portrait night to fill in and return. Once returned you will be allocated a time slot for this evening.



## DRAMA CLUB

Play rehearsals will start week beginning Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019 (to take place on various days from 3-4pm) Permission will be sought from the children involved and all would be expected to attend after school when requested.

## MEALS REMINDER

We are still operating a **no** choice menu for the Primary 1 to Primary 3 pupils. Then Primary 4 to 7 pupils will have a choice menu... This helps speed up service and minimise food wastage!

## P6 Trip

P6 have been invited to attend the celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UNCRC which celebrates 30 years of children and young people's civil rights. This will be held at w5 IN Belfast on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November.

## P5 WAR MUSEUM TRIP

P5 will be visiting the War Museum on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Permission slips must be returned on or before this date.

## P1 and P2 CINEMA TRIP



P1 and P2 be going to the cinema on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November. Permission slips must be returned on or before 19<sup>th</sup> November. All snacks will be provided.

## P3 and P4 CINEMA TRIP



P3 and P4 will be going to the cinema on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Permission slips must be returned on or before 18<sup>st</sup> November.

## P5-P7



P5-P7 will be going to the cinema to watch "Dora the Explorer" as part of the "Into Film Cinema Week" on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November.

## P7 TRANSFER TESTS

November sees the beginning of the AQE Common Entrance Examinations, formerly known as the Transfer Tests/11+. The first test will be held on **Saturday, 9<sup>TH</sup> November** followed by the second test on **Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> November** and finally the third and last test on **Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2019**.

All pupils sitting these assessments have been working extremely hard over the past year and so I would like to wish them all the best for these tests! **Good Luck** to Caitlin Drew, Katie Crawford, Charlotte Gamble, Lara Stewart, Ben Hillis, Paige Faulkner and Ellie Catherwood, from everyone at Ballysillan Primary. ☺

**NB:** the final Transfer Club will be on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November for P7 and Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> November for P6. Transfer Club for P6 only will recommence after the Christmas break.

## STRESSBUSTING FOR SUCCESS

As part of our collaboration with the ROC Ballysillan Action Group, a "Stressbusting for Success" evening has been arranged for Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November in Ballysillan Primary assembly hall for any P7 pupils who are sitting the AQE examinations. Parents are also welcome. This will commence at 7pm and finish at 8pm.

## P6 PEACEPLAYERS

Our Primary 6 pupils are taking part in a six-week programme with a company called 'PeacePlayers' The programme involves different class based activities in Ballysillan PS, Sacred Heart Boys PS, and Ballysillan Leisure Centre. The activities last for 1 hour and our November dates are listed on our dates for Diary page.

## CHRISTMAS FAIR



The Christmas Fair will take place on Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2018 at 6.30pm in the school assembly hall. There will be lots to see and do for adults and children alike including Santa's Grotto, Christmas and Confectionary Stalls, Tombola, Christmas Crafts, Games, Activities for young (or young at heart) and Hot Food/Refreshments. Everyone is welcome, especially boys and girls who want an early visit from Santa! Ho, Ho, Ho! More details to follow so

watch out for our Christmas Posters and Flyers!!!

### **MOVIE FUNDRAISING NIGHT**

We are going to be hosting 2 movie nights in school. All snacks will be provided. We will be projecting the movie in the assembly hall. Pupils are welcome to come in their PJ's, bring pillows/blankets and teddies. Nursery-P3 will be held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November (4pm-6pm) and P4-P7 will be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December (5pm-7pm). We will be charging £2 per child. This will be pay at the door.

### **GIRLS MODEL TASTER DAY**

P7 children will be taking part in a fun activity taster day in December. More details to follow.

### **BREAKFAST CLUB**

We would like to encourage everyone to make use of our Breakfast Club. Numbers are rising - there are around 40 people daily!!! We would like to thank all of you who already attend and look forward to seeing you again in the future.

### **SEPTEMBER 2019 ENROLMENT**

P1/Pre School enrolment application forms/admissions criteria details for September 2019 will be available online from the Education Authority website from 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019. Mrs Kelly will be available on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January from 11am for any parents

who want help with the online application process.

### **OPEN DAY**

This year's School Open Day (Primary and nursery) will be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 9am - 11am and 6pm - 7pm. 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!

### **NOTICE OF ABSENCE**

If your child is absent from school, please ensure you either send a note to the class teacher or telephone to inform us of the reason. The school has to code all periods of absence and it is necessary to apply the correct reason e.g. illness. If after a week no reason has been received it may be necessary for the school to telephone parents/guardians directly.



### **SCOTTISH DANCING**

Scottish dancing will be on in School on a Wednesday night commencing on 7<sup>th</sup> November. This is open to all children in and outside school.

The times are as follows:

- Beginners - 6pm-7pm
- Beginners with a little experience - 6.30 pm-7.30pm
- Others - 7.30pm-8.30pm

If anyone is interested, please come along and have a go. 1<sup>st</sup> session is free, £2 per week afterwards.

## **UNIFORM REMINDER**

With the autumn season now in full swing it is imperative that children are sent to school appropriately

dressed for the changeable weather. Please ensure children wear the prescribed school uniform, including a navy school sweatshirt or navy cardigan, sensible shoes and a coat everyday (blue accessories please). All children are expected to play outside at break and lunch time, weather permitting.

# Dates for your diary - November/December 2019



**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November:** School Photographer

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November:** C2K Filming for Anti-Bullying week

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November:** P3 Shared Education day (in Sacred Heart)

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November:** Bun day

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November:** P3 Shared Education (in Ballysillan)

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November:** Nursery-P3 Movie Night (4pm-6pm)

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November:** Play rehearsals to commence after school (every Monday)

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November:** P3 and P4 cinema day

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November:** P1 and P2 cinema day

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November:** P6 Trip to W5

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November:** P5-P7 cinema day

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November:** Christmas fair

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec:** P5 War Museum trip

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Open day and Open Evening (more details to follow)

**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Day Time performance

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Evening performance

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Carol Service and Nursery Nativity (10.30am-11.30am).

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> Dec:** P4-P7 Movie night (5pm-7pm)

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec:** Party day -noon finish

