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Monday 23rd October 2017

New School Crest

Dear Parents,

One of the many areas of school life that we have identified and is included in year three of our School Development Plan, has been the modernisation of our current school crest. We felt it was important that the crest reflected key elements of the school, the school community and the history of the school. We retained some aspects of the current crest during the design process, e.g the school name 'Ballylifford Primary School' will remain on the crest and the image of the school has been modernised and retained.

The symbols of the new crest:

1. The cross represents our Catholic faith.
2. The year 1910 represents when the school was built.
3. The football and camogie stick represents the tradition of Gaelic sports along with other sports in our school and community.
4. The book and tin whistle represents the learning in our curriculum and the extra curricular activities that take place within the school.
5. The Ballinderry Bridge symbolises the Ballinderry Parish and our connection with the local community.
6. An updated image of the school has been retained from the current crest.

The themes of faith, learning, sports, the community, history, have been reflected in the ideas suggested by our pupils. We have been working with our website designer, 'School Web Design' on the creation of the new crest and after numerous designs, we have decided on the one that we feel reflects our school the best.

The new crest will be added to the school website, school Twitter account, newsletter, headed paper, signage around the school and a new school sports kit.

The new crest will also be added to the school sweatshirt for the next school year but this will be phased in over a number of years. Pupils will be permitted to wear the current sweatshirt. The current polo shirt will remain in place with the name of the school, BALLYLIFFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL.

School Values and Motto

The school crest has been developed alongside our new school values and school motto with the hope of reflecting the overall ethos and aspirations of the school community. The school values originated from exploration and discussion among all stakeholders selecting values that build the jigsaw of a successful school and which are visible and tangible within the life of Ballylifford PS.

The school motto was proposed from the selected school values rooted from personal and collective beliefs and experiences but most importantly, reflecting the current and potential ethos of the school community. A particular focus was placed on the value of 'Nurture' as this had been the identified value which resonated most and represented the happy and safe environment within Ballylifford PS.

The four potential mottos that were proposed:

1. Nurturing Potential, Learning Together
2. Nurturing and Learning Together
3. Nurture and Learning Together
4. Nurturing Potential, Achieving Together

As a school we have decided on the motto '**Nurturing Potential, Achieving Together**' that best reflects the Ballylifford school community.

We have consulted with our pupils and staff and the evaluated feedback will be further reviewed and ratified by our Board of Governors.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Ciaran McElroy
Principal

