

# BALLYLIFFORD PS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



April 2017



## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Congratulations to our wonderful P4 pupils who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The children were excellent with their singing and prayers.

Thank you to Fr. Donnelly who led the celebration, the family members who attended the mass and to Ms Hurl for preparing the children for the celebration.

## FIRST COMMUNION

First Holy Communion will be celebrated in St. Patricks Church, Ballinderry on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 11am for P4 pupils from both Ballylifford PS & Derrychrin PS.

Refreshments will be provided afterwards for the families and friends of all First Communicants in St. Patricks Hall

**Contributions of buns, cakes and biscuits for this celebration can be left into the school by Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

## BALLINDERRY CREDIT UNION

Well done to all the pupils who have saved with Ballinderry Bridge Credit Union for Term 3

The total amount saved was £170.00  
The Credit Union would encourage all pupils to become members and get involved with the Credit Union Young Savers. It is a great way for children to start to save and learn the value of money.

## iCODE WORKSHOP

P7 Pupils attended an iCode Week workshop organised by iTeach and hosted by Holy Family PS Magherafelt.

Pupils got the opportunity to collaborate with other pupils working on coding challenges with the iPad, Scratch Jr, Tynker and the amazing Sphero SPRK+ Computational thinking, problem solving, logical thinking and collaboration was the order of the day as pupils took part in innovative activities that will build on their iCode experiences in school.

We hope to develop this further across the school in the next academic year from Foundation Stage to KS2.

## BALLINDERRY RIVERS TRUST

The KS2 pupils got the opportunity of releasing the fry into the Ballinderry River, thanks to Ballinderry Rivers Trust. They also looked for freshwater invertebrates, learned about how clean the river and pollution.

The project helped the children in the local community become more aware about their local environment, what lives in the river and how we can reduce the impact of potential dangers to life in the river.

Thank you to Frank and Lisa from the hatchery who facilitated the project.

### **ONLINE E-SAFETY PARENTS' INFORMATION EVENING**

Ballylifford PS & Derrychrin PS held a joint Online E-Safety Information evening in Ballylifford Primary school on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April delivered by Marty Allen PSNI Cookstown. It was an excellent opportunity for all parents to become aware of potential online dangers. Thank you to all parents who attended.

### **SCHOOL PHOTOS**

**Please note revised date for School photos - they will now take place on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May.**

Family group photos will take place at 9:15am, with individual photos, P1 & P7 class photos and a whole school group photo taking place afterwards throughout the day.

### **AFTER SCHOOLS CLUBS**

#### **Term 3 activities**

**Tuesday:** Gaelic Football Coaching with Mr McElroy and Derry GAA

**Tuesday & Thursday:** P6 Transfer Club

### **GUITAR LESSONS - SEPTEMBER 2017**

All P4 pupils have been tested for suitability of Guitar tuition and have been successful in this test. Notes of interest have been sent home with all P4 pupils. Can all notes be returned ASAP so the school can organise groups for September.

### **MULLINS ICE-CREAM VISIT**

A big thank you to Alison Chestnutt from Mullins Ice Cream who visited our KS2 class to inform the pupils about the production of ice-cream. It was a very informative presentation and one that the pupils really enjoyed.

We would also like to thank Mullins for their display stand which the pupils used for their Junior Entrepreneur Ice Cream Showcase Day.

### **PTA FUNDRAISER**

The Friends of Ballylifford PTA have organised an exciting fundraiser for the school called the 'Mini Egg Challenge'. Each Pupil will receive a tube of mini eggs for them to enjoy over Easter but please ensure they hold on to the tubes as they are going to be key in helping them raise funds for the school.

The details of the fundraiser are included in the fantastic poem created by our wonderful PTA. The poem is attached to the tube so make sure you have a good read of what's exactly involved.

There will be a prize for the pupil/family who raises the most money, so get collecting all those 50p, 20p & 10p coins. If any family or pupil fills their tube and wants to collect more, they can empty their filled tube into a jar in school and we will record the amount collected.

Good luck to all the pupils!

All filled tubes are to be returned by 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017

## **JUNIOR ENTREPRENEUR PROGRAMME** **2017**

Well done to all the KS2 pupils who successfully held their 'Crazily Cold Ice Cream' day which was part of their Junior Entrepreneur programme.

Special word of thanks to Mullins Ice Cream for helping the pupils source their ice cream and who also provided a display stall. Also a massive thank you to our local community shop 'McCrystal's' and especially Geraldine who helped the pupils source many products to ensure the event was a success.

The pupils were involved in various teams such as finance, marketing, communications, sales, design and production gaining experience of various roles, completing surveys, designing flyers and market research in preparation for the event.

The pupils really enjoyed the experience and it was the first time the school have been involved in this programme. It was an extremely worthwhile opportunity for all pupils who gained an invaluable insight into how a business works.



\*\*\*\*\*

## **DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR**

### **FIRST COMMUNION**

First Communion - Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May  
2017 at 11:00am

### **JUNE FUN DAY**

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2017 1pm to 4pm

\*\*\*\*\*

### **SCHOOL CLOSURES**

#### **BANK HOLIDAY**

School closed: Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May  
2017

#### **BANK HOLIDAY**

School closed: Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May  
2017

#### **STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**

School closed: Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2017

#### **OPTIONAL CLOSURE**

School closed: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017

\*\*\*\*\*

### **END OF YEAR SCHOOL TRIPS**

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June

Belfast Zoo - Foundation & KS1 pupils (P1 - P4)

Lagan Valley LeisurePlex - KS2 pupils (P5 - P7)

ALL trip details have been sent home with all pupils

\*\*\*\*\*

