



BALLYCLARE PRIMARY SCHOOL

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ISSUE: 17

THURSDAY 10th JANUARY, 2019.

TERM 2



<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ballyclareprimary/>



→→→ TOTAL RAISED SO FAR IS: £1338 ←←←

WELCOME BACK EVERYONE

On behalf of the Governors and staff we wish every blessing to our families and friends for 2019, and a warm welcome back after our Christmas break.

We've started Term 2 and a busy timetable lies ahead with many exciting things planned.

Please keep up to date with the events going on in school and all that you can be involved in as a family.

*Our Holiday List, sent to you in Term 3 last year, is on our school website. Please note dates of our next holiday in February and Easter Time.

As winter progresses, please ensure all pupils are prepared for the school day with appropriate coats, hats and gloves (named).

Reminder: Please ensure also that all uniform standards are in place. If you need any assistance with this, we are happy to help. Black school shoes must be worn by all pupils.

HELP US

As you know, we are a large school with a busy office. The ladies do their very best every day to help and assist all who come to the hatches. We have many callers and many phone calls to deal with each day - not to mention pupils and staff. Please note the following reminders that must be followed by parents and family members to help us run safely, efficiently and effectively each day. Thank you.

- Home arrangements must be made before pupils enter in the mornings. Please do not call the office to get messages sent to pupils through the school day. These can be forgotten or missed and therefore pupils could be at risk.
- Our office collects money from class teachers but it does not keep change/money on the premises. This is banked. Please do not give/seek money from the office staff as they do not have change to give you.
- Money for Breakfast Club/Toast at breaktime must be sent each day. P5-7 pupils often have large notes with them to buy toast. This can easily be lost. Do not send more than £1 for toast each day. Thank you to P1-3 for sending the correct money each day. This is very helpful.

JANUARY ASSESSMENTS

Our January Assessments will take place over the next couple of weeks to monitor the progress being made by our pupils, in class subject areas. Careful revision is hugely noticeable so please allocate some time to go over the areas identified by your child's class teacher. Results will be sent to you for discussions at February Parent Interviews.

Teachers will have sent home appropriate guidance for revision.

EXTENDED SCHOOL ACTIVITIES - Start date: Monday 21st January 2019

Our Extended Schools Timetable for Term 2 is currently being set up. This will also be on our website should you need to access it there. Activities start week commencing Monday 21st January 2019. The same method to make choices in P4-7 will take place next week.

P1 ENROLMENT

P1 places for next September 2019 will be allocated in the coming weeks. If you still have to apply online, please ensure this is done as soon as possible. Should you need any further assistance, please let us know. The official closing date is 31st January 2019.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS: Reminder

A Parents' Meeting, to elect Parent Governors, will take place on Tuesday 15th January at 7:30pm in our School Assembly Hall. All welcome.

HEALTHY EATING

We continue to encourage our Healthy Eating routine with our pupils each day for Break and Lunch-time. Thank you for supporting this as far as possible. A copy of the menu for the term ahead in our school canteen has been sent home to you. You will also find it on our school website this week. www.ballyclareps.co.uk

Our School Council will also be issuing a 'Wasteless Campaign' leaflet to all pupils in school this term. Please read over this with your child at home. We are encouraging all pupils to bring in less litter to school via packaging etc. Don't forget we have toast, milk and fruit available at breaktime.

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

Please read the attached leaflet from the Department of Education on the key features and outcomes of good and poor attendance. The information on how parents can help their child gain success, is clearly stated. It is a known fact that children who attend school each day, and who are well supported at home to display positive behaviour, are most likely to reach their full academic potential in school.

Not sending children to school is a form of **NEGLECT** and this must be followed up by authorities.

EARRINGS

The wearing of earrings in school is not permitted. Please ensure these are removed each morning. This is for safety reasons.

DATA FORMS

All parents who attended their Parent Teacher meeting in October will have reviewed the data form, with contact details on it, held in school. The changes made have been amended.

Please ensure you keep the school office informed of any further address or telephone changes. This is very important. Please note also that at least one contact person should be available on any school day, should an emergency arise. Text messages from school are sent to the first contact number.

MEDICATION

If your child requires use of an inhaler for asthma/chest problems, please ensure an up to date inhaler is deposited with the class teacher. Also if your child requires other medication anytime in school, please speak to the teacher.

All medication should be checked to ensure it is still in date.

Never send medication into school with a child. We have a procedure for this which safeguards all pupils. See Mr McAuley if you need help with this.

As always: If there is anything that concerns you in any way in school, please contact me via the school office or by e-mail if that is easier. I will always follow up any issues raised if I have your contact details.

Mrs Mulligan



MISS SCHOOL = MISS OUT

WHY ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL IS SO IMPORTANT

If a child of compulsory school age is registered at a school it is essential that they attend their school regularly and maintain a pattern of good attendance throughout their school career.

Excellent attendance at school is important to allow a child or young person to fulfil their potential.

Key Point

Young people who regularly miss school without good reason are more likely to become isolated from their friends, to underachieve in examinations and/or become involved in anti-social behaviour.

Below are just some of the key reasons why it is so important children attend school:

- To learn.
- To make new friends.
- To experience new things in life.
- To gain qualifications.
- To develop new skills.
- To build confidence and self-esteem.
- To have the best possible start in life.

CAN ATTENDANCE MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO EXAM RESULTS?

Greater than
95% Attendance



77% of pupils achieved at least 5 GCSEs including English and Maths when they attended more than 95%

77%

Less than
90% Attendance



43% of pupils achieved at least 5 GCSEs including English and Maths when they attended less than 90%

43%

Less than
80% Attendance



32% of pupils achieved at least 5 GCSEs including English and Maths when they attended less than 80%

32%

HOW PARENTS CAN HELP

- Establish a good routine in the mornings and evenings so your child is prepared for the school day ahead.
- Make sure your child goes to school regularly and follows the school rules.
- Ensure your child arrives at school on time - not late.
- Arrange dental and medical appointments outside school hours when possible.
- Always inform the school if your child is absent due to illness - this should be followed up with a written note when your child returns to school.
- If your child is not attending school as you expect they may be putting themselves at risk - Who are they with? What are they doing?
- Do not take family holidays during term time.
- Talk to your child about school and take an interest in their school work (including homeworks).
- Attend parents evenings and school events.
- Praise and reward your child's achievements at school.
- Always support school staff in their efforts to control difficult or challenging behaviour.

Key Point

Parents of children aged 4-16 who are enrolled in school are legally required to make sure they attend.

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS

Every single day a child is absent from school equates to a day of lost learning.

100% Attendance	0 Days Missed
95% Attendance	9 Days of Absence 1 Week and 4 Days of Learning Missed
90% Attendance	19 Days of Absence 3 Weeks and 4 Days of Learning Missed
85% Attendance	28 Days of Absence 5 Weeks and 3 Days of Learning Missed