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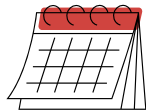
WEBSITE: www.ballykeelps.org.uk

CHILD PROTECTION -

Designated Teacher: Mrs J Thompson (P6)

Deputy Designated Teachers: Mrs J Thompson (P2),
Mrs McGuckin

Ballykeel Bulletin - 5th Feb 2024



Dates For The Diary

- **Monday 5th to Thursday 8th February**
– Parent/Teacher Interviews. **School closes early all week:**
NURSERY – P3: 1pm P.4– P7: 1.15pm.
- **Tuesday 6th February** – Safer Internet Day.
- **Friday 9th and Monday 12th February**
school closed for staff training.
- **Tuesday 13th to Friday 16th February**
school closed for the mid-term break.
- **w/b 19th February** - Online Safety Week.

Online Safety Top Tip



A healthy balance is important when it comes to spending time online. Do you ever find it hard to switch off from a game, app or website? The reason is that technology companies use a technique called "persuasive design". This means they design apps and games in a way to persuade you to stay on them for longer e.g. pop-ups and autoplay. It is important to remember to take regular breaks from your devices. Don't forget about all the other fun activities you can do offline.



Parent Coffee Morning

Our parent coffee morning took the form of a boxing session led by Ballykeel Community Boxing. A lot of fun and laughter was shared and any calories lost were quickly replaced with coffee and treats in the staffroom.



Pupils of the Month

P1KC - Antoni	P4AT - Emily
P1KH - Heidi	P5MA - Harry McA
P2JT - Zakaria	P5LM - Ryan
P2AM - Isla R	P6JDT - Sophia C
P3CM - William	P6BE - Charlie S
P3CMC - Alexa	P7SG - Zack
P4LK - Terryn	P7JH - Sophie

Attendance: P2JT Uniform: P5LM
Playground Awards: P1-P4 - P3CM
P5 -P7 - P6JDT
Accelerated Reader: P4/5 - P4LK
P6/7 - P6JDT



Congratulations to Jake in P4 who has come through a long and arduous journey with an aggressive form of cancer called T Cell Lymphoblastic Lymphoma. For 3 ½ years Jake has been undergoing several different types of intense chemotherapy and had many severe side effects such as sickness, loss of hair, loss of muscle strength and as a result of this, had to learn to walk again. Finally on 10th January, Jake rang the bell to signify that he is now cancer free! Thank you to everyone for all of your support!

Power Hour

A new group of P2 children

have joined this club focusing on mindfulness and the mental health and well-being of the children by taking part in indoor and outdoor games, discussions and teamwork games, as well as learning and developing new skills in Literacy, Numeracy, arts and crafts.



Snow White Pantomime

As usual this was a musical extravaganza with sparkly costumes, great acting and hilarious jokes – even some about the teachers. P6T were so proud of our very own Tobias, who was a star on stage as he sang a tongue twisting song about a ‘Smart Fella’ with May McFetridge.



Football

4 teams met to challenge for the BPSFA 7 a side Shield:

After two very tight matches, Ballykeel came away with the Shield. Team: Reuben (GK), Johnathan, Maxwell (Captain), Izak, Callum, Calum, Zach, Zack, Bertie, Calvin. Final score Ballykeel 2-1 Camphill



Hockey



9 boys from P5-P7 made school history when they competed as the first ever Ballykeel PS boys’ hockey team. The boys played at the Ulster Hockey Blitz with the team consisted of Jamie @, Teejay, Dylan, Johnathan, Troy, Daniel, Alex, Noah and Ruben. Goal scorer was Daniel. It was the girls turn the next day and they too did an amazing job, The goal scorers were Macy, Layla, Annie and Katie. The team consisted of Layla, Devon, Emili, Katie, Sophia, Macy, Annie and Faith.



Art Club

Everyone is enjoying making new friends and learning lots of new skills too! This week they were learning how to create a Winter tree scene, using special brush techniques and icy colours to create a really effective piece!



Cookery Club

We have tried a few easy dishes that the children should be able to make for themselves at home with minimum support from parents. These include Rice Krispie buns and Top Hats, mini pizzas, filled baked potatoes, toasties.



Scripture Union

In Scripture Union! P4-P7 are looking at the popular stories of the Bible using the song ‘All Through History’ by Nick and Becky Drake.



Prayer Space with Eve (SUNI):

P1-P7 classes attended a 'Prayer Space' organised by Scripture Union NI (SUNI) in January. Eve McMullan and her group of trained volunteers welcomed the children and guided them around the different stations in the room. The atmosphere in the room was warm, inviting and peaceful, with twinkling lights and soothing music. The activities were interactive and engaging, encouraging the children to reflect on important themes such as friendship, being brave, big hopes and dreams, people around the world, people who inspire us and more.

