



World Book Day

This year we decided to mark World Book Day with various events all week. Class teachers gave extra time for reading throughout the school day. Nursery to P3 enjoyed storytelling from teachers in our Book Nook area. P4-P7 were given strategies on how best to choose a book, learning about book genres and visited our very own Ballykeel Book Bistro to put their skills into action. Along with MEA council the children participated in Vote your Favourite author poll. Homework was cancelled and children were instead asked to design a book cover. The highlight of the week was 'The Masked Reader'. We watched the teachers in disguise giving clues and tried to guess who each character was. We hope you had lots of fun watching these at home too. Above all it has been our aim to develop a love of reading that will be a lifelong passion for our children.



To conclude World Book Week celebrations, we had a special visit from the children's author Tim Bailie. Tim read his new book to us, entitled 'The Proud Parakeet'. His book is bright and colourful and contains a beautiful message about how we are all special and unique. Many children purchased a signed copy of Tim's new book and were delighted to meet the author himself.

Netball

Many schools from across the Ballymena area were represented at the netball



tournament. Our girls played with energy and enthusiasm, demonstrating a level of teamwork that we were very proud of. They won 3 matches and lost 2.



Thrive Hive - Plant & Stay

The children along with their parents, had great fun sowing lots of seeds. The polytunnel was a hub of busy activity with many different seeds sown including Petunia, Lobelia, and Morning Glory.



Hockey

The boys and girls hockey teams competed in the Pearson/McCloy Cup qualifier. The



boys played well and drew against Kells and Connor losing 1 nil in their other 3 matches. The girls also had a great day winning their matches against The Diamond and Carniny PS. Katie scored the winners in both of these matches. The girls drew against Antrim PS and lost 1 nil to Broughshane. Well done to all the players!

Football

Ballykeel took part in the annual BPSFA 5-a-side tournament featuring 18 schools. The team pushed right through to the final where they were narrowly beaten by Groggan in Extra Time. We returned to school



with a hard-earned runners-up shield. A huge well done to everyone who took part. Team: Tommy (GK), Johnathan, Maxwell (Captain), Izak, Callum, Bertie, Charlie