



A happy place to have fun learning!

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Term 2 Issue #5 (24.02.23)

An update from the Eco Team

This week the Eco Team have been thinking about ways to save energy. They will be checking up on our energy consumption in school to see if we can make savings and will be sending home a checklist next week to help you consider how energy efficient your house is. The checklist will give you some simple ways to save a few pounds on the electricity bills.

PFA update

The next event planned by the PFA will be a family Bingo night. This was great fun the last time we ran it and was enjoyed by all. The Bingo night will be on Friday 10th March and we hope you will join us for some family fun. Look out for tickets coming soon.

The PFA will also hold a Mother's Day sale on 10th March in the hall from 2pm-4pm. This was a sell out last year with lots of beautiful gifts snapped up quickly. Don't miss out on the great value gifts.

Learning from Estonia

One of the things that struck me as I visited schools in Estonia was the strong focus on the arts. Artwork was displayed all around the school not unlike we have with our Artsweek displays. But music was also at the heart of the school. We were greeted by school choirs and saw a number of music lessons. To share in this good practice, we have had a focus on music in a number of ways starting with the formation of the VPS school choir (led by Mrs Murray). The choir has already been on a peninsula tour with our friends from St. Mary's and are sure to have more fun activities ahead. This term we will also be having a focus on music and each class will be learning a tuned instrument as part of their music lessons. We will share some videos once we have had a chance to practise!!!

World Book Day plans

We will be celebrating world book day on Thursday 2nd March. This year our celebrations we will be doing a wide variety of reading activities during the day. This will encourage reading for a purpose as well as reading for enjoyment and will help to show the children that reading can be fun and not a chore!

Wellbeing garden update

Mrs Atcheson has been busy this week as the ground at the back of the school is finally dry enough to work with. A large delivery of bark was received to get the surface down for one area and the children have been a great help to shovel the bark into place. Picnic tables are in place and some of the equipment is ready. We can't wait to see it finished and in use.

A Nurturing school

As you know, we have received funding from our community groups to provide free toast and milk for breakfast for the children. We are now on the lookout for a volunteer to help make the toast in the morning. We just need someone who could offer to help on a Wednesday morning from 8.15am-8.45am. If you can help, please contact Mrs Porter in the office.

A Warm Space

Our warm space is now up and running every Thursday. This is open to all adults in the Ballyhalbert area. As we don't have a coffee stop in the village we hoped that this might become a social spot putting the school at the heart of the community. If you know anyone who would like to get out of the house for a couple of hours for some company and a free coffee, please share the word.



Parent Appointments – advance notice!

School will close early on Monday 6th – Weds 8th March to enable parent teacher appointments to take place. More details to follow.

Coming up.

27th Feb – P7 free trip to Mount Stewart
28th Feb – Sustrans: Dr Bike. P3/4/5 shared ed trip.
2nd Mar – World Book Day
3rd Mar – P7 BeeSafe trip
6th-8th Mar – Parent Teacher appointments
8th Mar – P4/5 class assembly
10th Mar – BINGO night (PFA) / Mother's Day sale
17th Mar – No Dinners available due to St. Patricks day

