



Phone (028 427 58350)

Website: www.victoriapsballyhalbert.co.uk

Summer Term week 1

What a great start to the summer term. It was lovely to see so many parents and friends attend the Spring Festival on Friday. For those of you who couldn't make it, the photographs and videos will be on the website shortly.

We have a busy term ahead with lots of fun activities planned and, fingers crossed, we will be able to get outside more often to make the most of our equipment and school grounds.

Assessments

During the months of April and May, we will be carrying out our end of year assessments so please try to make sure the children are in school every day so that they do not miss out. These tests provide valuable information about what your child needs to cover next in the curriculum, identify any gaps in their learning and support teachers planning to ensure that lessons are pitched at the right level for your child. They can also be used during transfer by post primary schools, so it is important that we have scores for all children. Due to tight timetabling, it is not always possible for a child to resit the test if it has been missed so every day really does matter.

Sports

The Summer term has a sporting focus, and we have plenty of activities planned. Cycling proficiency will start for the P7 class and we have entered teams for both the Glastry tournament and the Portavogie tournament. Our Healthy week will be held as usual after the bank holiday at the end of May. This includes Sports Day, House Team fitness challenges and a House Team Rounders tournament for children in P4-P7. These could prove to be very valuable activities for the more competitive amongst us who are trying to boost their house team scores to win the extra team trip to a place of their choosing.

School trip to Dublin

On the subject of school trips, the Key Stage 2 residential trip to Dublin will take place from 21st – 23rd May. Mrs McClure, Mrs Harris and Mrs Weir will be responsible for the 'away team' and a meeting will take place in the coming weeks for parents of pupils who are going on the trip. The Key stage 2 children who are not attending will remain in school as one class with Miss Mawhinney who will plan some fun activities for them to work on together. Mrs Atcheson will cover Mrs Harris in Rainbow class and Mr Leyshon will cover Mrs McClure in Orange class. Yellow and Green classes will remain with Mr Wilcox and Mrs Patterson. We will be starting the induction programme for our new P1 parents and pupils in June and they will be notified of the plans once their places have been confirmed at the end of this month.

Future enrolment

We are currently updating our database for future enrolment. If you know any little ones who would like to join our school in September 2025, please pass their details in at the office so we can start planning for their induction too.

Summer Show

The Key Stage 2 pupils are starting to put together an end of year show for us and have chosen 'What's the Crime, Mr Wolf?' This was the show that had been prepared in 2019 but was never performed due to the Covid closure. Let's hope that doesn't happen this year!!

School office

Thank you to all of you who have been so understanding while we have been covering office duties. It is a team effort as we have had to split the duties amongst a number of members of staff. The Board of Governors have managed to successfully appoint a new clerical officer who is currently going through all the necessary preemployment checks. She has a notice period to work in her current job and it will therefore be another month before she can start with us, providing all checks are successful. We are hoping that she will start with us at the end of May and will keep you updated nearer the time. In the meantime, please do continue to bear with us. Please make use of the answerphone service if your call is not answered straight away, or contact us by email on the school info account and someone will get back to you. Your support is vital to our success.

House Team Scores

331

323

Sunshine: Fire: Earth: Water:



18th April – cycling proficiency begins P7 w/b 22nd April – PASS assessments w/b 29th April – CATs assessments w/b 6th May – PTE assessments w/b 13th May – PTM assessments 13th May – Glastry tournament 15th May – Glastry tournament 20th May – Walk to school week 21st May – School trip to Dublin 24th May – school closed for half term break for pupils