



Ballyvester Primary School

www.ballyvesterps.org.uk

Newsletter – October 2021

School Fund 2021-2022

Thank you to everyone who has sent a donation to our school fund. This money is used to benefit **every** child in the school and to help subsidise small resources and subscriptions. Please forward payment via the school app if you have not already contributed. Thank you.

October Parent-Teacher Meetings

We are grateful for your support in working alongside us to encourage your child with their learning. In order to update you on your child's progress to date we are arranging parent-teacher meetings. You will appreciate that due to Covid-19, we are unable to have face-to-face meetings this term. Instead, teachers will contact you to have a ten-minute meeting by telephone. These will take place on the afternoons of **Mon 18th – Thurs 21st October 2021**.

Details are as follows:

- School will finish after lunch at 1.00pm for ALL pupils on these days
- Staggered pick up: Families with surnames A-L – 12.50pm
Families with surnames M-Z – 1.00pm
- Your child's class teacher will send you a message on Seesaw detailing your date and time slot for your meeting by Wednesday 6th October 2021.
- **Please reply to this message detailing which parent to contact and the telephone number to use by Friday 8th October 2021.**
- When the class teacher rings, NO CALLER ID will appear on your phone.
- Similar to face to face meetings, you will appreciate that the meeting may not commence at the exact time allotted.

Harvest Collection – 15th October 2021

We are supporting our local **Foodbank at Shore Street Presbyterian Church** as part of our charity work this year. The Foodbank is designed to help individuals and families in crisis, through the provision of emergency food supplies. We have enquired about items that are currently low in stock and have been given the following list:

- Tinned meals (e.g. chicken curry, chilli con carne, spaghetti etc.)
- Tinned fruit and vegetables
- Snack meals e.g. savoury rice, pasta in sauce, noodles etc.
- Cooking oil
- Coffee
- Toiletries (shampoo, shower gel, deodorant, toilet roll)

We will be collecting these non-perishable items in the cloakroom areas week beginning 11th October 2021. All contributions, however small, will be much appreciated. Our donations will be collected on Friday 15th October 2021 by volunteers from the Foodbank. Thank you for your support and kindness.

Year 1

Our Year 1 pupils will be staying in school until 2.00pm every day starting Monday 4th October 2021. Please send a healthy packed lunch or order school meals on the app (see instructions on page 2). To avoid congestion at the school gate, staggered pick-up times are in place (families with surnames A-L 1.50pm & families with surnames M-Z 2.00pm).

School Meals

Please ensure that meals are booked and paid for through our school app before 9.00a.m. on Mondays. Meals should be ordered for the week ahead (or month ahead if possible).

Please be aware that meals booked after 9.00am on Mondays will not be picked up later in the week and your child will not receive a meal.

To book and pay for Meals on the school app: Select Booking from the main menu and then Dinner Payments. Complete the booking form.

Coats

Please ensure your child wears a coat to school every day as they play outside at break and lunch times and take part in the daily mile.

Staggered Drop off and Pick up times

Thank you for your co-operation with our staggered drop off and pick up arrangements.

PLEASE PRACTISE SOCIAL DISTANCING WHEN WAITING ON THE FOOTPATH OR NEAR THE SIDE GATE. A reminder of the times is outlined below:

Whole school drop off times (Monday – Friday)

8.45am drop off - pupils with surnames: A-L

8.55am drop off – pupils with surnames: M-Z

Pick up times (Monday – Thursday)

Year 1 - Year 3 pupils attend 9.00am-2.00pm

1.50pm pick-up – pupils with surnames: A-L

2.00pm pick-up – pupils with surnames: M-Z

Year 4 - Year 7 pupils attend school 9.00 – 3.00pm

2.50pm pick-up – pupils with surnames: A-L

3.00pm pick-up – pupils with surnames: M-Z

Friday pick up times

School will finish at 2.00pm for ALL pupils on Friday

1.50pm pick-up – pupils with surnames: A-L

2.00pm pick-up – pupils with surnames: M-Z

Dates for your diary:

Monday 4th October: Year 1 pupils stay in school until 2.00p.m.

Friday 15th October: Harvest Collection for the Donaghadee Foodbank

Mon 18th – Thu 21st October: Parent-Teacher Meetings via telephone

Friday 22nd October: School closes at 2.00p.m. for Half Term Holidays

Tuesday 2nd November: School re-opens for all pupils at 8.45a.m.

K. Hunter

4th October 2021