



Ballydown Times

January Newsletter 2024

Mr Murphy's Blog

January has been a long and busy month and lots has happened since our return after Christmas. We are looking forward to the start of spring and brighter days ahead.

Stars of the Month

Our winners this month have been selected for super mental maths skills.



Nursery Bertie England, P1G Oliver Thompson, P1R Arthur Matson, P2 Noah Mooney, P2/3 Harris Magowan, P3 Teddy Ryan, P4 Nathaniel Dobbin, P4/5 Harper Ryan, P5 Joey Hamilton, P6 Anna Henry, P6/7 Harry Jelly, P7 Aaron Wright.

Special award for pupil displaying excellent manners and behaviour: Nursery Nell McEvoy, P1G George Fox, P1R Jessica Andrews, P2 Sophia Focsenanu, P2/3 Harry Chambers, P3 Albie Matson, P4 Thea McFadden, P4/5 Clara Matson, P5 Rachel Glass, P6 Seth Bell, P6/7 Jade McClements, P7 Grace Ferris.

Class of the Month for Best Line-Up- P3 Mrs Irvine

Chinese New Year

P4 and P5 have been celebrating Chinese New Year of the Dragon. Their Mandarin teacher, Rui, has been teaching them all about the celebration and Chinese customs. They will be attending a celebration event at Banbridge Academy.

SEAG Results

SEAG transfer test results were issued last weekend. Well done on lots of fantastic results for Ballydown. We know that each child worked so hard and gave of their best. We are very proud of each of them. Online applications for post-primary are open until **Thursday 22nd February @12 noon**. Please contact us if you have any questions or

YOUR GRADES DO NOT
AND NEVER WILL
DEFINE YOUR WORTH.

wish to seek advice. Parent/teacher for P7 transfer will take place next week, 6th and 7th Feb.

Hockey

Our boys and girls hockey team took part in the Ulster Hockey Blitz at Armagh Hockey Club this week. Both teams played really well and had some good wins. They are looking forward to the qualifiers later in February.

Cross Country

Our Cross-Country Team took part in The Flahavan's round 3 at The Palace Stables, Armagh. They put in some great performances, with the boys team finishing in 3rd place.



Burns Assembly

Our P7 pupils entertained us with a fantastic Burns Assembly. We were entertained with music, poetry, dancing in the style of a traditional Burn's Supper! The P7 children enjoyed sampling some of Mr Russell's haggis afterwards-yum, yum! We were delighted to have been joined by so many P7 parents and grandparents for this celebration of our Ulster-Scots heritage.



Nursery/P1 Applications

On-line nursery and P1 admissions closed 26th January. Thank you for getting all forms completed successfully!!!

Half Term

Half term break -no school Monday 12th- Friday 16th February. Enjoy your well-earned break. Friday 9th will be non-uniform £1 per child to donate to NI Air Ambulance. Red Day- children can wear lots of red.

First Aid

Our P7 children have begun a 6-week basic first aid course. This is an excellent course teaching them these essential life skills. Thank you to our trainer (and grandparent), Mr Alan Graham, for volunteering his expertise and time.





Diary Dates:

Mon 12th - Friday 16th Feb

Half Term (1 week)

Fri 8th March

Ballydown celebrates World Book Day

Mon 26th-Wed 29th Feb

Nursery-P6 Parent-Teacher Interviews (early finish from 1.15pm)

Wed 13th March

Spring Concert KS2 9.30am & 6.30pm

Mon 18th March

School Closed for St Patrick's Day

Wed 20th March

School individual photos



EDUCATION IS FOR
IMPROVING THE LIVES OF
OTHERS AND FOR LEAVING
YOUR COMMUNITY AND WORLD
BETTER THAN YOU FOUND IT.

-Marian Wright Edelman

@weareteachers