



# **Ballydown Times**

## **January Newsletter 2023**

### **Mr Murphy's Blog**

January has been a busy month and lots has happened since our return after Christmas. Our sports teams have been delighted to get out to competitions.

### **Stars of the Month**

Our winners this month have been selected for displaying excellent manners and politeness. We are very blessed in Ballydown to have so many wonderfully behaved children, who are great examples to each other and the community.



Nursery Imogen Dalzell, P1G Charlie McGovern, P1R Adam Kirkland, P2 Zach Gibson, P2/3 Lily Bell, P3 Charlie Jelly, P4 Lily Smyth, P4/5 Josie-rose Hawthorne, P5 Will McCandless, P6 Alex Ucar, P6/7 Bella Derby, P7 Bethany McKinstry

**Class of the Month for Best Line-Up- P4 Mrs Glass**

### **Chinese New Year**

P4 and P5 have been celebrating Chinese New Year of the Rabbit. Their Mandarin teacher has been teaching them all about the celebration and Chinese customs.

### **AQE/GL Results**

AGE/GL results will be issued this weekend. Best wishes to our P7 pupils awaiting results. We know they have all worked hard and tried their best, which is the most important thing. Online applications for post-primary are open until **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**. Please contact us if you have any questions or wish to seek advice. Parent/teacher for P7 transfer will take place next, following the issuing of results.

### **Football**

Our football team competed at the Evo Soccer School tournament 26<sup>th</sup> January. We are delighted to say they were runners up in

their section of the tournament. Well done team Ballydown.

### **Hockey**

Our boys and girls hockey team took part in the Ulster Hockey Blitz in Newry last week. Both teams played really well and are looking forward to the qualifiers later in February.

### **Cross Country**

Our Cross-Country Team have been training for The Flahavan's round 3 this Friday at The Palace Stables, Armagh. They will be hoping to qualify for the finals at the end of February.



### **Burn's Assembly**

Our P7 pupils entertained us with a fantastic Burn's Assembly. We were entertained with music, poetry, dancing in the style of a traditional Burn's Supper! The P7 children and parents enjoyed sampling some of Mr Russell's haggis, tatties



and neeps afterwards-yum, yum! We were delighted to have been joined by The Lord Mayor, Paul Greenfield, Lady Dodds and some local MLAs and councillors for this celebration of our Ulster-Scots heritage.

### **Table Tennis Team Championships**

Our P6 and P7 teams took part in the Championships on 12<sup>th</sup> January. The boys and girls teams both won gold and silver in each section.



The winning boys and girls team have now both qualified for the All-Ireland Finals later this year, in Dublin.

### **Nursery/P1 Applications**

On-line nursery and P1 admissions closed 27<sup>th</sup> January. Thank you for getting all forms completed successfully!!!

### **Half Term**

Half term break -no school Monday 13<sup>th</sup>- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February. Enjoy your well-earned break. Friday 10<sup>th</sup> will be non-uniform £1 per



child to raise funds for PTA and Autism NI.  
Red Day- children can wear something red or  
a superhero costume (in support of Autism  
NI).



### Diary Dates:

Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Half Term (1 week)
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Ballydown celebrates World Book Day
Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> -Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Nursery-P6 Parent-Teacher Interviews (early finish from 1.15pm)
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Spring Concert KS2 9.30am & 6.30pm
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	School Closed for St Patrick's Day
Tues. 21 <sup>st</sup> March	School individual photos