



Ballydown Times

April Newsletter 2026

Mr Murphy's Blog

The school year is going so quickly. Hard to believe we are into May already. April was a short month with Easter holidays, but still lots happened.

Pupils of the Month

Our April winners for **great artwork** were: Nursery



Jack Boyes, P1D Oliver Scott P1R Amber Moffett, P2 Margaux Fairbairn, Beth Dowds, P2/3 Annie Truesdale, James McConigle, P3 Jesse Porter, P4 Henry Wynd, P4/5 Eily McGrath, P5 Meah Fisher, Albie Matson, P6 Lennex Savage, P6/7 Adriana Billingsley, P7 Lily Smith

Special Award Winners: Nursery Wyatt Mitchell, P1R Isaac MacRoberts, P1D Zoe Dowds, P2 Luke Anketel, P2/3 Anna Herriot, P3 Amalie McCall, P4 Grace Jelly, P4/5 Adam Kirkland, P5 Amelie Withers, P6 Thea McFadden, P6/7 Harper Ryan, P7 Heidi McMullan. Well done to all our winners.

Best line trophy award went to the Nursery.

Hockey

Our Girls team had a very successful tournament at The Ulster Hockey McCloy Cup Finals, which was held at Stormont on 14th April.



The girls had a great day, coming home as winners of the plate section. A super achievement girls.

The boys team also qualified for the Ulster Hockey Pearson Cup finals held on 16th April. They had a great day and played some excellent hockey, unfortunately getting knocked out in the semi-finals.

It was a very busy hockey month as we also had four teams take part in the Banbridge hockey finals. A great day at Havelock with

lots of hockey played by our 4 teams. The boys came home as winners of the plate section- well done.

Huge thanks must go to our parent coaches from Banbridge Hockey club who have coached our hockey teams all year. We so appreciate your time and commitment to the teams.

P7 London Trip

Our P7 children enjoyed a fantastic, fun-filled, action-packed trip to London. They visited the Tower of London, went Bowling, Madame



Tussauds, Hamleys, watched Matilda in the West End, had a tour of The Houses of Parliament, Westminster, Buckingham Palace, The London Eye, Windsor Castle and much more. Such a wonderful experience for our P7 pupils and so many memories created! The weather was beautiful all week, with lots of sunshine. A BIG Thank you to Mr Russell for organising the trip and to Mrs Blair, Mrs Glass, Mr Glass, Mrs Thom and Mrs Hetherington for giving of their time and enthusiasm to attend. A lot of tired but very happy children and teachers arrived home safely after all their adventures.

We had so many lovely comments from the general public about the lovely manners and behaviour of our children- thank you boys and girls.

Table Tennis

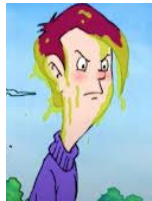


Our table tennis team took part in the Individual Championships, held this week at Craigavon Leisure Centre. The 8 boys played very well. Abel Quigley and Patrick Burns brought home bronze medals.



Ballydown PTA Colour Run

The PTA colour run was a huge success! The children had so much fun and thoroughly enjoyed! The highlight of course was getting to gunge Mr Murphy and Mr Russell!!!! Thank you so much for supporting our event and to our hard-working PTA members and helpers. Remember to get your sponsor money in for Friday 8th May. Next event is Ballydown does Balmoral 4th June.



Football

Our P5/6 Football team took part in the Drumadonnell football tournament. The team had a great morning playing football in the sunshine.

Swimming

Harley Irvine represented school at the finals of the Swim Ireland competition held in Dublin. We are very proud to announce that Harley finished 3rd in the 50m butterfly competition. A great achievement.

Diary Dates:

Mon 4 th May	SCHOOL CLOSED BANK HOLIDAY
Tues 5 th May	SDD2 NO SCHOOL
Fri 8 th May	Nursery Sports Day
Mon 11 th - 12 th May	Assessments
Mon 18 th -21 st	Assessment week
Mon 25 th -26 th May	SCHOOL CLOSED BANK HOLIDAY & SDD
Thurs 28 th	Science Roadshow
Friday 29 th May	Sports Day (weather permitting)
Mon 1 st & Tues 2 nd June	New P1 intake afternoons
Tues 2 nd June	P2/3 Trip Fort Evergreen
Tues 2 nd June	Nursery, P1 & P7 only class photos, Sports Teams & P7 Friendship groups
Wed 3 rd June	New nursery intake afternoon
Wed 3 rd June	P5 East Coast Adventure Trip
Thurs 4 th June	PTA Ballydown Does Balmoral
Thurs 4 th June	P1 Trip Mount Panther
Wed 17 th & Thurs 18 th June	P7 Play
Mon 22nd June	P7 Boat Party TBC
Wed 24th June	P7 Leavers' Assembly
Thurs 25 th June	Nursery graduation





