

## **January 2024 Newsletter**

### **Ballina Primary School**

#### **School Admissions 2024/25:**

The school is currently accepting applications for admissions into Junior Infants 2024/2025. Forms are available from the School Office and from the school website under the Admissions tab. It is the parent(s)/guardian(s) responsibility to ensure they receive and return the Enrolment Application Form by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> of February at 2pm. The completion and submission of an Application Form, or the placement of your child's name on a list, however early, does not confer an automatic right of place in the school. We will follow the Admissions Policy and the Annual Admission Notice 2024/25 which are available on the school website.

#### **February Closures:**

The school will be closed on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> of February as it is a bank holiday.

The school will be closed for Mid Term Break on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday 16<sup>th</sup> of February inclusive.

#### **Parent Teacher Meetings:**

Junior Infants and Múinteoir David's (Rang 5) parent teacher meetings will take place from the 29<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> of January inclusive and times can be booked by parents through the Aladdin App.

#### **Confirmation Enrolment Meeting and Mass:**

The Confirmation Enrolment meetings for parents will take place on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> of January in Our Lady and St. Lua Church, Ballina at 7pm. Parents may decide which evening to attend. The enrolment mass for pupils making Confirmation will take place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> of February at 6:30pm in the church.

#### **Catholic Schools Week:**

Catholic Schools Week is taking place across Ireland from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> of January. The theme for the week is "Catholic Schools as Communities of Service". Christian service puts faith into action. In Catholic schools, as we study and look to Jesus Christ as our role model and teacher, we come to a greater understanding of the depth of Christian service. Jesus served every person regardless of creed, background, faith, social status or age.

As in previous years each teacher will include work based on the following daily themes during that week:

- Monday: Service in Our Community of Friends
- Tuesday: Service in our School Community
- Wednesday: Service in our Family Community
- Thursday: Service in our Local Community
- Friday: Service in our Faith Community

**Grandparents' Day** will take place in the school hall for grandparents of pupils in Rang 2 on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> of January at 1:30pm. Class teachers will provide more details in the coming weeks via Aladdin.

### **Student Council News:**

The Student Council were busy in the run up to Christmas. We have started supervising classes on the yard in the mornings. We organised food baskets for Eddie O' Gorman so many thanks to everyone who brought in items for the people in need in our community. Members of the Student Council read Christmas books to the junior classes and everyone enjoyed it. We are excited to hear any new ideas/ suggestions for this term.

### **Green Schools News:**

Thank you to everybody who took part in the Green Schools Christmas Decoration Competition. The entries were amazing this year and well done on all your hard work. If you want to see all the entries just check them out on the school website under Green Schools.

Our winners were as follows;

- Junior Infants: Cillian O' Looney and Olive O' Rourke.
- Senior Infants: Dylan Mudd and Jamie Long.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Class: Rian O' Connell and Darragh Carroll.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Class: Jimmy Geaney and Lyra Power.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Class: Donnacha Houlihan, Lucy O' Sullivan and Avalene. Murrell.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Class: Kate Woulfe and Fiadh Hogan.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Class: Daniel O' Connor.
- 6<sup>th</sup> Class: Rosie O' Donovan and Sam Eldridge.

And the overall winning entry for the whole school was created by Liliana and Oscar O' Connor.

### **Peace Proms:**

The very best of luck to the pupils and teachers of Rang 4 who will take part in the Peace Proms Concert in the University Concert Hall on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> of January.

### **Gymnastics:**

Gymnastics with Rody Kennedy will continue every Wednesday in January for Rang 1, Rang 2, Senior Infants and Rang 4. Pupils wear a school tracksuit for gymnastics.

Zumba, Fundamental Movements with Cian Donnelly and Yoga will take place on various dates for pupils during this term on Fridays.

### **Reminders:**

- **Office Opening Hours:** Monday- Friday 9am-10:45am, 11:00am-12:00pm, 12:30pm-2:40pm.
- **Allergies:** Some pupils in school have a **severe nut allergy**, therefore in the interest of health and safety no nuts or any products containing any traces of nut will be allowed in the school. Please check all lunch boxes. Thank you for your co-operation and your continued support and vigilance on this matter for the safety of everyone.
- **Medical Needs:** If your child has medical needs/ issues the school needs to be aware of this. Please contact the office to set up an appointment to discuss a medical care needs plan (eg asthma, diabetes, epilepsy). Parents are reminded to update the school of any changes to current medical care plans.