



# Ampertaine Primary School Newsletter



Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Recent Newsletters are available online at [ampertaineps.co.uk/parents/newsletters](http://ampertaineps.co.uk/parents/newsletters)



PLEASE KEEP CHECKING OUR WEB SITE FOR LATEST PICTURES AND DATES OF EVENTS

## **BREAKFAST CLUB IS A MASSIVE SUCCESS- WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!**

**FREE Breakfast Club (8 – 8:40am)** All pupils **MUST** be in school by 8:20  
Our attendance at breakfast club ranges from 42 to 52 each morning!



## **WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO KEEP OUR CLUB FREE**

Thank you so much to our parental helpers. Our club would not be operational without the parental support each morning.

Thank you also to those who have donated food for our club. We are gladly accepting the following items

- **Apple Juice**
- **Orange Juice**
- **Money! At the moment our club is costing £24 a week.**

Pupils are offered juice (apple or orange), toast and a choice of cereal. We are currently receiving free cereal from a community group. The Club is a great opportunity for our pupils to mix and socialise with each other before they start their busy day

## **School Attendance**

Regular school attendance is vital for every child within our school. Missed lessons mean missed opportunities to have full access to the curriculum. If your child is absent from school, please ensure that you send a written explanation on your child's return to school. We would have concerns if your child's attendance falls below 87%.

Those with an attendance between 85-87% will receive a note to allow awareness and encourage improvement.

Those below 85% will be invited to school to have a conversation on how best to increase their child's attendance.

By law we must inform the Educational Welfare Officer if their attendance is 85% or below. Attendance will be continuously monitored throughout the school year.

We appreciate all your support in this important matter and thank you for encouraging your child to always attend.

## **Attendance Matters**



## **HOPE FOR YOUTH MINISTRIES WITH COLIN TINSLEY**



It was fantastic to have Colin Tinsley back with us for 4 sessions this week. The children really love Colin's enthusiasm and talent for telling Bible stories, leading worship songs, teaching memory verses from the Bible and his fabulous quizzes about the stories.

He also showed us videos of him including a video about his Bible camps at Tollymore Forest near Newcastle, Co. Down which he organises each July. He told us that information about these camps and how you can apply to go on them will be live on his **Hope for Youth Ministries** website on the first Saturday after Easter. Older children can attend these, or families can attend together.

On Thursday he was presented with a gift and thank you card from Reuben and Kayleigh in P7 to express our thanks on behalf of everyone at Ampertaine. We really enjoyed our visit from Colin as always. We can't wait until his next visit.

### **News from our Pupils**



Dylan had his first training session with the NI Taekwondo Squad last Sunday. It was a tough session but he loved it!!

He was able to learn lots from his new coaches.

Dylan is hoping that it will improve his skills and he will get to represent NI very soon!

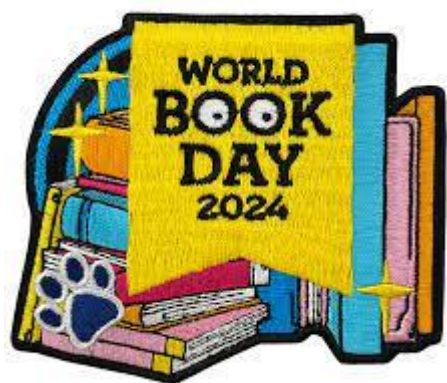
Well Done Dylan!



The Goodwin family have an extra mouth to feed!!!! They have welcomed an amazing new member into their household. Sophie explains. "This is our pet tortoise 🐢 called Edgar .He weights 12 pounds". They have been taking great care of Edgar and are really enjoying looking after him. Their talented Dad even made a new home for Edgar!



## World Book Day Event – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March!



This year, we plan to hold a **'Book Character Day'** on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March.

Children should come to school dressed as a character from a book (not a TV programme), to celebrate reading.

Please do not spend money buying a costume – a few simple homemade props and clothes from home is perfect!

Time will be spent simply enjoying reading along with lots of fun activities and competitions to promote Literacy.

Each child should also bring a favourite bedtime story or novel they are currently reading. Time will be spent simply enjoying reading along with lots of fun activities to promote Literacy.

Please see Book Day Newsletter for further details on purchasing books from the **Scholastic Book Fair**.

## **Optional Parent Teacher Interviews – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March!**

We value this time to give feedback to parents/legal guardians and inform on the development and progression of the pupils, both academically and socially.

As in October we will be back to our normal operating system as much as possible.

All parents have received their interview allocation and returned their reply slips.



**Gentle reminder that interviews are for parents and legal guardians ONLY. Other adults present can not take part in the interview. Thank you for your cooperation.**

Early Closure to facilitate Parent Teacher Interviews Collection Times Slots A @12:40 and Slot B at 12:50pm **C.I.A in operation from 1pm**

## **Sustrans – Big Walk 11<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> March**



Sustrans Big Walk and Wheel inspires pupils to make active journeys to school, improve air quality in their neighbourhood and discover how these changes benefit their world.

On each day of the challenge, schools compete to see who can get the highest percentage of their pupils walking, using a wheelchair, scooting or cycling to school.

Adam and Emma have been practising on their new lane! 2 miles a day the pair have managed. Great Job and fantastic active travel.



## School Car Park

### We sadly still have people arriving before their time slots.



The system has no chance to even begin to work. This is frustrating for all.

NO CAR SHOULD BE IN SCHOOL BEFORE THE TEN TO SLOT.

Presently all pupils are being collected within 10 minutes of our system starting. The back log of cars is being contained within our carpark by 7/8 minutes taking the queue off the main road. If cars arrived at the correct time the back log onto the main road would not occur.

PSNI are working in partnership with the school regarding public vehicles over taking and travelling on the wrong side of the road. This is highly dangerous and thank you for your patience as we strive to solve this problem.

On collection only Staff will walk pupils to cars in the interest of safety.

### **Calendar Dates (All Available on Website Calendar)**

<b>March</b>	
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> Friday</b>	Sustrans - BIG WALK
<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> - Thursday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	Parent Teacher Interviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>School Dinner as normal</li></ul> Early Closure - Collection Times : Group A 12.40 - 12.50pm and Group B 12.50 - 1pm  C.I.A in operation from 1pm-5pm to accommodate Parent Interviews
<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	Empowering Young Minds - FREE Parent Workshop on equipping children with life skills of Self-Belief, Optimism and Resilience. Glen Primary School @7pm
<b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	First Day of Book Fair - Open to Parents from 1:30pm. CASH ONLY
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	World Book Day - Dress as Book Character Day
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup></b>	Closed due to Public Holiday
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Last Day of Book Fair</li><li>Bunny Drive 7- 9 pm - See Poster for full details. - If able to help on the night please contact school via our info account.</li></ul>
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Special Sustrans assembly
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup></b>	Easter Assembly @11am - Early collection of pupils 12 Noon HELPERS NEEDED for our Car Park from 10:30am Please contact Mr Dillon to offer your help.

## **Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) Vaccinations**

- Clinic times - 12:00pm to 3pm
- Available for - School aged children 6 to 15 Years resident in the NHSCT area.

### **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February**

Ballymena North Business & Recreation Centre  
120 Cushendall Road, Ballymena. BT43 6HB

### **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February**

The Junction – Unit 68 (next to Costa Coffee)  
111 Ballymena Road, Antrim. BT41 4LL

### **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February**

Valley Leisure Centre  
24 Church Road, Newtownabbey. BT36 7LJ

### **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

Robinson Hospital - The Tweed Room  
23 Newal Road, Ballymoney. BT53 6HB

### **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March**

Mid Ulster Hospital – Children's Ward  
59 Hospital Road, Magherafelt. BT45 5EX

Visit our website for more details @ <https://www.northerntrust.hscni.net/2024/02/06/northern-trust-mmr-vaccine-catch-up-clinics/>

or scan the QR code for instant access.



#teamNORTH 







Memorable Learning

Friends of Ampertaine  
P.T.A.



# Bunny Drive



*Tuesday, 19th March*  
**7 - 9 pm**

Adult-£2 Child-£1(P1-P7)  
Under 4 free (Can pay at door)

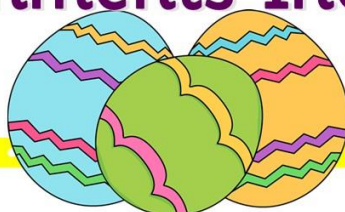


Guess the number of  
sweets in the jar

Name the Bunny!



**All Welcome**  
**Come along and join the fun!**  
**Refreshments Included**





Northern Health  
and Social Care Trust



## **Children's Occupational Therapy Sensory Regulation Parent Workshops**

The Children's Occupational Therapy Service is inviting you as a parent/carer to attend a Sensory Regulation Parent Workshop.

### **YOUR CHILD SHOULD NOT ATTEND THIS SESSION.**

The presentation will be provided by Occupational Therapists. Parents are welcome to speak to the therapists and ask questions at the end of the session. It will last approximately **2.5 hours** with a short break in the middle. After this workshop, your child will not need to be seen by Occupational Therapy unless a further request for support is indicated.

Advice leaflets will be available for you to take home.

**You do not need to book and you do not need to make a referral to Occupational Therapy to attend**

The dates are as follows:

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – 6:30pm**

The Sandel Centre, 6 Knocklynn Road, Coleraine, BT52 1WT

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – 10:00am**

Magherafelt Women's Group, 27-29 Moneymore Rd, Magherafelt, BT45 6AG

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2024 – 6:30pm**

Farranshane House, 1 Ballygore Road, Antrim, BT41 2RN

If you would prefer to watch a recording of the presentation at home, scan the QR code below.



Sensory Processing Webinar - Zoom  
[northernhsc.zoom.us/j/92474123456](https://northernhsc.zoom.us/j/92474123456)

