



Ampertaine Primary School Newsletter



Friday 13th November 2020

Recent Newsletters are available online at ampertaineps.co.uk/parents/newsletters

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



NEWS FROM ROOM 1

We've had so much fun learning about the pumpkin family! We used different shapes to make pumpkins, discovered what was inside butternut squashes, counted pumpkin seeds and measured butternut squashes with links and cubes. Our favourite activity though was colour mixing. We used red and yellow paints to make different shades of orange!

We also had a scavenger hunt outside. We worked in pairs outside, equipped with a clipboard and pencil to find different objects from one of our favourite stories – Room on the Broom.

Room 2 News

Room 2 have been enjoying learning about Food in Term 1. We made portraits of ourselves in the style of Guiseppe Arcimboldo using pictures of fruit and vegetables. We read lots of books and poems about food. What do you think of our display about Oliver's Vegetables? We learned about where different kinds of food come from, healthy eating, vitamins and minerals.

We really liked finding out about how to make donuts. We are going to start our Superheroes topic next. Remember, if you are a room 2 parent, to check us out on Seesaw.



NEWS FROM THE MOBILE

On 11th November, we watched the live coverage on the BBC and joined in with the Act of Remembrance. The children are learning about question words in Literacy and have been developing their reading and comprehension skills through Accelerated Reader.

In numeracy we have been busy collecting and interpreting data, and using addition of tens and units to problem solve.



Room 3/Hall News

This month Room 3 children have been looking at celebrations, especially around Bonfire Night and fireworks. They worked very hard to create some fantastic Didactic Cinquain Poems and explored the theme of Onomatopoeia in their Literacy by thinking of words that describe the sound of fireworks exploding! Their magnificent talents did not end there because they also used their creative skills to draw some beautiful and very colourful firework pictures using chalks. A terrific explosion of amazing work!



Room 4

P7 have been very busy over the last number of weeks learning about The First World War in their World Around Us topic. As part of their learning about Remembrance they decorated some Remembrance Rocks. These were then taken to the new Memorial Garden in Upperlands on Friday 6th November. They were placed in a special box and will be displayed there. The pupils are very proud of their art work. They have created two notice boards to display other items of their work about the First World War in the corridor. Well done P7!

Anti-Bullying Week 2020 (16th-20th Nov)

Bullying has a long lasting effect on those who experience and witness it. But by channeling our collective power, through shared efforts and shared ambitions, we can reduce bullying together. From parents and carers, to teachers and politicians, to children and young people, we all have a part to play in coming together to make a difference. We're all a piece in the puzzle, and together, we're united against bullying.

As part of Anti-Bullying Week 2020, NIABF is excited to be bringing [Odd Socks Day](#) to Northern Ireland for the first time! Odd Socks Day is an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique! There is no pressure to wear the latest fashion or for parents to buy expensive costumes. All you have to do to take part is wear odd socks to school on Monday 16th November.



Parent Teacher Interviews

A massive thank you to all for this weeks alternative collection times. The pupils did extremely well, as we all left early. Thank you for your patience and consideration of others as the flow of cars using our system continued to move.

Mrs Logan and Mr Dillon conducted their telephone interviews and we thank parents for their time and valuable feedback. All pupils will be given a feedback sheet similar to the format used during our usual parent teacher interviews **on Monday 16th November**. Due to printing issues with new technology, installed in our school on Wednesday, we were unable to send these home on Friday as originally planned.

Easyfundraising

At this particularly challenging time for us all, please don't forget that over 4,100 shops and sites will donate to Ampertaine Primary School PTA for FREE every time you use easyfundraising to shop with them. This means you can support the school, when you get your groceries, order a takeaway, renew your insurance policies or buy anything else online – at no extra cost to yourself! If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE to use.



Just visit:

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ampertainepta1/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=s-n4

PTA Fund raising. 'Only Smarties have the answer'

Current restrictions mean we have to look for appropriate fundraising activities.

Every child in the school has received a tube of Smarties. Once they have eaten them, we would ask that each family attempts to fill at least one tube with 20p coins! Once a tube has been filled it can then be returned to school!



We hope that you all support this idea in these strange times.

So far we have had a great return of tubes. Thank you to those who have done so and to those who are currently trying to get theirs filled. The tube holds more 20p pieces than you first think!

Contacting school

We would ask at these times for all parents to use our school info account when informing school of information. **WE CAN NOT ACCEPT HAND WRITTEN NOTES FROM HOME.** If you have any queries for our teachers or wish to speak with them, please use our email account to arrange an appointment.

Our school email is info@ampertaineprimaryschoolmaghera.ni.sch.uk. We would ask for your email subject to include the name of the pupil and class.

School dinners

It has been brilliant to see a continued increase in dinners taken since our return. As the weather starts to turn colder there is nothing quite like a warm lunch to keep you going. The menu is on our website in the parents section under school meals. Here you will also see some photos of the actual meals currently being provided for our pupils.

All money **MUST** be in an envelope clearly labelled and brought into school on the **MONDAY** to enable Clare to count and then sanitise the work area. The **EXACT AMOUNT OF MONEY** should be in the envelope.

School Car Park

Thank you for your continued cooperation. Our system has been working well with many slots dropped off or collected in good time. NO CARS should be parking. ALL PUPILS are now expected to use the system. We would ask that you stick to your time slots to avoid confusion and to maintain a constant flow of traffic particularly when collecting. At times with forgotten bags etc classes may be out just after their slot. Please come within your ten-minute time slot. Thank you for continuing to give priority to those exiting the car park.

School payments

Children should bring payment into school on MONDAY morning.

Payments **MUST** include correct change and be organised with the school envelope clearly labelled with:

- Nature of payment ie school dinners
- Payment details ie days of the week
- Child's name and class

School envelopes can be purchased at a cost of £2.50.

We are required to deal with all money using appropriate PPE, all money will be removed from the building and banked before a complete clean down of the office area. This is why it is vital that money is received in this way and can **ONLY** be dealt with on a **MONDAY** morning. We greatly appreciate your assistance in this matter in this unprecedented situation.

P.E

At present P.E is currently weather permitting. When P.E can not take place a mental health and well-being class is provided as an alternative. In Ampertaine we recognise the importance of this especially in these strange times. Thank you for keeping to our dress code of wearing trainers, dressed in their usual school top and jumper/cardigan but with joggers or leggings in either plain navy or black. The children looked great and it helped for us to stay within the strict guidelines set out. P.E will continue with the following timetable.

Monday	Wednesday
Room 1	Room1
Room 2	Room 2
Room 3/Hall	Room 4
	Mobile

Calendar Dates

November	
Monday 16th	Odd Socks Day - Children are asked to wear odd socks to school for anti-bullying week.
Monday 16th - Friday 20th	Anti-bullying Week - Activities throughout the school
Tuesday 24th	Police visit on Road Safety- Each class will have a session from the PSNI
Tuesday 24th	Board of Governors Meeting @7pm - Social distancing in operation.
December	
Tuesday 1st	Police visit on Internet Safety - Each class will have a session from the PSNI