

BALLYMENA NURSERY SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER



This will be a busy month once again with lots of activities, visits and events taking place. Please read this Newsletter carefully and download a copy to keep for reference as it contains important information and dates for your diary.

FOCUS OF LEARNING

Our focus for learning this month will be Language and the World Around Us to include Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, Playful Museums Festival.

Special thanks to the parents who very kindly provided food and treats to help the children celebrate Chinese New Year.

NURSERY FUND

Nursery fund payments for February are now due. (£20)

Please pay online or in cash as soon as possible

HAND SANITISER

We trust you have been able to make use of the bottle of hand sanitiser your child brought home from nursery recently. If you could use another bottle please don't hesitate to ask a member of staff who will provide you with more.

AH-TISSUE!

At the beginning of the school year, each family kindly donated a box of tissues and pack of baby wipes. The children have naturally been suffering with a lot of colds and sniffles and our stock of tissues is very low. With several more weeks of winter still ahead of us, we would be very grateful if each family could donate another box of tissues and/or a bottle of liquid soap to Nursery. Your help in this matter would be very much appreciated as always.

PLAYFUL MUSEUMS

We are very grateful to Mid and East Antrim Council who have kindly offered to involve us again this year in their Playful Museums Event. In the past they have hosted us in The Braid Arts Centre for a multicultural celebration of Chinese New Year (pre-Covid) and last year

produced online resources relating to the history of Ballymena Castle (a building very close to our hearts as we are built on the site of the former castle).

This year they will be focusing on the Ballymena Market and its origins by talking to the children about the market and allowing them to participate in a related craft activity. This will take place during your child's nursery session on Tuesday 8th February. I'm sure, like us, you are looking forward to hearing all about it.

FAMILY PHOTOS

Photo sessions by appointment only

You have the opportunity to have your family portrait taken on Thursday 10th February between 5.30-7pm. You will need to book an appointment for this session. Please speak to a member of staff who will try to accommodate you with a suitable time.

If your child missed the individual photo session earlier in the year and you want their photo taken, this can also be booked for this date.

3+ REVIEWS

If your child is in their pre-school year, you will have received a form to be completed and returned to nursery, not later than **Thursday 3rd February.**

This is an important way of communicating with the health visiting team and provides you with the opportunity to have a well-informed visit with a health visitor in the near future in Nursery School. We are hoping to host these in the week beginning 21st February, during the children's sessions. Appointment times will be made available as soon as the dates are confirmed.

We would encourage you to make use of these appointments to discuss any concerns regarding your child's development eg. speech & language, sleep patterns/bedtime difficulties, toilet training, how to ditch the dummy, difficult to manage behaviour etc.

In addition, another useful support for these issues is ParentingNI, a charity which offers online podcasts, parenting programmes and workshops, parent guides, support lines (telephone & web chat) and app-based support which can be accessed anonymously if you would prefer.

www.parentingni.org or



HALF-TERM HOLIDAYS

School will be closed for mid-term break :-

Wednesday, 16th February, Thursday, 17th February & Friday, 18th February.

COMING UP... ..BOOK EVENT

Every child will receive a World Book Day token which can either be exchanged for books at your local bookseller or used to help pay for a book from our Book Event, supporting our ability to purchase new books for the Nursery classrooms. (More details to follow)

A few dates for your diary-

Thursday 3rd March World Book Day (25th Anniversary)

Dress up as a book character and bring a related book to Nursery. (No need to buy a costume - be creative and come up with your own!)

Thursday 17th March St Patrick's Day Holiday - **Nursery will be closed**

Friday 18th March School Development Day. **Nursery will be closed** to children to facilitate staff training

Ballymena Nursery School, Trostan Avenue, BALLYMENA,
Co. Antrim BT43 7BL

Tel: 028 25652011

info@ballymenans.ballymena.ni.sch.uk

www.ballymenanursery.co.uk