



# Balamore news!

*September Edition 2020*

## **Welcome Back**

Firstly, can I thank all the staff, pupils and parents for the warm welcome to Balamore Primary School. I am transferring to Balamore following previous Principal employment in the Carrickfergus area. I have great faith in the school and will be leading many changes throughout this academic year.

Can I congratulate all the children on such a fantastic return to school. I understand, being a Parent myself, of the difficulties lock down could have presented and feel that all the children have transferred back into school life quickly.

## **Facebook page**

We have a new Facebook page as I am unable to gain access to the previous two that are live. I will be keeping this up to date as much as possible. Our website is still active, so please check on this forum too.

## **Freddie Fitness**

Freddie Fitness will be completing a fundraising event with the pupils on the 15<sup>th</sup> October. Pupils should come to school on this day in sportswear! All funds raised through this will be placed towards outdoor equipment. P5 – 7 will also complete a mental health and well-being workshop.

## **School holiday list 2020 – 2021**

The school holiday list was distributed to all pupils. This is also on our school website.

## **Flu Vaccine**

The provisional date for the flu vaccine is the 11<sup>th</sup> November. Further details will be provided closer to the time.

## **School photographs**

I have a meeting with the school photographer next Thursday. I am hoping to still have individual photographs but I need firm risk assessments and policy before a date is set. I will confirm this after my meeting next week.

## **School fund**

I appreciate everyone who has donated school fund this year. We have been allocated £773 from the Education Authority for PPE in light of covid-19. This, as you recognise, is not a large sum of money to keep our children safe. So any funds required for these items will be supported via the school fund.

## **School nursing**

The school nursing team will be in Balamore on the 28<sup>th</sup> September to complete a healthy hands workshop with p1 – p4

### **Individual health risk assessment**

Any child who requires an individual risk assessment in light of return to school should make Mrs Wilson aware either via telephone or by emailing [awilson676@c2kni.net](mailto:awilson676@c2kni.net)

### **Action Mental Health**

Action Mental Health will be completing 'Healthy Me' training with p5 – 7 on 9<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Parent Representative**

We currently have a vacancy for parent representative on our Board of Governors. Information is attached to this newsletter. I am a firm believer in the positive working relationship with parents and would be keen to have this space filled. If you are interested, please have a proposer and seconder complete the form and return alongside your skills and expertise document to myself by the 25<sup>th</sup> September.

### **AQE**

As you may have heard on the news, our AQE has now been changed:

- Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>,
- 16<sup>th</sup>
- 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2021

With results being published on: Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2021

### **Covid 19**

It is paramount that the school holds up to date records for our children. Data forms have been distributed – please ensure these are returned. Any child requiring medication must complete the AM forms and return alongside any medication required in a box named. All our covid return to school information is on our website should you wish to review

### **Break**

Joyce and the catering staff have been extremely supportive of our return to school and I want to say thank you to the team for this. Breaks will return on the 14<sup>th</sup> September! A sheet will be sent home next week for parents to tick what their child wants. Money should come in on the Monday of each week with the correct change. Toast will be 30p, Bagels 40p, Drinks (Milkshake, apple or orange juice and water) 55p.

### **After School clubs**

I am currently working through after school club and breakfast club scenarios with the staff. Hopefully, within two weeks' maximum, I will have information out in relation to these.

### **Eco Flag**

Congratulations to Miss Lynn and the Eco Committee on achieving our first ever Green Flag! We will get Alistair to put this up on display!

### **Staff**

If any Parent needs to speak with staff, please make an appointment with Ann or contact the school outside of teaching time – 8.45am – 9am or 3pm – 3.30pm. Many thanks for your cooperation.

# **Freddie Fitness Event: 15<sup>th</sup> October** **2020**

## We are raising school funds to improve our outdoor equipment

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**Please return your form on the 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020**