



October 2023

Dear parents and children,

This has been a busy half term for us all here at school.

I hope you all had a great mid term. The school building is moving along and we can see progress which is very exciting!

The children are a credit to you with their lovely healthy lunches. Thank you for your co-operation in this respect. It is wonderful to see the children eating lovely sandwiches and fresh fruit. Keep up the good work. If we are having a treat day, this message will be communicated to you via Aladdin.

The parent reps for the Board of Management were elected on Thursday the 26th of October. Linda Keegan will be the new Mother rep and Simon Snow will be the father rep. Ms Andrews has been elected as the teacher rep. Many thanks to our outgoing parents Leo Matteo and Taragh O' Connor and our teacher Ms O' Mahony. We thank them for all their hard work and dedication over the past 4 years. Our Patron reps are Sheila Macken and Kevin Tolan. The next step will be to meet and decide on the community reps. I will keep you posted.

We are looking forward to the rest of this term. Here are some dates for your diary:

Parent/teacher meeting : 21st and 22nd of November, schedule to be shared this week via Aladdin. You will be able to book your time slot. SEN teachers will make direct contact with parents. It is important to note that teachers have only 10 minute slots. I would advise if you have anything you need to discuss in more detail then please make an appointment outside of the parent/teacher meeting slot. Teacher would much prefer to be able to give you more time and this can be facilitated anytime throughout the year.

Christmas Fair : Sunday 3rd of December.

Halloween was very exciting at Balrothery NS with lots going on. The Gardaí gave a safety at Halloween talk on how to stay safe to 3rd class up to 6th class.



Thank you to the Parent Association for a cheque for €8,600 which was money raised last year. Thank you for your generosity. The money will be used for additional IT equipment, PE equipment, more readers and resources for those with additional needs.

The children dressed up and went on their spooky sponsored walk around the village. It was great fun and thank you for your generosity, it is always appreciated. Thank you to the Parents' Committee for their support with this also.



All the children were given treats on the last day supplied by the Parent Association.

Mobile Phone/Smart Device Policy- Please take the time to read on our school website [here](#). Please note a letter of application must be submitted to the BOM citing reasons for bringing a mobile phone to school. Please remember that all communication with you the parent/guardian is done through the office phone if needed. Mobile phones are only allowed in exceptional circumstances.

Christmas Card fund raiser

The children had great fun when they each got to design their own Christmas card. Samples have now been sent home. Families can order Christmas cards up to the 8th of November.

Walks on Wednesdays: These are in place to support the children's wellbeing. We try to include curricular areas such as PE, History and Art.

Yellow Flag/Student Council:

The Yellow Flag Committee/Student Council led by Mr Callaghan with support from Ms Kiernan organised a workshop entitled "Sport against Racism". The workshop highlighted the message that we should treat everyone the same and make sure that we include everyone in our school. Our actions speak louder than words. This message was delivered in a fun way through games.



This was followed up by wearing red day – an assembly was held to highlight the importance of treating everyone as well as we like to be treated ourselves.



The Arts

The arts support our wellbeing. The children are enjoying ukulele lessons. Chris Judge, illustrator, introduced the children to his Daily Cloud artworks as inspiration for creating their very own.

Curriculum: Our focus areas continue to be Irish (oral), mathematical language, tables, problem solving and we are familiarising ourselves with the New Primary Maths Curriculum.

Maths Week 2023

Maths Mates – Ms Maguire senior Infants and Mr Caffrey's 3rd/4th class



Ms Andrews' class used their literacy skills and mathematical skills – measurement to bake some tasty oatly crunchers.



Artistic Maths!

