



# Ampertaine Primary School Newsletter



Friday 15<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**





# Book Character Day at Ampertaine

Today, we celebrated Literacy and the love of reading at Ampertaine PS. The children (and staff!) came to school dressed as their favourite book characters.

The children had a special assembly, read stories, designed book covers, went on a book hunt, completed quizzes and everyone had time to just simply enjoy reading.

Little Amps even came along and joined in the fun! A huge thank you to those who purchased books from the book fair and helped support our school.

We will be able to use the money raised to purchase new reading books, AR books and replenish class libraries in Room 1 and 2.







## ***Friends of Ampertaine Easter Event – BUNNY DRIVE!!!! Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm***

This year we will be holding a **FREE** Easter egg hunt for each pupil in the school to take part in and also two fantastic competitions for your children to enter at our Bunny Drive Night.

1. Name the Bunny!
2. Guess the amount of sweets in the jar!

Our Bunny needs a name badly and we will be giving pupils the chance to name and win our Bunny! 3 guesses for £1

Guessing the amount of sweets in a jar is never an easy thing to do. Once all the winning guesses have been gathered we will then draw the lucky winner.



We will have lots of Easter Egg prizes on the night not just for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>. Best Bunny drawn, Bunny with the best ears etc. you get the idea.

**We can't wait to see you all on Tuesday Night.**



## **News from our Pupils**



Ella is a very very proud young lady!

She has been awarded 'Best Girl' and also received an award for full attendance.

Ella loves going to the Girls Friendly Society and thinks it is great fun.

We are so proud of you Ella and can't wait to hear of more successes at the GFS.



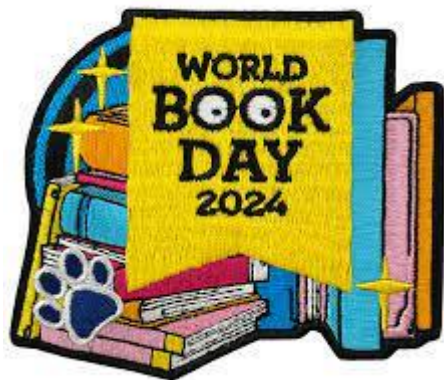
Sophia is at it again!

This time another brilliant badge awarded at Girls Guides.

Sophia was given the opportunity to learn so Ulster Scots. She quickly found out she know a lot already!

Whit about ye? Is written on the badge and is a great bit of Ulster Scots to get a conversation going. Well Done Sophia.

## **World Book Day Event was a MASSIVE SUCCESS – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March!**



This year, we plan to hold a 'Book Character Day'

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

Last opportunity to purchase books will be on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> before sadly our Fair will come to a close for another year.

If a book is not available they may be ordered via the school on the Tuesday by 3pm. The Book Fair have assured us that delivery of ordered books will take place on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>.

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

We have valued this time to speak with those who requested an interview. The conversation works both ways and it was very interesting to hear how pupils have been responding to strategies used in school and taking these to their home lives as well.

If you wish to discuss matters concerning your child with the class teacher between now and the end of June, please use or contact details to request an opportunity to do so.

We at Ampertaine are very approachable and are a very family orientated school. Our staff will go above and beyond to help and assist our families.



## Sustrans – Big Walk 11<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> March We need your support on this!



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.

## Contacting school

We would ask for all parents to use our school info account when informing school of information eg absences, family holidays etc.

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@ampertaineps.maghera.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@ampertaineps.maghera.ni.sch.uk). Email subject to include the name of the pupil and class.



## Contact Us

## Calendar Dates (All Available on Website Calendar)

March	
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Closed due to Public Holiday
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	<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>
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Special Sustrans assembly please try and walk, scoot or bike to school.
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<p>Easter Assembly @11am - Early collection of pupils 12 Noon</p> <p><b>HELPERS NEEDED</b> for our Car Park from 10:30am</p> <p><b>Please contact Mr Dillon to offer your help.</b></p>
April	
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All pupils return to school- Normal collection times.</li> <li>Room 2 Dino Day</li> </ul>
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CEF Club - P1+2 - 2-3pm P3-P7 3-4pm</li> <li>E.M.C - Transfer Prep 3-4pm</li> </ul>
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Room 4 visit to the Flax Museum</li> <li>Drumming and Piping 3-4pm -P3-P7</li> <li>Educational Welfare Officer visit to Ampertaine</li> </ul>
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We welcome Rev. Morrison to our assembly.</li> <li>CEF Club - P1+2 - 2-3pm P3-P7 3-4pm</li> <li>E.M.C - Transfer Prep 3-4pm</li> </ul>
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Group Photos for P1 class and P7 class.</li> <li>Drumming and Piping 3-4pm -P3-P7</li> </ul>
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P1 Nurse</li> <li>CEF Club - P1+2 - 2-3pm P3-P7 3-4pm</li> <li>E.M.C - Transfer Prep 3-4pm</li> </ul>
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We welcome Little Amps to our assembly.</li> <li>P1 Nurse</li> <li>Drumming and Piping 3-4pm -P3-P7</li> </ul>
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Room 4 Time Steps visit</li> </ul>
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LAST CEF Club - P1+2 - 2-3pm P3-P7 3-4pm</li> <li>E.M.C - Transfer Prep 3-4pm</li> </ul>





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)

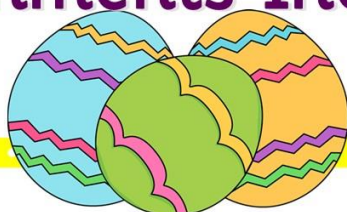


Guess the number of  
sweets in the jar

Name the Bunny!



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





## **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-trust.zoom.us](https://northernhsc-trust.zoom.us)







# Easter Eggstravaganza

Maghera Presbyterian  
Church Hall

**Easter Saturday**  
**10 am - noon**

**Fun for all the Family!**  
**Games, Competitions, Races**  
**Egg Hunt, Refreshments, Cake Stall**

**Everyone Welcome!**