



BIRCHES PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

April, May and June 2018

School Uniform

Please ensure children's names are on all sweatshirts and clothes which are removed to change for P.E. Girls wearing summer dresses are to bring in a polo shirt to add to their PE kit.

After School Activities These activities will take place after school from 2.35pm until 3.30pm.

Monday	P4 – P7	Sports Games (£11 for 11 weeks) Eco Team (Members only)
Tuesday	P4 – P7	Football £15 for 10 weeks (2.40pm – 3.40pm)
Wednesday	P4 – P6	Gardening Club (starting Wednesday 18 April)
	P7	Cycling Proficiency (starting Wednesday 25 April)
Thursday	P6/P7	Tennis Club
	P4/P5	Scripture Union



Planetarium – P5 – Monday 9 April

Children from P5 will visit the planetarium in Armagh.

World War II Event - Tuesday 10 April

Children from P4 have been learning about World War II in World Around Us during the first term. They will be given the opportunity to visit the Palace Stables, Armagh on Tuesday 10 April and through various interactive activities they will explore 'Life during the War' focusing on the Blitz, Evacuees and Rationing.

PDMU – Drug Awareness – first session Tuesday 10 April

Jeannie Graham, from 'Portadown Temperance Council' will be working with children from P6 and P7 on areas linked to Drug Awareness over a five-week period.

Clever Cloggers P7 Transition Programme – Wednesday 11 April and Thursday 26 April

The Loughshore Family Action Partnership have arranged for children from P7 to work with the P7 children from St. Mary's Primary school to take part in workshops held at Maghery Community Centre on Wednesday 11 April. There will also be an evening event for parents of P7 children on Thursday 26 April at the Civic Centre.

Evening Classes for Parents – Paediatric First Aid - Thursday 12, 19 and 26 April

The Loughshore Family Action Partnership have arranged training sessions for Thursday 12, 19 and 26 April from 6pm to 9pm.

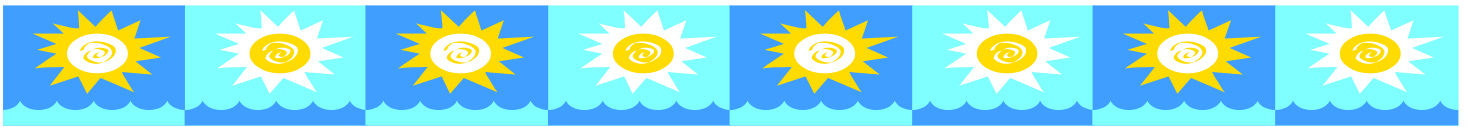
Tree Planting – Friday 13 April

As part of the work carried out this year on trees, the Loughshore Family Action Partnership have arranged for a tree planting workshop with children from P4 and P5.

Arts Programme for P1 and P2 children - Tuesday 17 and Tuesday 24 April.

The Loughshore Family Action Partnership have arranged for an Arts Programme with our P1 and P2 children on Tuesday 17 and Tuesday 24 April.





School Photographer – P1 and P7 Photograph – Wednesday 18 April

The School Photographer is coming on Wednesday 18 April to take the P7 leavers photograph and P1 whole class group. Any child who missed their school photograph earlier this year will also be able to get their photograph taken.

Rugby Shelbourne Fun Blitz Thursday 19 April

The rugby team will take part in the annual Rugby Blitz on Thursday 19 April. The children will leave at approximately 1.00pm and will be collected at the venue. Further information will follow.

Beetle Drive – Friday 20 April 7pm

The PTA have organised a Beetle Drive to take place at school at 7pm. This is a family event and everyone is more than welcome to bring a team.

Swimming Gala Trials – Friday 20 April, 27 April and 4 May

Trials will be held over three weeks for children in P5 – P7 for the swimming gala.

Neill Buckley Football Competition – Wednesday 2 May

The football team will take part in the annual football competition at Loughall Park. The children will leave at approximately 9.30am and will be back in time for the school bus. They will need to bring a packed lunch with them.

Fitness Freddy Energy Fitness Day – Thursday 3 May – non-uniform Sports Wear Day

All of the children in the school will take part in a sponsored fitness day. All proceeds go towards school funds.

P7 WWI Trip – Friday 4 May - Royal Irish Fusiliers Museum and Naven Fort

The South Lough Neagh Regeneration Association (SLNRA) have organised a visit for our Primary 7 children to the Royal Irish Fusiliers Museum and Naven Fort which is linked to the topic of WWI.

Bank Holiday – Monday 7 May

The school will be closed on Monday 7 May.

P6 and P7 Shared Education Trip - Wednesday 9 May

Carrickfergus Castle Trip for P5 – Wednesday 9 May

Children from P5 have been learning about different types of castles as part of their World Around Us topics this year. They will visit Carrickfergus Castle and take part in a range of activities.

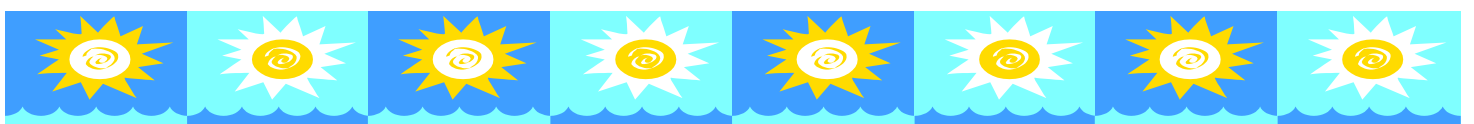
Swimming Gala – Tuesday 15 May

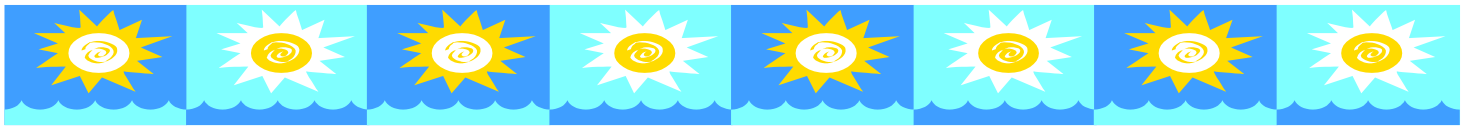
The swimming gala will take place on Tuesday 15 May. Children from P6 and P7 will be going to support their team.



Boys' Richmount 5-a-side Competition – Wednesday 16 May

The football team will take part in the annual football competition at Richmount Muga Pitch. The children will leave at approximately 12.30pm and will need to be collected at 3.30pm.





Girls' Richmount 5-a-side Competition – Wednesday 23 May

The girls will take part in the annual football competition at Richmount Muga Pitch. The children will leave at approximately 12.30pm and will need to be collected at 3.30pm.

School Closure – Friday 25 May

The school will be closed on Friday 25 May.

Bank Holiday – Monday 28 May

The school will be closed on Monday 28 May.

Tennis Tournament - Friday 1 June

The tennis team will take part in a competition at Tandragee Primary School on Friday 1 June.

The children will leave at 9.30am and will be home in time for the school bus.

They will need to bring a packed lunch and a bottle of water.



Intergenerational Day – Thursday 7 June

The South Lough Neagh Regeneration Association (SLNRA) have arranged for an Intergenerational Day at Maghery Community Centre with the Primary 7 children. Facilitators from Navan Fort will put on a re-enactment scene about WW1 and a local cook will be engaged to prepare tasty authentic foods eg: soda / potato bread on the griddle for everyone to enjoy.

Belfast Zoo – P6 – Friday 8 June

This year the P6 class have studied the topic 'The Rainforest' as part of World Around Us. They will be given the opportunity to visit Belfast Zoo and take part in a workshop based on this topic.

'The Gathering Drum' Workshop – Tuesday 21 June

The Loughshore Family Action Partnership have arranged a drumming workshop for the children with the company 'Gathering Drums'.



Prize Day – Wednesday 27 June

Prize Day will take place on **Wednesday 27 June** at 10.00am.

Final Assembly – Thursday 28 June

The final assembly will take place on **Thursday 28 June**. School will close at 12.45pm for children from P1-P3 and 12.55pm for P4-P7.

The school bus will leave at 1pm for children who normally travel on the bus.

Friday 29 June – School closes at 10.45am for children from P1-P3 and 10.55am for P4-P7.

The school bus will leave at 11am for children who normally travel on the bus

There will be no school dinners.

NEW TERM 2018

2018/2019 School Year

School Starts back on Thursday 30 August, 2018

- * Thursday 30 August - School will close at 12.00pm
- * Friday 31 August - School will close at 12.00pm
- Monday 3 September - Normal School Hours
- * There will be no lunch served on these days.

The bus will be available to bring children to and from school who normally travel on the bus.



Dates For Your Diary

School Holidays / Closures

Monday 7 May	-	Bank Holiday
Friday 25 May	-	Exceptional Closure
Monday 28 May	-	Bank Holiday

Other Dates

Monday 9 April	-	P5 Trip to Armagh Planetarium
Tuesday 10 April	-	P4 Trip to Armagh Palace Stables
Wednesday 18 April	-	P1 and P7 Photograph
Thursday 19 April	-	Rugby Shelbourne Fun Blitz – 1pm
Thursday 12, 19 and 26 April	-	Parents Paediatric First Aid Training 6pm – 9pm
Friday 19 April	-	Beetle Drive at school 7pm
Wednesday 27 June	-	Prize Day 10.00am
Thursday 28 June	-	Final Assembly
	-	P1- P3 children home at 12.45pm
	-	P4 – P7 children home at 12.55pm
	-	The school bus will be available to take children home at 1.00pm
Friday 29 June	-	P1- P3 children home at 10.45am
	-	P4 – P7 children home at 10.55am
	-	The school bus will be available to take children home at 11.00am