**Ballyfin N.S. December 2022 Newsletter**

**Upcoming Events**:● Nativity Plays: **Tuesday 13th December**

Junior Infants: **9.30am-10.00am** Senior Infants: **10.00am-10.30am**

Parents /family members are welcome to attend these performances which will take place in the hall.

 ●The Wizard of Oz: **Wednesday 14th December**

Junior and Senior Infants will attend this performance which takes place in the Dunamaise Theatre.

Bus leaves the school at **10.00am** and the children will return from the Dunamaise Theatre at **12noon(** approx) .

We would like to thank our Parents Council who are sponsoring this event.

 ●Christmas Singing Performance: **Thursday 15th December**

Each class will perform two songs (one Christmas song and one class favourite) for all the other classes in the school.Remember to wear your Christmas jumper and hat.

 ●Santa at the Movies**: Tuesday 20th December**

Our Santa at the Movies Day complete with popcorn and soft drink/water will take place in each classroom during class time. Remember to wear your Christmas jumper!

**Book Fair:** Our recent Book Fair was can outstanding success. It was nice to see the children browsing the bookshelves and making their independent purchases. A huge thank you to parents for supporting this annual event. Already we have restocked Ms. Reddin’s fifth class library and added a new series to Ms. Saunders sixth class library with more purchases to be made in the New Year.

**Enrolments/Admissions for 2023/2024:**

Our admissions to Ballyfin N.S. for Junior Infants for the school year 2023/2024 will open on **5/1/2023** and close on **26/1/2023.**

Please see our school website to view the timeline on our Admissions Notice. Application forms also available on the school website.

**GOAL Fundraiser:** Friday 14th October: Thanks to everybody who contributed to our Jersey Day Fundraiser for **GOAL**. We raised **€ 548.40** for this charity.

**P.A.T.H. Fundraiser:** Friday 3rd December: Thanks to all the children and parents who made buns for our Bun Day and to everybody who bought buns for our **P.A.T.H**. fundraiser- Portlaoise Action To Homelessness. We raised **€556** for this charity.

A special word of thanks to our Wellbeing Committee who organised this event.

**Anti-Bullying Week**: **Monday 12th Dec**. to **Friday Dec.16th**

Our teachers will engage the pupils with some S.P.H.E. lessons focussing on the Anti-Bullying contracts, school rules, kindness, respect and resilience.

The pupil contracts will be sent out for pupls and parents to read ,sign and return to the school .

Anti-Bullying contracts will be sent home on **next** **Monday**  to be returned on **Tuesday** in order that teachers and pupils can discuss the rules of the contract

**Deepest Sympathies:** On behalf of all the school we would like to offer our condolences to staff member A.C. Reynolds on the recent sad passing of her mam, Ann Rochford.

Our thoughts and prayers are with A.C. and her family at this sad time.

**Christmas cards/presents/invitations to parties etc:**

 We would request that giving Christmas cards, presents , invitations to birthday parties to other children would not be done in school. It sometimes means that some children are not included and this may cause upset.

**New Board of Management Member:** We would like to welcome **Paul Ruane** (Bishop’s Nominee) to our Board of Management. Paul replaces Harry Allen as treasurer on our board.

**Visit to Ballyfin Demense:** The pupils of sixth class are invited to visit Ballyfin House on **Tuesday 10th** **January 2023.**

**Wellbeing Activities:** Our Wellbeing activities, as organised by our Wellbeing Committee, can be viewed on our school website www.ballyfinns.ie. Just click on the tab Wellbeing Plan.

**School Calendar:** Christmas break: School will close on **Wednesday 21st December at 12 noon** and will re-open on **Thursday 5th January 2023.**

Bus Eireann have been notified of the earlier closing time of 12 noon.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our pupils , their families and all our staff a happy and safe Christmas and New Year. We hope to see you all on **Thursday 5th January 2023.**