



Building
together
for our future.

Braidside Integrated Primary and Nursery School

89 Frys Road, Ballymena Co. Antrim BT43 7EN

028 25647899



**Principal: J McAuley
www.braidside.co.uk**

25/04/24

Dear Parents,

The new term is well underway now and lots of different events and activities are planned for the next few months. I encourage you to visit our website and Facebook page to keep up to date with school life.



Congratulations to the P7 children who celebrated the sacrament of **Confirmation**, with their families in All Saints' Church on 19th April. The boys and girls worked very hard in their preparation and we were proud of them all. We hope you all enjoyed your special day. Children from P4 will celebrate their **First Holy Communion** on **Saturday 25th May @ 11:30am**.

“Braidside Take 5 Day”

The next event in the school calendar will be a **“Take 5 Day” on Wednesday 8th May** and the themes for the day, as well as health and wellbeing, will be Walking (National Walking Month) and Sun Awareness. Parents will know that we are a Take 5 school, supporting and promoting the 5 steps to wellbeing, through our Wellbeing Wednesday initiative which has been ongoing for the past 3 years. To highlight this further, the Take 5 day will enable us to address all 5 steps in one day, while having a learning, engaging and celebratory day.

We plan that the children will:

- **Connect with another class to complete a walking activity in and around the school grounds.**
- **Learn about sun awareness and safety messages, participate in a colouring/poster competition.**
- **Be active during a walking activity and other outdoor activities.**
- **Take note of things they see, hear, smell, experience through a “Beautiful Things” challenge; practise slow breathing and quiet time though the day.**
- **Give: The walk will be a sponsored event and money raised will go to a cancer-focused charity.**

To help with our Take 5 event, a sponsor sheet is attached to this letter. Families should feel free to use 1 sponsor form only. We would ask that children do not walk around neighbourhoods but seek sponsorship from friends, family or work colleagues. We continue to plan for the Take 5 day and hope to have other elements in the day too, looking at the wider community and perhaps a relevant visitor in school.

Over the years, the Braidside community and has supported whole school events and activities so positively and we look forward to highlighting these important wellbeing messages with the children too.

School Holiday List 2024-25

The school calendar for 2024-25 is now available to download on the school website. We ask that parents use this to identify term-time dates and to avoid family holidays during the school term.

Across the next few weeks, children from P3 upwards will complete the annual English and Maths standardised assessments. The outcomes from these allow us to track each child's progress in maths and English and provide a basis for teachers to plan for future learning.

Some dates for your diary:

P1/ Nursery Placement Notification: Thursday 25th April

Take 5 Day: Wednesday 8th May

Post-primary Placement Notification: Saturday 18th May

First Communion (P4 children): Saturday 25th May @11:30am, All Saints' Church

Sports Day: Wk bg 28th May (weather permitting, with Key stages dates to follow)

Sustrans Activity Day: Planned for June (info to follow in due course)

Healthy Eating Week: 10th- 14th June

Leavers' Assembly (P7): Friday 21st June @ 10am

The website is regularly updated with dates for events and activities, so please do refer to this.

Parents are reminded that bookings and payment for both Breakfast Club and Stay & Play must be made in advance the week before. This helps maintain accurate records and ensures that food items and supervision are correct.

We look forward to welcoming our new Nursery and Primary 1 pupils for September '23 for induction sessions June and further dates and information will follow.

School will be closed on Monday 6th May for the May Day Holiday.
We hope you all enjoy the long weekend!

Yours faithfully,

_____*J McAuley*_____

Principal