



# Weekly Update



Wednesday 21st February 2024

## Ulster Table Tennis Success for ISPS



What a fantastic and hugely successful day our children had at the Table Tennis Ulster Tournament in Banbridge. We are all very proud of their achievements, a real team effort! They are officially – **U10 Girls' Ulster Champions** as well as **U10 Mixed Team Ulster Champions!** Thanks to Mr Robinson, Mrs McCracken and Robin Agnew for their coaching and encouragement. Thanks also to Darren Warwick and Russell Kelly for helping out as parent volunteers on the day! Well done boys and girls, we are extremely proud of you all.

## Multi-cultural Day at ISPS



## Key Dates for Your Diary

- 22nd February Nursery Pink Day
- 27th February Roots of Empathy – Year 3 Baby Visit
- 28th February Book Fair Arrives
- 29th February SCORE Girls' Football Tournament
- 4th March Coleraine Music Festival begins
- 5th March Mullan Cup – 5-a-side Competition
- 6th March Boys' Hockey Blitz
- 7th March World Book Day 2024



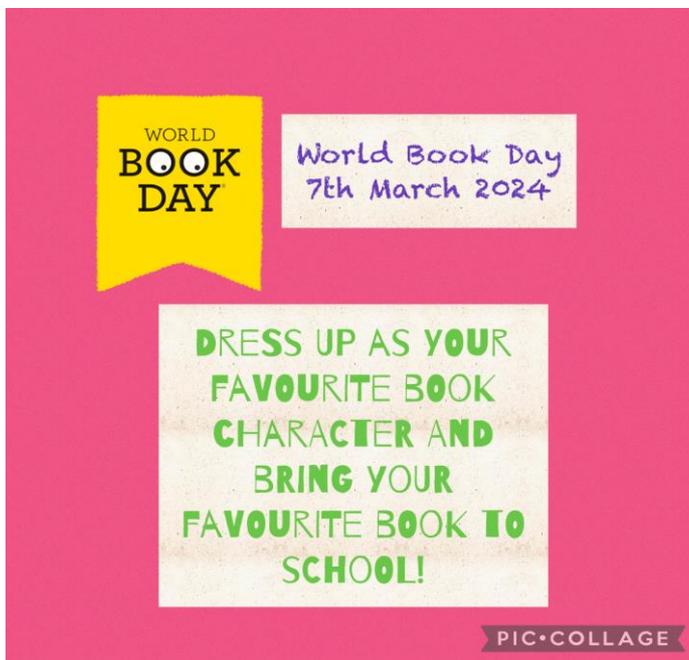


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## World Book Day 2024 and School Book



### Superb Swimming by ISPS Children!



Congratulations to two of our Year 4 children on their recent successes in the pool when taking part in a swimming gala.

A fantastic achievement MB and FJ 😊



### Ordering School Dinners

Just to remind parents that school dinners should be booked by **9.30am** on the morning of the booking. The early booking allows our school canteen to prepare the correct number of dinners, to reduce wastage. **Many thanks for your understanding and support with this matter.**

### New School Dinner – Spring Term



A new school menu for after half-term holidays is available on the school website, in the Parents area.



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## Hosting a Spanish Student

## Punctuality at School

**Host a Spanish School Student**

Spanish school students will arrive to the North Coast in July and September 2024 and we are looking for families to host them during their stay.

  
Bannside Languages  
www.bannsidelanguages.com

Summer	Autumn
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dates: 30th June - 20th July 2024.</li> <li>Host families receive £200/week to host a Spanish student or £360/week to host two students.</li> <li>Spanish students will attend activities organized by Bannside Languages 9am-5pm Monday to Saturday.</li> <li>Hosts provide breakfast, packed lunch, dinner, and lifts to/from Coleraine for the student's activities (lift shares available).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dates: 1st Sept - 25th Oct or 1st Dec.</li> <li>Spanish students will attend Coleraine Grammar School or Dalriada School Monday to Friday for an 8-week/full-trimester programme.</li> <li>The students travel to school by bus.</li> <li>Host families receive £240 a week to host one student. They are fully supported 24/7 by a bilingual support officer.</li> <li>Spanish students will attend an excursion with the student support officer every Saturday 10:30am-5:00pm.</li> </ul>

**For more information contact:**  
info@bannsidelanguages.com  
0034 622658991



Children arriving at school on time is an important aspect of the school day. Lessons begin at 9.05am and we would ask parents that children arrive in school before this time. Children arriving after this will be marked as late. Many thanks for your continued support.

## Parking in the School Grounds

We would respectfully ask that parents and family members do not park in the school grounds at pick up times. This is a safety precaution as over 150 children are leaving school at 2.00pm and 3.00pm. **Having moving cars in the grounds at collection time increases the likelihood of an accident.**

## Holidays 2024 – 2025 School Year



The Irish Society's Primary School & Nursery Unit

### HOLIDAYS 2024-2025

<b>TERM 1 (AUTUMN)</b>	Term starts Thursday 29th August 2024 ( <i>finish at 12.00pm</i> )
Half-term	<b>School closes Friday 25th October at 3.00pm</b> <b>Re-opens Monday 4th November</b>
Christmas	School closes 12.00pm Friday 20th December
<b>TERM 2 (SPRING)</b>	School re-opens Monday 6th January 2025
Half-term	<b>School closes Friday 7th February at 3.00pm and re-opens Monday 17th February</b>
Holiday	Monday 17th March
Easter	School closes at 12.00pm on Friday 11th April
<b>TERM 3 (SUMMER)</b>	School re-opens Monday 28th April
Bank Holiday	Monday 5th May
Holiday	Monday 26th May
End of Year	Schools closes Monday 30th June at 12.00pm

Above are the holidays for the next school year, **2024 – 2025**. As one of our focuses this year and next is to improve school attendance, we would encourage parents to book family holidays during non-term time. We have set aside block weeks off which will help when booking time away. Thank you for your support with your child's attendance.



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## Attendance Matters



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**GUESS WHO WON THE BEST ATTENDANCE FOR JANUARY.....Mrs Conway's (98.6%), Miss Connolly's and Miss Murdoch's class (98.2%) were the winners JANUARY!**

Each class gets to have a visit from our School Mascots for the month.

Missed Days from School		
Attendance	Days lost	Lessons missed
95%	9 days	45 lessons
90%	19 days	100 lessons
85%	29 days	150 lessons
80%	38 days	200 lessons
75%	48 days	250 lessons
70%	57 days	290 lessons
65%	67 days	340 lessons

## Online Safety Newsletter

Each month Miss Hamilton, our ICT coordinator, shares an 'Online Safety Newsletter' via Seesaw. This is also placed on the school website in the 'Parents Area'. **FEBRUARY's** newsletter focuses on 'PLAYSTATION', 'SNAPCHAT' and 'YOUTUBE'. Please take time to read the full document.

## Healthy Eating

At our school we promote and encourage a healthy eating policy for our children. We would encourage parents to consider what is included in their child's snack each day.

Childhood is a time of rapid growth and development. Good nutrition during this time is important, as it impacts on children's general and oral health now and in the future.

**Healthy Snack = Healthy Child**





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## Who to Speak to in School

Please take time to explain to your child/ren that as well as their teacher they can speak to any of our Child Protection Team. This picture is displayed in school noticeboards as a reminder.

If you are worried, need help or someone to talk to, speak to your teacher, Mrs McKendry, Mr Murdock or Mrs Evans



Mrs McKendry  
Designated Teacher  
for Child Protection



Mr Murdock  
Deputy Designated Teacher  
for Child Protection &  
Principal



Mrs Evans  
Deputy Designated Teacher  
for Child Protection

## Our school is NUT FREE

Please do not send foods to school containing any type of nuts (including Nutella products)



Thank you  
for keeping our school safe!



## Allergies



Please be mindful of nut and sesame allergies in school when preparing your child's snack and packed lunch. We have a several children with severe nut and sesame seeds allergies. Thanks.

## IMPORTANT Safeguarding Message School Car Park

We would respectfully ask that parents **do not** enter the school grounds in their cars. In the interests of our children's safety, staff cars are the only ones permitted to be in the school car park. *The only exception is for those using Breakfast Club between 8.00am and 8.30am and HOP Club after 4.15pm collection.*

***Due to the early morning drop off from 8.30am to 8.45am, the school gates will now open at***