

## Ballymurn 5k Fun Run

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual Ballymurn 5k fun run was postponed last Sunday. We hope to run this event at some stage during the year and will keep you informed when a date has been confirmed.

## Grandparents' Day

We invite all grandparents or special people to our school mass on February 1<sup>st</sup> at 10am followed by refreshments in school afterwards. The children from infants to 6<sup>th</sup> have been working on artwork, poems and songs to prepare for this special day. We look forward to seeing you all on Thursday.



## Hurling 365

Hurling 365 continues each Tuesday and Thursday morning. Tuesday morning's session is for Senior Infants to 2nd class, and Thursday morning's session is for 3rd-6th class. We have now secured the hall for wet/icy mornings so hurling 365 can go ahead in any weather. A huge thank you to the parents who volunteer to make this happen, and to Leanna for coordinating it all. If any other parent could help out, as volunteer numbers are quite low, please contact Leanna for further information.

## World Book Day

Again this year we will celebrate world book day on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March with our "Hat Creations" theme. Children are asked to design a hat themed from one of their favourite book characters. We had some amazing creations last year and we look forward to seeing what creations the children come up with this year! Further details will follow nearer that time.

## Student Council

Congratulations to Jessica Quirke, Jack McNicholas, James Vorster, Ellie Sheehan, Tara Murphy, Ellie Mae Redmond, Charlie Healy, Amelia Doyle & Oscar Lafferty who were recently elected to our Student Council.



## School Photos

A company called County Photos will visit our school on March 12<sup>th</sup> to take photographs of our Junior Infant and 6<sup>th</sup> Class pupils along with their siblings. They will also take a class photo of the Junior Infants and 6<sup>th</sup> Class. Parents will receive samples in a few weeks and will be able to order prints directly from County Photos. If any parents of children in the other classes would like their child's photo take please contact the school office by email.

## Pancake Tuesday

Next week the Parents Association will host Pancake Tuesday along with the help of our Student Council during school. Each pupil will be able to get a freshly cooked pancake for a monetary donation of their choice. We would ask parents to send in donations of toppings e.g. fruit, marshmallows, choc spread etc. All funds raised will be spent by the Student Council on PE equipment of their choice.

## **Enrolment**

Reminder that all outstanding enrolment forms for September 2024 are due back into the school office by Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

**Absences** -Leanna has sent a text to all families containing the link for our back to school form, which must be filled in each time your child returns following an absence from school. This link is also available on our website, [ballymurnns.ie](http://ballymurnns.ie), under the "Useful Information" tab. <https://forms.gle/zeR2ZT9b9BnrScsr5> As always, we must remind parents that we are obliged by law to report instances where children have been absent for a cumulative total of twenty days or more during the school year to Tusla.

**Garda Vetting** - It is a legal requirement that any parents who wish to be involved in school activities e.g. Rackard League, Hurling 365 etc., must be Garda vetted through the school. Rackard League games will commence in March, so it is especially important that parents of this age group ensure that their vetting is up to date. We realise that many parents are already Garda vetted through the G.A.A and other organisations, but unfortunately, everybody still needs to go through the school vetting process. If you would like to become involved and have not been vetted previously, please contact the school office for a form. This also applies if you are giving a lift to another child to matches

**Morning Supervision**- School gates do not open until 9.10am, and no pupils should be on the premises before this. Morning supervision is outdoors, and on wet days, children must wait in the shelter until school opens at 9.20am.

**Healthy Eating** - Reminder that the school operates a 'healthy eating policy'. Children are allowed a small treat each Friday and we thank parents for their support in implementing this policy. This is available on our website 'www.ballymurnns.ie'

**Parking**- Please remember to park with care on the street outside the school. Do not double park or block access to staff cars. The car park spaces provided are for staff use and the school bus only. We also ask that people please do not park directly opposite the school, as our bus for pupils with Special Educational Needs parks there. Please do not park in these spaces when dropping off or collecting your child from school. Please be conscious of how/where you park, taking the children's safety into account at all times.

**Child Protection** - A reminder that should you have a Child Protection concern in relation to any child in our school, you should immediately contact the Designated Liaison Person(DLP), Ms. Ormonde, or in her absence the Deputy DLP, Ms. Sheehan.

**Communication** - Parents are reminded that if you have a concern/issue which you would like to raise with the school; you must make an appointment to speak to your child's teacher, through the school office.

## Dates / Upcoming Events:

### February

- 29<sup>th</sup> January - 2<sup>nd</sup> February Catholic Schools Week
- 1<sup>st</sup> February Grandparents Day Mass at 10am
- 2<sup>nd</sup> February HSE Hearing & Vision Tests Junior Infants
- 5<sup>th</sup> February Bank Holiday Monday School Closed
- 13<sup>th</sup> February Pancake Tuesday
- 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> February Midterm Break School Closed

### March

- 7<sup>th</sup> March First Confession 2<sup>nd</sup> Class
- 8<sup>th</sup> March Friday, World Book Day " Hat Creations"
- 9<sup>th</sup> March - FAI 5 Aside Tournament
- 11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> March Seachtain na Gaeilge
- 12<sup>th</sup> March School Photographers visiting
- 18<sup>th</sup> March St. Patrick's Day Bank Holiday Monday School closed
- Easter Holidays: School closes on Friday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12.15pm and reopens on Monday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 9.20am