



Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy Valentine's Day! Today, our Pupil Council held a cake and bun sale. Well done to all involved! Thank you to parents for sending in donations and for allowing your children to purchase these sweet treats on this special day. Photographs are available on the website: www.buickmemorial.org

After Buick Club

This week in ABC our focus was Valentine's Day. We made collage pictures and created love bugs using Oreo biscuits and icing! Thank you to Ms Campbell for kindly donating the ingredients. We would actively encourage more parents to avail of this service as the children really enjoy the range of activities on offer.



Safer Internet Week

This week, we held a special assembly with our Digital Leaders to promote Internet Safety Week. We spoke about appropriate websites and apps for children to use and we discussed how to remain safe whilst online.

Parents have a duty of care to ensure that their child does not have access to inappropriate material and that they are playing age appropriate software on xbox and ps4 devices.

At Buick, we do not deal with issues which happen online outside school hours as it is your parental responsibility to monitor what your child says, does and writes about themselves and others on public platforms. As we approach half term, we would encourage parents to regularly check their child's online interactions. Through education in school and closely monitored online conduct at home, our children can enjoy the opportunities that the internet provides in an age appropriate and safe manner.



Junior Road Safety Officers

Our JRSOs recently offered questionnaires to parents, staff and pupils of Buick. Feedback from this indicated that younger pupils wanted more awareness of the JRSOs and their role. In response, the JRSOs now visit P2-4 classes each week to read and discuss the road safety calendar. This regular input helps to promote road safety throughout our school and ultimately will help to keep our children safe on their daily travels.



Ballymena's Jingle All The Way

On Tuesday, we presented a cheque for £800 to Mrs Kennedy on behalf of Northern Ireland's Children's Hospice. This incredible figure was raised over the Christmas period by our children wearing Christmas jumpers and from the collection after our service in the Cuningham Memorial. Thank you to everybody who contributed - it really is a wonderful charity and we are very proud to support it each year.



Science Fortnight

Over the past two weeks, we have embarked upon various Science initiatives. Our pupils love to conduct experiments and have relished many practical activities. For more pictures and information, please visit our website www.buickmemorial.org



After School Clubs w/c Monday 24th February 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	2pm-3pm/ Buick Ju-Jitsu 3pm-4pm Buick Ju-Jitsu 2pm Netball Match St. Marys Vs Buick	3pm - 4pm Ballymena Festival Rehearsal	3pm - 4pm Football Training P5-P7	3pm - 4pm Rugby Training

Child Protection

If you have any concerns about your child's safety in school, you can speak to Mr Beattie, (Designated Teacher for Child Protection), or to Mrs Shirlow, (Deputy Designated Teacher). If you are still concerned, you may contact the Acting Principal, Miss R Peters, who oversees the Safeguarding Team within Buick Memorial Primary School. Additionally, you may contact the Board of Governors. The Governor responsible for Child Protection and Safeguarding is Mrs Courtney. At any time, you may talk to a Social Worker at the Social Services Gateway Team on 0300 1234 333.

Parent Helpers

We would welcome skilled parents to assist with our after school sporting activities such as football or rugby coaching! If you have experience and would be free to help, please contact Mr Beattie.

Likewise, in Primary 1, our pupils learn about People Who Help Us and we would really appreciate visits from various occupations.

If you could contribute to our children's learning, please contact Miss Peters on 028 2588 0368 to discuss further. Thank you in advance.

Dates For Your Diary - February

Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February = Buick Half Term Holidays (School Closed)

Tuesday 25th February Scholastic Book Fair
Thursday 27th February NSPCC visiting Buick for KS1 Assembly and KS2 Assembly
Friday 28th February NSPCC working with P6 & P7 classes

March

Monday 2nd March After School Football commences for P3 & P4 pupils
Tuesday 3rd March Netball Match Buick v St. Patricks
Wednesday 4th March Netball match Camphill Vs Buick
Friday 6th March High Five Scripture Union for P1-P3 pupils at lunch time
Friday 6th March Football - Senior Cup at Fourtowns (ko at 1:30pm)
Tuesday 10th March P1 Shared Education at Buick and Braidside
Wednesday 11th Netball match Buick Vs Moorfields
Thursday 12th Football - 5 a-side at Antrim Forum
Tuesday 17th March Jo Jingles in P1 & P2
Tuesday 17th March (This is an Education Authority holiday and therefore no buses or Dining Centre will be available on this date. All pupils should bring a packed lunch.)
Wednesday 18th March P2 Shared Education at Buick
Wednesday 25th March P3 Shared Education at Buick
Friday 27th March Netball Tournament at Seven Towers Leisure Centre
Friday 3rd April End of Term at 12 noon - NO BUSES and NO DINING CENTRE

Easter Holidays = Monday 6th April - Friday 17th April (inclusive)

Term 3 begins on Monday 20th April 2020

Thank you to all parents who attended their child's Parent Interview this week. These meetings are highly beneficial for teachers and for parents alike to communicate effectively. At Buick, we strive to share successes and areas for development for every child and we hope that advice given by professional teachers is welcomed and acted upon.

Feedback from our recent questionnaire highlighted that our partnership working with parents is a strength of our school. We want to continue to develop this productive partnership throughout Term 3, to ultimately benefit our pupils' achievements.

Pupils and staff are both looking forward to their half term holidays. We hope that parents also enjoy this quality time of less structure and embrace opportunities to make memories.

School re-opens on Monday 24th February at 9:05am and we look forward to seeing all the children back and raring to go in Term 2B!

Kind regards,
R. Peters, Acting Principal



NSPCC Visiting Buick

On Thursday 27th and Friday 28th March, the NSPCC will be visiting Buick to meet with pupils from P1-P7. This visit will be held to promote their work of 'Keeping Children Safe in Northern Ireland'.

The highly skilled and trained presenters will be meeting with P1-P4 pupils in a group in our Assembly Hall and then with P5-P7 pupils in another group afterwards. This is to ensure that age appropriate material is shared. They will then meet with all P6 pupils in their classroom and P7 pupils in their classroom to share relevant material.

The NSPCC have already delivered these 'Speak Out, Stay Safe' sessions throughout Northern Ireland. We would recommend that all parents read the statistical information accompanying today's newsletter. These figures for Northern Ireland may be surprising to many and this is the reason why schools are promoting the work of the NSPCC.

You may have seen recent advertising campaigns on television regarding the work of the NSPCC. If not, we would strongly encourage all parents to visit their website at www.nspcc.org.uk to familiarise yourselves with their message. This website will also allow you to see topics which may arise through discussion.

Schools have a Duty of Care to keep children safe and to educate them about Staying Safe beyond the school environment. All Buick Staff (Teachers, Classroom Assistants, Lunch Time Supervisors, Dining Centre Staff, Clerical Staff, Ancillary and Auxillary Staff) participate in Child Protection Training each year. Relevant information is shared accordingly with appropriate personnel in school to comply with Child Protection procedures.

We anticipate that all pupils will engage in this programme.

Should you wish to discuss any concerns you may have, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Beattie who is the Designated Teacher for Child Protection or Mrs Shirlow who is the Deputy Designated Teacher.

Your support in this matter is greatly appreciated as we continue to keep our children safe in an ever-changing world.