Buick Memorial Primary School Newsletter
Thursday 2nd October 2026

Hello Parents/Carers,

We are incredibly proud of our wee village of Cullybackey. This week, our Primary 3 pupils, equipped with clipboards, set off on an observational walk to record the various types of 'Houses and Homes'.

Our children identified and compared features of detached, semi-detached, terraced homes and bungalows. This linked effectively with their World Around Us topic. It also built upon knowledge of how our village has evolved over time.

Our pupils demonstrated excellent observation skills throughout the walk and it was a great opportunity to take learning outside the classroom and into our local community.

Primary 5/4 Netball

This week in P5/4 netball after school, the children worked on developing their passing skills. They learnt and practised different types of passes and completed drills in pairs and small groups, focusing on accuracy, receiving the ball and communicating with their teammates. Great foundations are being made for competitive matches in P6/7! ☺

Dining Centre and Lunches

Monday 5th October 2026 is Week 2 of our new Lunch Bunch Menu. School dinners remain at a cost of £3.10 per day. Any pupil with a food allergy **must** complete the relevant Special Diet form (on our website) before availing of food from our Dining Centre.

Please ensure your child has nutritious snacks to fuel their brains. Please do not send sugary sweets to school as this hinders children's ability to sit and concentrate. Thank you.

Parent Interviews

Parent Interview slots will go live on Monday 5th October. Please ensure you book a suitable time and day.

Last year's hybrid model of offering both face-to-face and telephone calls worked extremely well so we will continue with that this session.

Wednesday 21st is face to face interviews only and slots will be available from 1.10pm – 5:30pm.

Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd are telephone interviews. Please ensure you're prepared for the correct format. Job share staff will be adding additional slots to ensure provision for all.

School Council

We are delighted to present our School Council for 2026/27. These boys and girls were elected by their classmates and they have attended meetings with Mrs Cumberland and Mrs McKay to share their ideas for fundraising and school improvements.

Pupil Voice is really important to us at Buick. Today, they had a meeting with Miss Peters to share their exciting ideas and plans! Watch this space for new child-led initiatives in the school diary!

Child Protection

If you have any concerns about your child's safety in school, you can speak to Mrs Shirlow, (Designated Teacher for Child Protection), or to Miss Stirling, (Deputy Designated Teacher). If you are still concerned, you may contact the Principal, Miss R Peters, who oversees the Safeguarding Team within Buick Memorial Primary School. Additionally, you may contact the Board of Governors. Our Child Protection Governor is Rev. Philip Moffett.

If you have any concerns about a child or community activity out of school hours, you can talk to a Social Worker at the Social Services Gateway Team on 0300 1234 333 or PSNI on 101. Like all primary schools, Buick links with PSNI Officers to engage in Operation Encompass. This is a legal requirement which ensures appropriate information is shared accordingly.

As professionals, we have a legal duty of care for children. As part of this, 'Notes of Concern' are completed inhouse if staff have any worries regarding a child's presentation. This presentation includes their attendance, personal hygiene, nutritional provision, growth and development, uncharacteristic behaviours and comments/worries they share about home life. If appropriate, these records may be shared with Social Services. If your individual circumstances or family composition has changed, please contact the school to inform us. These open lines of communication will ensure each child's needs are met.

Term 1A

Monday 5th October	3pm – 3:45pm – Hockey Training for P7 Girls & Boys and P6 Girls! (2/6) 3pm – 3:45pm - P4 & P5 Netball (3/6)
Tuesday 6th October	3pm – 3:45pm - P6 & P7 Scripture Union with Rev. Moffett and Mrs McQuiston (4/4)
Wednesday 7th October	**P2 pupils visiting Dayfresh (rescheduled)** Ballymena Academy Coaching Netball and Rugby with P6s (2/6) 2pm – 3pm or 3pm – 4pm – Buick Ju-Jitsu
Thursday 8th October	Coaching For Christ in Buick 5/12 **Owen Daly Football Tournament** P6 Swimming 3/10 3pm – 4pm – Eco Club 2/2 NO Football Training for P5-P7 Boys 3pm – 3:45pm - Choir
Friday 9th October	2pm-3pm - P2 After School Club (2/3)
Monday 12th October	3pm – 3:45pm – Hockey Training for P7 Girls & Boys and P6 Girls (3/6) 3pm – 3:45pm - P4 & P5 Netball (4/6)
Tuesday 13th October	3pm – 3:45pm - Netball Training (1/6)
Wednesday 14th October	Ballymena Academy Coaching Netball and Rugby with P6s (3/6) 2pm – 3pm or 3pm – 4pm – Buick Ju-Jitsu
Thursday 15th October	Coaching For Christ in Buick 6/12 P6 Swimming 4/10 3pm – 4:15pm – Football Training for P5-P7 Boys 5/12 NO Choir
Friday 16th October	Learn With Lauren's Sensory Stories with Primary 1 pupils 2/3 2pm-3pm - P2 After School Club (3/3)
Monday 19th October	School Nurses in Buick for Nasal Flu Spray NO Hockey Training for P7 Girls & Boys and P6 Girls (4/6) 3pm – 3:45pm - P4 & P5 Netball (5/6)
Tuesday 20th October	3pm – 3:45pm - Netball Training (2/6) P6 to Cambridge House Grammar School to see 'Frozen'
Wednesday 21st October **NO After School Clubs**	Pupils Finishing at 1pm for Parent Interviews Face-to-Face
Thursday 22nd October **NO After School Clubs**	Coaching For Christ in Buick 7/12 P6 Swimming 5/10 Pupils Finishing at 1pm for Parent Interviews by telephone
Friday 23rd October **NO After School Clubs**	Learn With Lauren's Sensory Stories with Primary 1 pupils 3/3 Pupils Finishing at 1pm for Parent Interviews by telephone

***New additions in bold**

In Staffing news, Mrs Carleton (P2) has decided to embark on a new exciting adventure and will be leaving Buick on Friday 23rd October. Mrs Carleton has worked in Buick for 16 years and seen hundreds of children pass through her classroom. Her passion for Outdoor Learning and Eco Initiatives is taking her onto a very different path, and one which we know she will absolutely love.

The Board of Governors, staff and children would like to thank her for her dedicated service and wish her every success in moving forward.

Kind regards,
R. Peters,
Principal

RADIO CRACKER
Ballymena

PRESENTS

BGT
Ballymena's
GOT TALENT!

LEIGHINMOHR HOUSE HOTEL
WED 14 OCTOBER
SHOW STARTS 7.30 pm

FEATURING

The Seven Towers Male Voice Choir
Radio Cracker's Own Billy McFarland
Reverb Musical Group
The Ballymena Ukulele Group
Kellswater Flute Band Ensemble
Singers from Cambridge House School

ADMISSION £10

Tickets to be purchased from the Radio Cracker Shop
and Members of the Radio Committee
or Contact Craig on 07708 150204