**Ballymoney National School,**

**Ballineen,**

**Co. Cork.**

**Phone: 023-8847583**

 **24th November 2021**

**Dear Parents,**

**Concern Debating Competition**

Congratulations to 5th and 6th class who won their debate on Monday against Clogagh National School. The debate was postponed for a week due to the number of covid cases in the other school. Well done to Anna, Leon and Cillian who were the speakers on the day.

**Raffle**

The PTA is planning a raffle. Each family is asked to bring in some luxury, non-perishable food items to include in the hampers. Please bring them into school before next Friday 26th November so that the hampers can be created before the tickets go on sale.

**Advent messages**

During Advent, as we look forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus, we can get carried away with buying presents and food, decorating the house and all that Christmas entails. As a countdown to this special day we thought it would be nice to get together every day as a family and receive a special message from our friends in school.  We ask that the children in each family record a Christmas message to everyone in school. This may be a simple 'Happy Christmas', a Christmas song or joke, show and tell about your favourite Christmas decoration, the choice is yours. Please record one video per family maximum two minutes long and either upload it to seesaw or email it to school. Each school day in Advent, one of these Christmas messages will be uploaded for you all to see after school. We will watch the videos in school the following morning in case anyone has difficulty accessing seesaw the previous evening.

**Willow Weaving**

The children are having a very exciting week. The senior classroom wove fish today and the junior classroom will weave them tomorrow. Outside they have been pruning the willow dome, constructing a willow tunnel and they hope to build a willow shelter for a bench tomorrow. Rosemary Kavanagh is the name of our heritage specialist who is guiding us. The children will be using the willow that they have pruned from their original willow dome to construct the willow shelter.

**Parent Teacher Meetings**

The parent teacher meetings will be held in January this year. This is later than usual. If you have any concerns about your child, please do not wait until then, ring us and we will be happy to discuss your concerns with you. Unfortunately we are not permitted to hold meetings in person yet so the meetings will either be on the phone or on zoom.

**Additional Activities Payment**

The Additional Activities Payment of €100 is now due.