**Ballymoney National School,**

**Ballineen,**

**Co. Cork.**

**Phone: 023-8847583**

**25th April 2022**

**Dear Parents,**

**Swimming**

Swimming lessons start tomorrow. Each child will need swimming togs, a swimming hat, goggles, a hairbrush and a towel.

**Concern Workshop on Water**

On Wednesday, the Senior classroom will attend a development education workshop on zoom with Concern on the topic of water conservation. This is part of our Green Schools work on the theme of water.

**Visit from the Bishop**

Yesterday I met Bishop Paul Colton who is the patron of our school. He will be in the parish on Thursday and he would like to visit the school to see the pupils' mural and to thank them for allowing him to use it on his Christmas card last year. This will be an informal visit to affirm the pupils' work.

**Packs for Ukraine**

We are still collecting welcome packs for Ukrainians in zip lock bags if any families would like to make up some packs. The list of suggested items is attached to this newsletter.

**School Transport**

The deadline to apply for school transport is this Friday, the 29th April. Please note that you must apply for school transport to avail of a remote rural area transport grant. If you would like more details, please come and talk to me. We need ten children to apply for school transport to guarantee that we will have a school transport service next year.

**Easter Egg Hunt**

The Easter Egg Hunt at the start of the Easter holidays was a huge success. The sun shone, the children and parents thoroughly enjoyed all the events and over one hundred preschoolers attended. €801.05 was raised for The Irish Red Cross Crisis in Ukraine Appeal. Thank you all for your time and contributions towards the day.

**INSPA (Irish National School Photography Awards)**

We are participating in the INSPA Positive Primaries Journey which is a creative wellbeing programme. For creativity, the senior classroom has been learning and practising how to take photographs in terms of colour, texture, pattern, leading lines, framing and vantage points. Over the next week, they will also learn about ways to relax your body - rainbow breathing, starfish breathing, super senses, bubble wishes, seed exercise and water scribble.

**Drama lessons**

Both classrooms will begin six weeks of drama lessons with Nora Scannell on Monday 9th May. The emphasis will be on the drama process and the enjoyment of drama. Nora will be coming back next school year and we plan to work on the themes of mediation and conflict resolution through the medium of drama then. The cost of the drama lessons will be covered by your additional activities payment.

**Food Dudes**

Please remember to send a portion of fruit or vegetables to school with your child everyday. There will be certificates for the pupils who continue to bring fruit and vegetables to school for their lunch.

**Supervalu tokens**

Thank you to all the families who collected Supervalu tokens, we have now collected enough tokens and we don't need anymore.

**Ukuleles**

Please remind your children to bring their ukuleles into school every Monday morning.

**Baking Summer Camp**

We have been asked to advertise a baking summer camp for 9-13 year olds in Bandon Grammar School. It is being run by Sarah Collins (Ted's Treats) who is the home economics teacher there and another home economics teacher from Scoil Bernadette Special School. The flyer is attached.