Friday 6th November 2026



Message from the Principal

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the second half of our first term! We hope all our families had an enjoyable week last week. Even if you didn't manage to get any time off work, hopefully you enjoyed a week without uniforms, homework and the daily lunch routine. I know I certainly did!

There really is only one news story this week and it's a big one. Finally, after many years, work has started on our exciting new school building on the Balloo Road! We know there is still a long way to go, but it is fantastic to see work getting underway and we can't wait to watch the new building take shape over the months ahead.

As we begin to look towards Christmas, our thoughts also turn to our Open Day events for next year's Year 1 intake. We have so much to look forward to as a school and we want as many prospective families as possible to come along and discover what makes BCIPS such a special place. We would really appreciate your help in spreading the word. Please encourage friends, family, neighbours and work colleagues with young children to come along to one of our Open Day events. Our current parents and families are always our best ambassadors.

Please also help us spread the word that, as the only Integrated primary school in Bangor, families who live more than two miles from our school are highly likely to be eligible for home-to-school transport assistance from the Education Authority. This may also apply to families living in many parts of Newtownards, where Bangor Central may be their nearest suitable Integrated primary school.

In the coming weeks, we will also be looking for some willing volunteers to help deliver a few postcards in their local area. If you would be happy to help, please email info@bangorcentral.com

Have a great weekend!

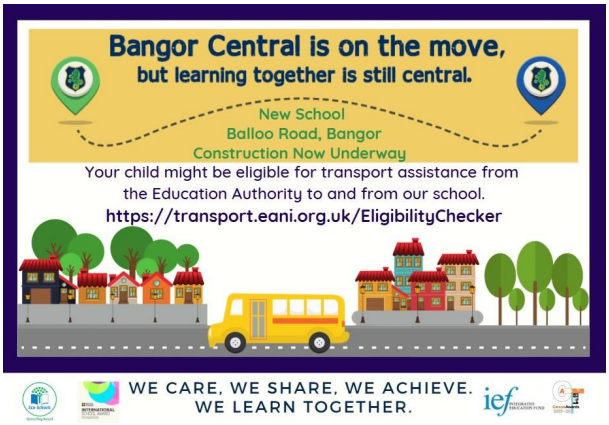
R. Lawther

Principal



Open Day Events - Spread the Word!





Pupils of the Week





Coming Up...

Please find below some of the events planned for November. Further dates will be added as they are confirmed, so we encourage families to check the newsletter each week for updates.



Day	Date	Event
M	2	School Reopens Poppy Shop Open School Council visit to Bangor City Hall
TU	3	Y1-4 Phonics Workshop 2.10pm
W	4	
TH	5	Gaelic Football Coaching – Y6T, Y6W and Y7 Active Youth Session Y6McM
F	6	
M	9	
TU	10	
W	11	
TH	12	Gaelic Football Coaching – Y6T, Y6W and Y7 Active Youth Session Y6McM Non-Uniform Day for BBC Children in Need
F	13	Remembrance Assembly Y4 Parent Assembly 1:15pm
S	14	SEAG Assessment Paper 1
M	16	Anti-Bullying Week
TU	17	
W	18	Y5 visit from Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service
TH	19	Active Youth Session Y6McM
F	20	
S	21	SEAG Assessment Paper 2
M	23	
TU	24	
W	25	Parent Coffee and Conversation Afternoon 2pm-3pm - Childcare with Christmas Craft available for Y1-4 families
TH	26	Flu Vaccinations
F	27	Ditch the Dark Day
M	30	

What's For Lunch?

Menu for W/C 9th November

Our menu works on a rotating cycle, as shown below.

Please only send your child to dinners on the days you know they will enjoy.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
MAIN COURSE ***LUNCH BUNCH CATCH OF THE WEEK*** Oven Baked Fish Fingers Garden Peas & Diced Carrots Chips or Mashed Potatoes ***DESSERT*** ***PEACHY KEEN RICE DREAM*** Rice Pudding with Peach Slices	***MAIN COURSE*** ***A LITTLE TASTE OF ITALY*** Homemade Beef Bolognese Sweetcorn & Coleslaw Pasta Spirals ***DESSERT*** ***CHOCOLATE LAVA MOUNTAIN*** Ice Cream & Pears with Chocolate Sauce	***MAIN COURSE*** ***LUNCH BUNCH CHICKEN CURRY*** Chicken Curry & Mini Naan Bread Broccoli & Baton Carrots Boiled Rice ***DESSERT*** ***SUNBEAMS & APPLE DREAMS*** Apple Sponge Cake with Custard

Thursday	Friday
MAIN COURSE ***LUNCH BUNCH ROAST OF THE WEEK*** Roast Gammon with Stuffing & Rich Gravy Seasonal Veg of the Day Oven Baked Roast Potatoes or Mashed Potatoes ***DESSERT*** ***SIMPLY THE ZEST*** Chocolate & Raspberry Cookie With Orange Wedges	***MAIN COURSE*** ***CHICKIN' LICKIN' GOOD*** Oven Baked Chicken Goujons Baked Beans & Mini Corn on the cob Chips or Baked Potato ***DESSERT*** ***BANANA FOOL*** Layered Banana with Yoghurt, Banana Mousse & Biscuit



Early Finish - Friday 4th December

Due to our Winter Wonderland event for prospective pupils and their families taking place on **Friday 4th December, school will finish for all pupils at 1.00 pm**, rather than the usual time of 2.00 pm. School lunches will operate as normal on this day. We apologise for any inconvenience this earlier finish may cause.



Children in Need

As our Remembrance Assembly will take place in school on Friday 13th November, we will be celebrating BBC Children in Need a day early, on **Thursday 12th November.**

It is a non uniform day so children may wear their own clothing with Pudsey accessories or spotty clothing- be as creative as you wish.

It is a voluntary contribution and all money raised will be going towards Children in Need and can be paid via School Money or on the day in cash.

We appreciate that there have been a couple of charity events within the first term, and we understand that this is a difficult financial time for all. So please do not feel under any pressure to donate.



Ditch the Dark - Friday 27th November

More information to follow



School Photographs

Our school photographer will be in school on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th November to take individual and family photographs. **Please ensure that you have registered in advance if you would like your child to have their photograph taken.** Unfortunately, if your child is not registered, we will be unable to have their photograph taken.

Even if you do not intend to purchase any photographs, we would be grateful if you could still register and allow your child to have an individual photograph taken, as we use these photographs for our internal school database. Thank you.

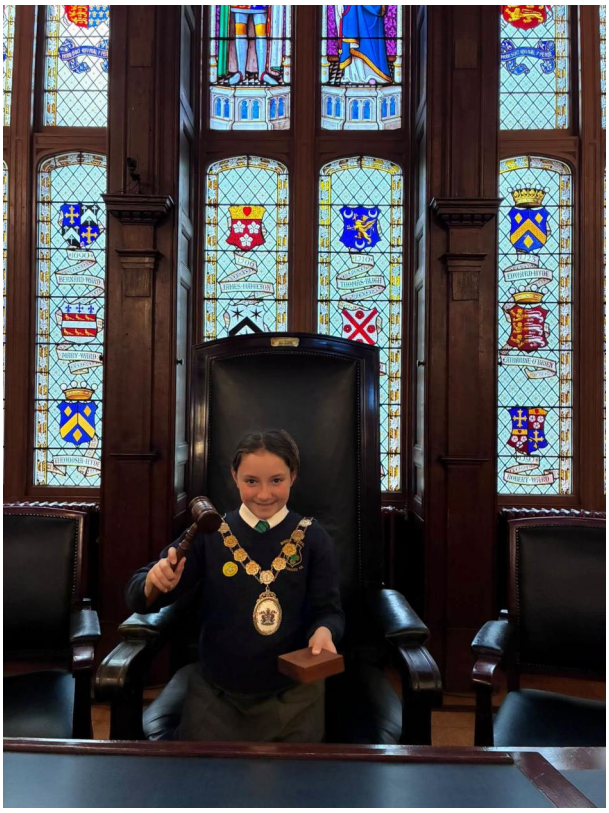


School Council Meet the Mayor

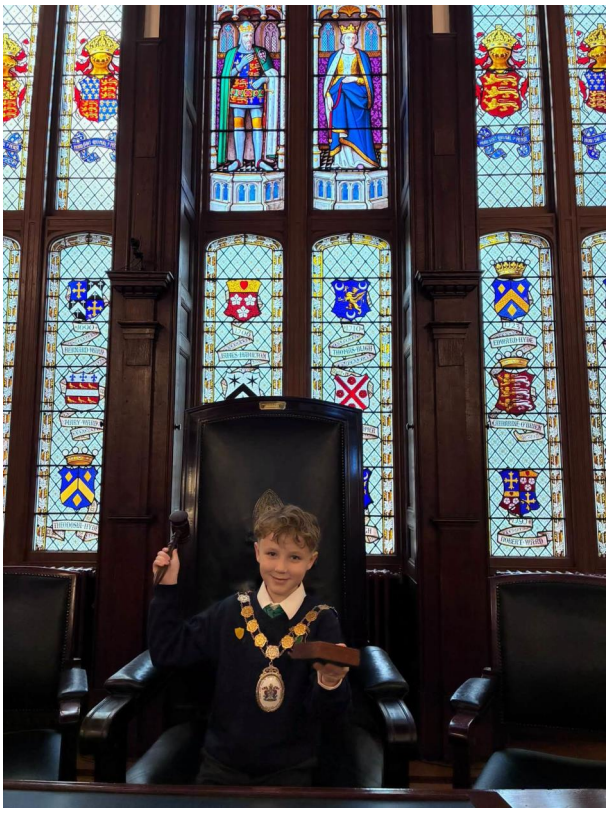
On Monday, our School Council enjoyed a visit to Bangor Castle to meet Mayor Craig Blaney. The children were given a personal tour, learned more about our city and local council, and had the opportunity to ask lots of questions. We were incredibly proud of their wonderful manners and interest throughout the visit. Mayor Blaney described them as "wonderful ambassadors for our school", and we couldn't agree more. Thank you to Cllr Craig Blaney for having us!







































Northern Ireland Assembly Elections

Please note that the use of the school premises has been requested for a polling station for the Northern Ireland Assembly Elections on **Thursday 6th May 2027.**

Therefore, school will be closed on this date.



Coffee and Conversation Afternoon

We are pleased to invite families to a Coffee & Conversation Integrated Afternoon, which will include a festive Christmas Craft activity for Year 1-3 children on **Wednesday 25th November from 2-3pm.**

This is a wonderful opportunity for parents and carers to meet, chat and enjoy time together while children take part in a fun Christmas-themed craft session.

To book a place for your child, please complete the booking form using the link below or scan the QR code provided:

Book a Year 1-3 Christmas Craft Place

We look forward to welcoming you for an enjoyable afternoon.



Poppy Shop

15 October 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian

Poppy Shop

Every year we give families the opportunity to support the Royal British Legion and remember those who fought in the First World War. The Royal British Legion helps the whole Armed Forces community through welfare, comradeship and representation as well as being the Nation's custodian of Remembrance.

This year we will be selling a variety of items alongside the traditional poppy. These items are very reasonable to buy. Some examples of the items available with suggested donations are as follows: Flexi/Slap Bands/ribbon wrist bands - £1.50; Friendship Wristbands - £1; Poppies - £1; Reflective tags, Zip Pull, Pencils - 50p.

If you wish your child to buy any of the items listed above, they will be on sale in school from **Monday 2 November 2026 to Wednesday 11 November 2026** (subject to availability).

The proceeds will help serving members of the Armed Forces, ex-Service men and women (veterans), their families and dependents all year-round.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Stevenson
(Charity Co-ordinator)

Classroom Spotlight

Each week we'll be shining a spotlight on different classes to give you a glimpse of the fantastic learning and activities happening in our school.

This week's spotlight is on Y5 (Miss Orr / Mrs Bryans) and Y6 (Mrs Wilson).

Y5 Miss Orr / Mrs Bryans

On Friday 23rd October, 5WO enjoyed a lovely Teddy Bears' Picnic at break time with Mr Lawther, bringing their topic, 'Our World', to an end. The children learned about St Gall, a missionary and monk from Bangor, and the story of how he befriended a bear.

The class have also been thoroughly enjoying their swimming lessons and making great progress in the pool. They have loved getting out and about to explore the signs of Autumn on their walk through Castle Park, admiring the changing colours of the leaves and keeping their eyes peeled for squirrels!










WELCOME













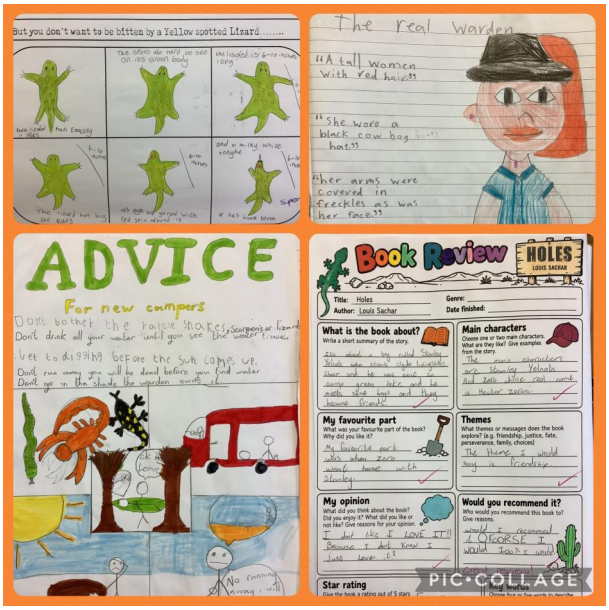


Y6 Mrs Wilson

Year 6 have thoroughly enjoyed exploring the novel *Holes* and taking part in a range of exciting activities inspired by the story. We began by making predictions about what The Warden might look like, before searching the text for descriptive clues to help us bring her character to life through our own illustrations. We then stepped into Stanley's shoes, writing a recount of his journey to Camp Green Lake and a letter to his parents describing his experiences at camp. We also designed our own 'Advice to New Campers' posters, sharing helpful tips on how to survive life at Camp Green Lake! Our creative learning continued as we followed instructions to draw a yellow-spotted lizard and made our very own 'Sam's

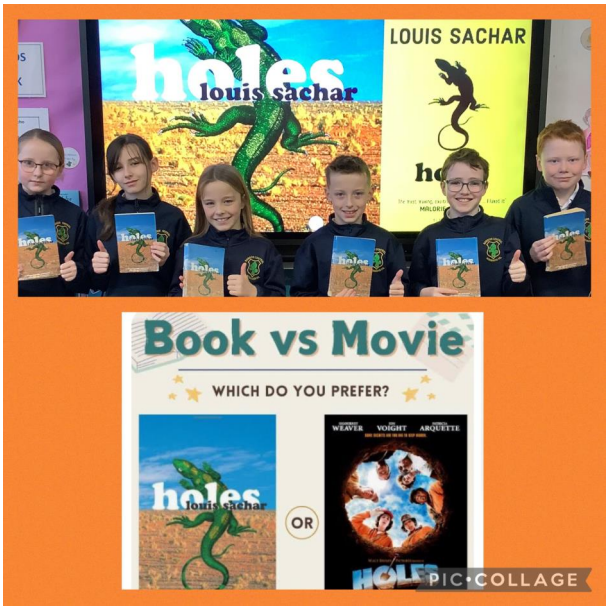
Onion' potions, which we imagined could cure all sorts of ailments. To round off our novel study, we wrote book reviews and enjoyed watching the film adaptation, comparing it with the book and discussing the similarities and differences. It has been a fantastic adventure into the world of *Holes*! This week in maths, we have been learning how to calculate the perimeter of both 2D and compound shapes. We used our desks as a space to work out and record our calculations. This practical activity helped us to visualise the shapes, show our working out and explain our mathematical thinking. We made sure the desks were sparkling clean afterwards!



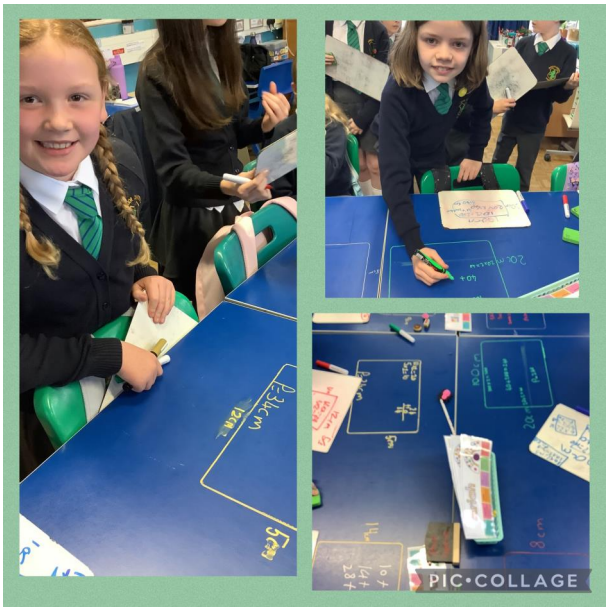



HOLES
LOUIS SACHAR
Sploosh
PIC•COLLAGE


Book vs Movie
WHICH DO YOU PREFER?
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OR
HOLES
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Community News

Please see below some community events and local news. If you know of any family-friendly events you'd like us to consider including, please email the details to **info@bangorcentral.com**. We'll be happy to consider them, although inclusion can't be guaranteed.

THE CHANGING LIVES INITIATIVE
FLOURISH & THRIVE

Online Workshops

November 2026

Nov 2nd	10.30-11.30am Sensory SOS: Practical Strategies for kids who feel everything	SCAN ME
Nov 3rd	7.30-8.30pm Sensory SOS: Practical Strategies for kids who feel everything	SCAN ME
Nov 11th	10:30AM -11.30AM Stop, Think & Act: Helping Children Manage Impulsivity	SCAN ME
Nov 12th	7.30-8.30pm Stop, Think & Act: Helping Children Manage Impulsivity	SCAN ME

PEACEPLUS Northern Ireland - Ireland
Colin Neighbourhood Partnership

A project supported by the PEACEPLUS Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).
Delivered by Colin Neighbourhood Partnership as part of The Changing Lives Initiative: Flourish & Thrive

THE CHANGING LIVES INITIATIVE
FLOURISH & THRIVE

Online Workshops

November 2026

Nov 17th	7:30PM -8:30PM Thinking Outside the Box. How Different Brains Learn & Grow	SCAN ME
Nov 19th	10.30-11.30am Thinking Outside the Box. How Different Brains Learn & Grow	SCAN ME
Nov 25th	7.30-8.30pm Calm & Connected Helping kids understand and manage emotions	SCAN ME

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MORE LEISURE

JOIN FOR £1

and pay nothing on swimming lessons until January!

Use promo code WINTERSWIM

Our swimming lessons are designed to help you, or your child, learn to swim and become confident in the water.

SCAN ME TO BOOK!



Bangor Aurora Aquatics & Leisure Complex Tel: **028 9127 0271**
3 Valentine Rd, Bangor, Co-Down, N.Ireland BT20 4TH

moreleisure.com

MORE for every body

T&C's apply, see website for details. Offer available in centre 00.00 1st November - 23.59 31st December 2026.
Offer available online 1st - 22nd November and 1st - 22nd December 2026. Available to new customers only on all swimming lessons.

SERC

Free Course
Limited places

Essential Skills Literacy for Adults

Improve your English and build your confidence



- Improve your reading, writing, speaking and listening
- Build confidence with English
- Work towards an Essential Skills qualification
- Prepare for further education and employment opportunities
- Get to meet new people

Bangor Campus

Choose ONE class that suits you:

Monday	9:30am – 11:30am
Thursday	9:30am – 11:30am
Thursday	1:30pm – 3:30pm

- **Start Date:** Week commencing 9th November 2026
- **Duration:** 26 weeks
- 2 hrs per week

INTERESTED? TAKE THE FIRST STEP

Scan the QR code to register your interest.
It only takes a couple of minutes.

Or contact us:
community@serc.ac.uk
07970 037971

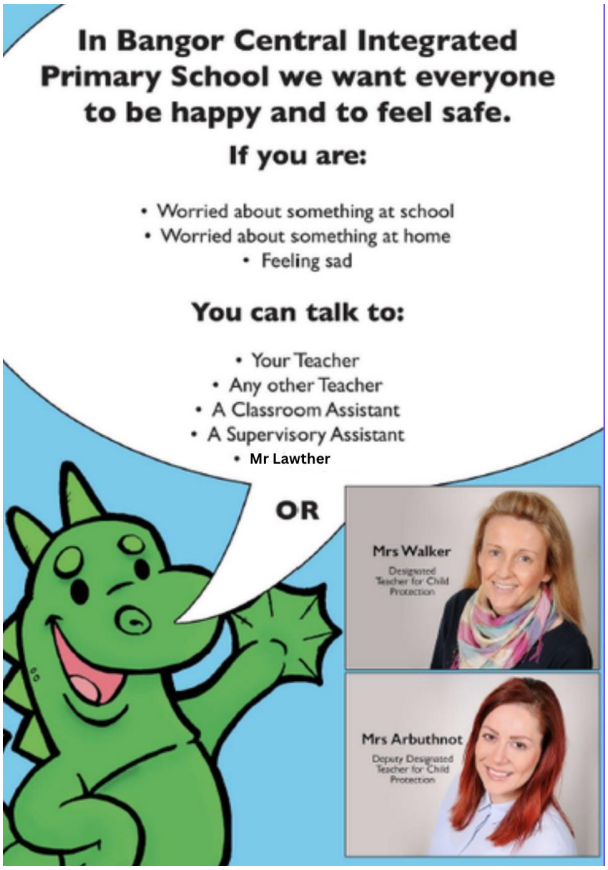


Safeguarding and Child Protection

At Bangor Central, the wellbeing and safety of our pupils is a top priority. We have a dedicated Safeguarding Team who hold special roles to support and protect our children:

- Designated Teacher for Child Protection: Mrs Walker
- Principal and Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection: Mr Lawther
- Deputy Designated Teachers: Mrs Arbuthnot and Mrs Elliott
- Designated Governor for Child Protection: Mrs Lee Thomson
- Chairperson of the Board of Governors: Mrs Betty Holland

If you have any concerns regarding a child's safety or wellbeing, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Safeguarding Team.



Words of Wisdom

