



In partnership with
Belfast
Telegraph

Attention teachers!

To celebrate Bus and Train Week 2017 (5th to 11th June), Translink and Belfast Telegraph are challenging Key Stage 2 classes across Northern Ireland to become “Little Reporters”, trying out their journalism skills by producing news reports for our real life audience.

We are calling Primary 5, 6 and 7 classes to produce articles, photographs or videos on **why public transport is so important to the people of Northern Ireland and why we should all get on-board.**

Entries will be judged by a team of experts from the Belfast Telegraph and Translink, with one lucky class crowned “**Little Reporters 2017**” and **receiving some amazing prizes!**

The prizes:

The winning class will receive a **wonderful school trip** as well as a **masterclass in Journalism and News from an award-winning journalist.** To top it off, their work will be **published in the Belfast Telegraph** for all our readers to see!

Four short-listed schools will also see a sample of their work in print.

Closing date for entries:

Entries must be received by **3pm on Friday 5th May.**

Any questions?

Contact us on littlereporters@belfasttelegraph.co.uk

Why get involved?

The project aims to give young people from across NI the chance to make their own news with real deadlines, before having it broadcast to our readers. In taking part, classes will have an opportunity to use their literacy and numeracy skills, whilst also potentially calling upon their knowledge of geography and history.

The evolving nature of news means that stories can be reported in lots of different forms – from a written article to a video news broadcast - and we are encouraging students to get creative with their submissions! Stories should be submitted as a written article plus photography or a short video report. Don't worry if you haven't got the technology to produce videos. It's the strength of the story and the effort put in that this competition aims to recognise!

Why not turn your class into a newsroom with different tasks and roles for everyone, from reporters to photographers, proof-readers to researchers? Brainstorming headlines, carrying out an interview, creating a questionnaire or debating a topic as a class are great ways to enhance your entry.

Remember that although only four to six pieces of content will be submitted, everyone's skills can help to make the class's submission the best it can be!

What's the story?

Submissions should focus on one or more of **Translink's SIX key themes of Bus and Train Week.**

1. Economy: Public transport helps attract businesses here and move goods and people.
2. Education: Public transport helps us get to school each day.
3. Tourism: When people visit Northern Ireland they like to take the bus and train.
4. Environmental responsibility: Public transport helps reduce pollution.
5. Health: Public transport helps us to walk more and relax.
6. Social Inclusion: Public transport helps keep everyone in society connected.

Pupils can **get creative with their journalism** and **submit interviews, reviews, research, opinion pieces or "breaking news" stories from the local community**, for example;

- Interviews with local people, teachers, local businesses or other students
- A day in the life of a student using the bus to get to school
- A survey of opinions on public transport
- A review of a trip on public transport
- A blog about an experience on public transport

How to enter:

Each class can submit between **four and six pieces of content** with each piece taking the form of:

- A written article (up to 500 words) with supporting photographs (minimum file size 1MB)
AND/OR
- A video report (under 2 minutes)

Participating classes will need to avail of the tools available to them within their school.

Sending your entry:

Entries can be submitted by:

- Email to littlereporters@belfasttelegraph.co.uk
(Maximum attachment size 15MB but multiple emails can be sent or a file-sharing website like WeTransfer used.)
OR
- Post to Little Reporters, Belfast Telegraph, 33 Clarendon Road, Clarendon Dock, Belfast, BT1 3BG

Please ensure that you have included:

- Teacher name
- School name
- School address
- Contact email
- Contact number
- Class name and age
- A photograph of your class
- Between 4 and 6 reports which should be labelled with the school name and names of pupils involved and can either take the form of:
 - A written article (up to 500 words) with supporting photographs (minimum file size 1MB)
AND/OR
 - A video report (under 2 minutes)

Terms & conditions

- Standard INM terms & conditions apply and can be found at www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/terms
- Entries must be received by 3pm on Friday 5th May 2017.
- Schools must be located in Northern Ireland.
- Children must be in Primary 5, Primary 6 or Primary 7
- Judging will take place w/c 8 May and the shortlist will be announced w/c 15 May. The winning entry will be printed on Thursday 8 June in the Belfast Telegraph.
- Translink will contact the winning class to arrange the masterclass and school trip within Northern Ireland on a date that suits both Translink and the winning school before the end of June 2017.
- The winning school class size must not exceed 40 students.
- The school trip will include return transport and entry to a Northern Ireland visitor attraction.
- The winning school will be responsible for arranging permission and supervision for their pupils on the trip.
- Permission must be sought from parents for children's image to be printed in the Belfast Telegraph and on Translink's and the Belfast Telegraph's online channels (website and social media).

Good luck to all our Little Reporters!