

# NEWSLETTER

INSPIRE ~ SUPPORT ~ ACHIEVE

## **Dates for Your Diary**

Hot Chocolate and Bun sale for Hope 365  
Final SEAG test for P7 pupils  
Choir singing at Ballyclare Light Switch On: 5pm  
PTA Christmas Wreath Making (advance booking)  
@ Ballyclare Golf Club 7pm  
P1-P2 Christmas Concert 9.30am  
Cash for Clobber collection  
P1-P2 Christmas Concert 7.00pm  
Rugby Match v Ben Madigan  
Football Tournament at Allen Park  
Primary 4 Panto Trip  
P1-P3 Christmas Dinner  
P1-P2 Grandparent Concert 9.30am  
Christmas Fair  
Open Morning (from 9.15am)  
P6 Digital Schoolhouse visit to BHS (1)  
P4-P7 Christmas Dinner  
P3-P4 Christmas Concert 9.30am  
Primary 7 Panto Trip  
P5-P6 Christmas Concert 9.30am  
P3-P4 Christmas Concert 7.00pm  
P6 Digital Schoolhouse visit to BHS (2)  
Primary 2-3 Panto Trip  
Primary 6 Panto Trip  
P5-P6 Christmas Concert 7.00pm  
Primary 1 Panto Trip  
Primary 5 Panto Trip  
Last Day of Term 1 12noon  
Ballyclare Secondary School Open Afternoon  
Ballyclare High School Open Evening  
Term 2 starts 8.45am

Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> November  
Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> November  
Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> November  
Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November  
  
Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November  
Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> November  
Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> November  
Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> November  
Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> November  
Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> November  
Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> November  
Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> December  
Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> December  
Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December  
Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> December  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December  
Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December  
Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December  
Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December  
Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December  
Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December  
Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> December  
Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> December  
Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> December  
Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December  
Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> December  
Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> December  
Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January  
Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> January  
Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> January

## **Pupils sit first ever SEAG test**

Last Saturday, many of our P7 pupils sat the first ever SEAG test. This test has replaced the AQE test many of our pupils sat in years past. Our pupils were well prepared having worked exceptionally hard in the buildup. Feedback seems to be very positive, with nothing unfamiliar coming up, which is always reassuring. Regardless of outcome, we are immensely proud of all our pupils and the efforts they make. One more to go boys and girls!

## **Additional Concert Tickets**

There are still a number of spaces in the hall for each of the Christmas concerts, except our Friday Grandparents Concert which is now full. Each ticket is priced at £3.50. If you would like additional tickets, please send a note into your child's teacher next week, indicating the number you require and the correct money. The tickets will be issued on a 'first come, first served' basis.

## **After School Clubs**

Please note, our teacher led after school clubs will finish next week until after the half term break in February, allowing initially for Christmas preparations in school, followed by assessment work, analysis and reporting in the new year.



We have a wide range of external clubs available for this half term and a further block will run in January/February. Booking details have been emailed previously for the current external clubs. Details for the external clubs after Christmas will be sent through mid December. Please do take a note of dates for any clubs you sign your child up to.

Monday	Max Coding Playsport
Tuesday	Jump Jiggle and Jive (P1-P2) Speed School (P6-P7, see note below)
Wednesday	AMJR Football Nature Rangers
Thursday	Rugbugz (P1-P2)
Friday	Junglenastix Cricket (P7)

### **Speed School**

This is an excellent opportunity to work with an elite sports coach. The programme is now open to P6 pupils as well. As it is 10 weeks, pupils will miss the first 2 Tuesdays of teacher led after school activities when they re-commence after half term in February. Please do not let this put you off – the high level coaching on offer at Speed School will be of huge benefit across a range of sports.

### **C2K Newsdesk Competition Success**

Just before half term, pupils in Mr Kennedy's P7 class entered the C2K Newsdesk competition, requiring them to write a Book Review on a favourite book they had read and then design their entry with accompanying images. Local Belfast author, Joe Richardson, was tasked with selecting the winners and, after reading through hundreds of entries, Joe selected Emily (P7K) to receive the runner-up prize of a copy of his two recent novels. This is a wonderful achievement and Emily is looking forward to reading her two new books. Megan (P7K) also had her entry shortlisted for consideration as a winner and, although not successful on this occasion, she is very pleased to have been on the final shortlist. Well done girls!

### **Christmas Lights Switch On – Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

Our P6 and P7 school choir children will be taking part in the Ballyclare Light Switch On once again this year. This is always a big night for the town and it is great that we can be part of it. Our pupils will be on stage at 5pm, with the actual light switch on not too long afterwards. Please do come along and support Mrs Penney, Mrs Norris and our school choir. A separate note will go to choir members soon to confirm attendance.

### **Open Day**

We will be holding our annual Open Day for prospective parents on Wednesday, 6th December. Once again this year, we will be asking people to book a tour in advance, using the link on our website and Facebook page. The link is now live and many of our tour slots are already full. Tours on alternative dates can be organised with Mr McAllister by contacting the school office.

There will be a maximum of 10 families on each tour, led by one of our staff members. We encourage prospective parents to bring their preschool child along, accompanied by a maximum of 2 adults. Please do take a look at our Facebook page and website for more details, including our amazing promotional video. We feel it showcases all that is great about Fairview! Do share the Open Day posts widely on your own social platforms so the message is seen by the whole Greater Ballyclare community...you could even add a comment to encourage some new families to join us in September 2024! It is that personal touch that makes all the difference.



**SPEED SCHOOL** speed solutions

**Gain The Edge In Your Sport - Improve Speed & Athletic Ability!**

**10 Week After-School Programme**

- For P6 & P7 Boys & Girls
- Benefits All Sports
- 16 Available Spaces
- Starts 28th November

[Find Out More](#)



Fairview Primary School



If you have any neighbours or friends with a pre school child, please pass on the flyer about Open Day sent home with your child today. If you can deliver some flyers around where you live, we would love to hear from you. Many thanks in anticipation.

### **Attendance**

There were a lot of bugs and illness about in October but our overall attendance in school remains high at 96.7%. Well done to all our boys and girls for being such regular attenders. Do try to have your children in school by 8.55am at the latest, with doors open from 8.45am.

We know mornings can be a stressful time in many houses but being ready to start class at 8.55am is a valuable routine to establish and settles everyone for the day ahead.

I had the pleasure of visiting P6McIvor this week to present them with their attendance trophy for October, achieving an incredible 98.8% attendance. Well done to P3McClelland who came second overall and winning the Junior School trophy with 97.7%. There was a tie for third with P5Cherry and P4Downey achieving 97.6% attendance.



As you know, if your child is ill, it is right and proper to keep them at home. Similarly, if your child has been vomiting, please keep them at home for **48hours**. This reduces spread of any bugs around their peers and staff. Please continue to let the teacher or office know if you have a child off school.

### **Anti Bullying Week**

This week we celebrated Anti-Bullying Week. The theme this year was to 'Make a Noise' and in school pupils were learning how to be a good friend, but also the importance of speaking to a trusted adult if they are feeling upset or worried. Anti-Bullying Week started with our Fairview Ambassadors writing kind words on the paths into school on Monday, and what a positive way to start our week that was. They also created a leaflet on how to be a good friend which was given out to every child in school. We finished the week on Friday with Odd Socks Day and it was great to see all the fun and funky odd socks representing that we are all unique. To see some of our classroom activities and what else we got up to during Anti-Bullying Week, check out our Facebook page.

### **Active Travel**

We saw another successful Active Travel Week this week! Lots of our pupils braved the poor weather conditions to journey to school by scooter, bike and foot. This week our theme was 'Be Bright. Be Seen'. As the dark mornings and evenings are coming in with Winter, it is important we are seen clearly by road users. We saw lots of reflectors and lights on bikes and scooters as well as plenty of reflective jackets coming to school. It was very encouraging to see our P1 pupils in their jackets kindly donated by a local business back in September.



Extra Golden Time and a night off homework were up for grabs for our most active classes! Well done to everyone who got active and did their bit for the environment this week.

### **TinyLife Presentation**

As a school, we are delighted to announce that we have achieved the 'TinyLearners Award.'

One of only ten schools in Northern Ireland, staff have recently completed training using a resource – 'Preterm Birth Information for Educational Professionals'. This training outlines the impact that premature birth MAY have on a child's development and learning as well as their physical, emotional and social development. It also offers practical ways to support children at school who have been born prematurely. With an average of 2-3 children in every classroom being born prematurely we recognise that being Prem Aware is important. In Fairview we want to be able to support these pupils in their educational journey.



Further information can be found at: <https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/helm/dev/prism/index.html>

### **Cash for Clobber**

We have a Cash for Clobber collection taking place on Tuesday 28th November. If you have any clothes, shoes (pairs only), handbags, hats, scarves, bed linen or curtains you no longer need this could be a great chance to have a clear out before Christmas! Duvet covers and pillow cases can also be collected. Please leave any items in a bag at the bike shelter either on Monday 27th November or by 9:30am on Tuesday 28th November.



### **Wreath Laying and Remembrance**

Mr McAllister and Mrs Norris accompanied Andrew and Abbie, two of our P7 pupils, as they laid the wreath on behalf of the Governors, Staff and Pupils of Fairview Primary School at the Remembrance Day Service in Ballyclare War Memorial Park last Sunday. Their tribute reminds us all to cherish and remember the sacrifices made for our freedom.

Primary 6 learn about World War 2 and to conclude this topic, all three classes visited the War Memorial Park last Friday to take a look at the War Memorial, observe a minute's silence and learn a bit more about the origins of the poppy and of Remembrance Day. They followed this up with some natural art work, with many of the pupils adopting a remembrance theme.

### **School Safeguarding**

If you have any safeguarding concerns, then the following is the school team:

Designated Teacher –	Mrs Norris
Deputy Designated Teacher –	Miss Earls
Safeguarding Governor –	Mrs Victoria Woodside

The school's Safeguarding Policy is available to all parents on the school's website or from the school office, on request.

### **PTA News**





Fairview PTA proudly presents

# Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

Tuesday 28th November 7pm  
at  
Ballyclare Golf Club



£35 PER PERSON

Includes  
light refreshments

To book your  
place please email  
[chairfairviewpta@gmail.com](mailto:chairfairviewpta@gmail.com)





# CASH FOR CLOBBER

**Tuesday 28th November**

**Leave bags in the bike shelter on Monday  
27th November or before 9:30am on  
Tuesday 28th November**

**Items to be collected include  
clothes, shoes (pairs only),  
handbags, hats, scarves, bed  
linen and curtains.**

### **Support Your School**

We have identified a number of funding opportunities we would love your help with. The links below are for funding and awards which will be of benefit to Fairview Primary School. Please do consider clicking on the links and completing the forms – most are very short.

### **Derrytrasna Pastoral Care Award**

Pastoral care in schools is about offering support to pupil's personal needs rather than their schoolwork. It is about meeting the personal, social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual needs of every child. Many of our pupils have experienced our already award winning pastoral care. If you and/or your child would like to share your experience, please click on the link below:

<https://consultations.nidirect.gov.uk/de/derrytrasna-pastoral-care-award-2024/>

### **Movement for Good**

This is a really simple award to apply for. The more nominations a charity gets, the more chance of securing funding. Please nominate Fairview Primary School PTA and their Christmas Trail and Fair (see details above)

<https://movementforgood.com/>

### **Centra Big Community Giveaway**

Please nominate Fairview Primary School in this giveaway for our outreach into the community, such as our choir singing at the light switch on, litter picks, tree planting, Forest School in the Sixmilewater Park, or a multitude of other community links we have.

<https://www.centra.co.uk/bigcommunitygiveaway>

### **Moy Park Magical Moments**

We would love you to nominate Fairview Primary School PTA in this category for the upcoming Christmas Trail and Fair. We will still have plenty of lights around school, as well as a special outdoor Grotto for Santa, not to mention all the fun and activities that will be on offer inside the school.

<https://moyparkchicken.com/make-magical-moments/>

### **External Information**

Ballynure Playgroup

Open Day Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November

Anytime between 12.30pm and 1.30pm

Ballynure Methodist Church Hall

Come along and see the range of activities provided for you pre school child

Starting age of children is 2 years and 10 months

Contact Lorna 07891420954

ballynureplaygroup@btinternet.com

