

NEWSLETTER

INSPIRE ~ SUPPORT ~ ACHIEVE

Dates for Your Diary

Christmas Fair
Open Morning (from 9.15am)
Primary 6 Panto Trip
P6 Digital Schoolhouse visit to BHS (1)
Christmas Jumper Day
Christmas Assemblies with Aaron from Ballyclare Presbyterian Church
Stay and Play for Ballyclare Nursery School pupils at 2.30pm
Christmas Concert P3-P4 9.30am
Primary 7 Panto Trip
Christmas Concert P5-P6 9.30am
Christmas Concert P3-P4 7.00pm
P6 Digital Schoolhouse visit to BHS (2)
Primary 2-3 Panto Trip
Christmas Concert P5-P6 7.00pm
Primary 1 Panto Trip
Christmas Party day P1-P3 (non uniform)
Christmas Party day P4-P5 (non uniform)
Christmas Party day P6-P7 (non uniform)
Primary 5 Panto Trip
Last Day of Term 1 12noon finish
Ballyclare Secondary School Open Afternoon
Ballyclare High School Open Evening
Term 2 starts 8.45am

Friday, 1st December
Wednesday, 6th December
Wednesday, 6th December
Thursday, 7th December
Friday, 8th December
Friday, 8th December
Friday, 8th December
Tuesday, 12th December
Tuesday, 12th December
Wednesday, 13th December
Wednesday, 13th December
Wednesday, 13th December
Thursday, 14th December
Thursday, 14th December
Friday, 15th December
Monday, 18th December
Tuesday, 19th December
Wednesday, 20th December
Thursday, 21st December
Friday, 22nd December
Wednesday, 3rd January
Thursday, 4th January
Monday, 8th January

Christmas Concerts Begin...

Although it was not even December when this week started, our P1 and P2 year groups got everyone into the Christmas spirit with their wonderful performances on stage. On Monday, we were delighted to welcome our friends from Ballyclare Nursery over to school for our dress rehearsal. Tuesday morning saw the first performance for parents, followed by an evening show on Wednesday. I must say a big thank you to the audience at both shows – your enthusiasm shone through and absolutely helped the pupils shine on stage! A busy week finished with the traditional grandparents' concert on Friday morning. Well done to all the boys and girls in P1 and P2, and indeed the staff. A lovely way to commence the Festive season.

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 pupils' 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/>



ANBC Spirit of Christmas Awards

We hope to see you at our Christmas Fair this evening. Make sure to nominate us in the 'Reason for the Season' category of the Spirit of Christmas awards.

<https://antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk/spirit-of-christmas/>

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>

Pupils complete SEAG tests for 2023

Last Saturday, many of our P7 pupils sat their second and final 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 build up. Feedback seems to be very positive once again, 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.

Christmas Lights Switch On – Saturday 25th November 2023

Our Senior Choir took part in the Ballyclare Light Switch On last Saturday evening. This is always a big night for the town and we were delighted to be part of it once again. Our pupils sang 'Hark the Herald Angels' along with Ballyclare Primary School before singing our own piece entitled 'Go Light Your World'. Anyone who heard our pupils, live in The Square or online, could not have been more impressed, both by the beautiful singing but also by the behaviour of the pupils on stage. They are all a credit to Fairview Primary School. Thank you to Mrs Penney and Mrs Norris for their expert tutelage.

Christmas Jumper Day

As has become tradition, we are having our Christmas Jumper Day on Friday 8th December. Pupils do not need to wear uniform nor bring money, just something to get us in the mood for Christmas! Ho Ho Ho!

Parking Complaint

We have received a complaint from a resident living close to the Merion Gate. Can I ask once again that parents are conscious of where they are parking and avoid doing so in a manner that blocks residents' driveways. A number of parents are parking up on footpaths, making it difficult for pupils and parents to walk past, especially parents with buggies. Your support with this would be greatly appreciated.

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.

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.



Festive Wreath Making

Tuesday evening marked our first ever wreath making event organised by the PTA. We had an amazing turn out and everyone had great success at creating their own wreath. This was a wonderful community event. Thank you to the PTA for organising it. A huge thank you to Philippa from Stem and Scent Flowers and Emerald (Miss Dickson's amazing mummy) for their expertise. It was a truly brilliant evening and we are looking forward to organising it again next year.

If you missed our wreath making workshop, do not worry! We have the most beautiful table decorations made by our Eco Committee for sale at our Christmas Fair tonight.

Christmas Fair

Tonight is our Christmas Fair...but I am sure you all know that already. Your child will have come home this week with an invitation which gets free tokens and food to use at the fair. What more encouragement could you need! Many of you have purchased tokens already but if not, tokens for all the games and activities can be purchased tonight.

There will be something at the Fair for everyone. Enjoy the thousands of twinkly lights as you approach the school, visit Santa in his magical grotto, have fun with all the games, activities and challenges. We have our traditional tombola with multiple prizes donated by a range of local businesses, plus our Grand Raffle with some out of this world prizes worth hundreds of pounds. We will have food to suit all tastes, plus tea and coffee if you need a rest while your children roam the wide range of activity rooms on offer. An evening not to be missed, and a simple way for you to support your child's school. We look forward to seeing you there!

I need to say a huge thank you to the team of PTA parents who have organised the Fair this year, led by Ruth Livingston and Emma Meikle. We are so fortunate to have such an active PTA who go the extra mile year on year. As a school, we are most appreciative!



Hot Chocolate and Buns for Hope 365

Last Friday P6 held their hot chocolate and bun sale for the whole school. The boys and girls baked some amazing treats which went down a storm with the rest of the pupils and staff. In total the boys and girls raised a staggering £535 which will be donated to HOPE 365. Well done P6 and thank you to our wonderful school community for supporting the event.

Rugby and Football Matches

Our Rugby and Football teams started their season this week. Take a look at our Facebook feed for more photos and match reports.

East-Antrim Schools Football Tournament

On Tuesday, Mr Kennedy accompanied the senior football team to Allen Park in Antrim for the first of this year's tournaments.

In our first game we played Antrim Primary School. Both teams started confidently but it was Antrim who had the best of the early chances. Amelia Fleming in nets was kept busy early on while Tyler McCreery saw his shot go wide at the other end. It was Fairview who took the lead however. A cross from the right by Jay Crawford found the head of Aiden Mouatakef who headed the ball into the net to secure an early lead. From the restart, both teams had chances. Jay Crawford had a hopeful shot from distance go just over the bar while Rueben Lambe's shot was well saved by the Antrim keeper. Antrim also had chances and eventually equalised; the striker twisting left and right before placing his shot beyond the outstretched leg of Amelia in goals. Fairview had the chance to retake the lead. Teddy McGrath saw his shot saved, but the rebound fell to Reuben Lambe on the right who couldn't quite find the target on this occasion. Angus Hassard made two timely interceptions in quick succession to deny the Antrim players a scoring opportunity. With time running out, it was Antrim who snatched the lead after winning the ball in an advanced position. Again, the Antrim striker turned and placed the ball coolly into the side of the net, despite the best efforts of Amelia, to secure a 2-1 win.

Our next game wasn't going to get any easier as we faced Templepatrick PS. Both teams were again very evenly matched in the early exchanges with both goalkeepers kept busy. Tyler, Aiden and Reuben all had early chances to score while Angus and Jay kept Templepatrick out at the other side. Amelia made an excellent save from close range to maintain the deadlock while Templepatrick were unlucky to see another good chance go narrowly wide. However, it was Templepatrick who took the lead. The shot was well blocked initially but the deflection wrong-footed the goalkeeper and landed fortuitously in the Fairview net to make it 1-0. Fairview weren't disheartened and continued to push for an equaliser which eventually came through Aiden Mouatakef once again. Excellent work from Tyler McCreery in midfield fed Aiden who was able to swivel and poke the ball into the Templepatrick goal to make it 1-1. The lead was soon surrendered however. The Templepatrick player ran between the Fairview defenders but once again saw his shot well-saved by the legs of Amelia in goals. The ball looped high in the air before being passed into the net as the Fairview players failed to clear. Fairview again chased an equaliser. Teddy McGrath saw his shot saved and Tyler, Reuben and Jay all had chances which went narrowly wide of the goal. Fairview thought they had equalised from a 'pass-in' but saw their goal disallowed as they couldn't score directly. With just a few seconds left, Templepatrick scored their third of the game. A shot from distance was well saved by the diving Amelia, but as she landed, the ball squirmed under her body and into the net to make it 3-1.

In our final game of the day we played Magherafelt PS. Not to be disheartened by the previous results, Fairview started the game on the front foot and scored within the first minute. A cross from Teddy McGrath on the left found the head of Tyler McCreery to score his first of the day. This was followed up soon after by Reuben Lambe who beat his marker on the right before striking the ball into the roof of the goal. It was 3-0 soon after with Teddy McGrath scoring his first goal for the school. After side-stepping his marker, Teddy struck a vicious shot into the top right corner of the Magherafelt net. With confidence growing, goals continued to flow. Reuben scored his second of the day after his initial shot was well-saved before an OG after a Teddy McGrath shot made it 5-0. Tyler McCreery scored his second after side-stepping his marker and rolling the ball into the corner of the net to make it 6-0. Jay Crawford and Angus Hassard controlled the defence as Magherafelt pushed for a goal of their own while Amelia enjoyed a quieter game in nets. Substitute Lucas Grimley played an excellent cross from a corner which was headed in by Tyler to secure his hat-trick and then Lucas secured another assist, this time flicking the ball goalward for Aiden to score his third of the day. His fourth was soon to follow. This time it was Angus who played the ball in from the right for Aiden to poke home and secure a 9-0 victory.





Ulster Scots Leid Week Poetry Writing Success

Last week, we were delighted to welcome Jane Barr from the Ulster Scots Agency to school to present Emily from Mr Kennedy's P7 class with her prize for winning the Ulster Scots Schools' Poetry Writing Competition. Pupils from all over the province were tasked with writing an interesting poem of their choice which incorporated some words and phrases from the Ulster Scots language. Jane stated that Emily's poem entitled 'A Christmas Carfuffle' was really well written and made the judges laugh. Emily's poem was not only selected as the winner of the KS2 section of the competition, but it also won the overall competition prize; an incredible achievement considering the number of entries right up to KS4. Well done Emily, we are so proud of you!

The Christmas Carfuffle

It was Christmas Eve and aa through tha hoose
There was a big carfuffle, somehin was loose
It woke the wee lassie, it woke her wee brither
They got oot o their beds an went doonstairs thegither

They were foundered and cowl, it was that time o year
But then Archie said, "D'ye think Santa's near?"
They crept across the hall and had a keek roon the dure
They came across Santa layin flet on the flure

The place was a midden, mingin wae soot
Santa's prugh everywhere, oh what a galoot
"Hello Archie, Lizzie; what's the craic?"
Can ye gie me a han? I've huiert me back!"

"Of cairse," said Lizzie as she watched Santa's belly
She thought it was funny, it wobbled lake jelly
"I haytae go," said Santa, "I hae mare places tay be,
And just so ye know, your gifts are under thon tree."

When everyone woke at the sraigh o dawn
Their ma and da wondert what'd gone on
The weans looked at each o'er, then gae a wink
They couldnae blame Santa, what'd he think?

By Emily

NURSERY SCHOOL OPEN DAY

Saturday 6th January
10am - 12noon



Come and visit our school
and
see what we have to offer!



Primrose Hill Daycare
& Nursery School
FREEDOM TO FLOURISH

2 Sessions Available
Additional childcare
available

Contact us on 028 93342191 or via
info@primrosehilldaynursery.org

