

NEWSLETTER

Diary Dates

INSPIRE ~ SUPPORT ~ ACHIEVE

Parent Information Sessions	See Below
Active Travel Week (more details to follow)	16 th – 20 th September
Primary 1 in to 1pm	Monday, 16 th September
Primary 1 Information Session 1.15pm-2.45pm	Tuesday, 17 th September
After School Activities commence (staff led)	Tuesday, 17 th September
SEAG (P7 transfer test) registration closes	Friday, 20 th September
PTA AGM 7.30pm	Tuesday, 24 th September
Individual and Family photos	Tuesday, 24 th and Wednesday, 25 th September
Macmillan Big Breakfast	Friday, 27 th September
Cash for Clobber clothing collection	Tuesday, 1 st October
P6 Forest School Session 1	Friday, 4 th October
Fairview Ambassadors visit to Mossley Mill	Friday, 4 th October
Primary 1 in to 2pm (full day)	Monday, 7 th October
Mental Health Awareness Day	Thursday, 10 th October
Harvest Assembly	Friday, 11 th October
Flu Vaccination	Monday, 14 th and Tuesday, 15 th October
P6 Forest School Session 2	Friday, 18 th October
Pumpkin Patch PTA event	Saturday, 19 th October
Parent/Teacher interviews (12:30pm finish for pupils)	Tuesday, 22 nd – Thursday, 24 th October

**If you are a P7 parent of a child intending to sit SEAG, and you have not registered yet, please do so at your earliest convenience. If you require assistance, contact your child's teacher.

P1 Baselines and Meetings

The P1 staff would like to pass on their thanks to all the parents who took time to speak to their child's teacher over the last couple of weeks. The staff found the calls very useful and look forward to getting to know your child over the coming weeks and months.

Our Primary 1 pupils have settled so well into school life. Pupils finish their split sessions today, with Monday bringing the two groups in each class together for the first time up until 1pm. This will include having lunch together. A reminder also about a chance to meet with your child's teacher on **Tuesday 17th September at 1.15pm**. Do come along to hear about the year ahead for your child and what you can expect from their first year in school. Please note that this meeting is for adults only.

P2 – P7 Information Sessions

There has been a terrific turnout from our parents at the information sessions as the staff introduced themselves and shared with you what will be happening in your child's year group over the coming months. We hope you found the sessions useful and I know the staff appreciated the support. Our P7 year group had their information evening this week, including an update on SEAG. If you have any further questions around SEAG, please contact your child's teacher or myself and we will be happy to help.





PTA AGM

The first PTA meeting of the year will be held in school on Tuesday 24th September at 7.30pm. We are looking forward to seeing many familiar faces returning but also welcoming many new parents who may not have come along before. There will be no pressure on any parent to take on a specific role on the Committee so please don't be put off! Please do consider coming along. Our PTA is a great group and it is a wonderful way to become part of school life – your child loves to see you involved and they get advance viewings of all the events! We really need your support, ideas, enthusiasm and skills! Don't be shy, give PTA a try!



JOIN US AT

**Fairview Primary
School PTA**

AGM

Tuesday 24th September, 7.30pm
at Fairview Primary School

Email: chairfairviewpta@gmail.com

Book Fair and Bedtime Stories

We have had a hugely successful Book Fair in school this week! There has been a rush of pupils and parents each morning and there has been such a positive buzz in the Assembly Hall. Tuesday evening saw our biggest turnout in many years and it was great to see so many pupils, and their little siblings, snuggling down for a bit of bedtime storytelling! Lots of our parents enjoyed a cuppa and a chat too. Thank you to Sharen from Ballyclare Library who came along to read to our pupils. It was lovely to have you with us.

We would like to pass on our thanks to all those parents and carers who came to the fair and bought a book (or two) or gave of their time to 'man' the fair each morning or after school. As always, it is such a team effort. Thank you, and indeed thank you to our Literacy Leaders Mrs McIvor and Miss Dickson for all their efforts in making the week such a highlight in the school year.

Blitz Day

We are lucky to have such extensive school grounds and we have worked hard over the last number of years to develop these grounds into an innovative and stimulating learning environment. At our Blitz Day last Friday, all pupils got to spend some time in the grounds, making sure our school is looking its best! Thank you to the many parents who came along, we really do value your support. If there are any parents or grandparents out there who could help us with projects on an ongoing basis, we would love to hear from you. Our vegetable garden, poly tunnel, raised beds and pond all need regular tending – maybe this is something you could get involved with at a time that suits you? Contact Miss Cooke or Mr McAllister if you are interested.

Active Travel Week

We are having an Active Travel Week from 16-20th September. At Fairview, we encourage Active Travel for a variety of reasons; it reduces the number of cars on the road, it eases congestion at our school gates and we're doing our part to reduce pollution. We also find that children who travel to school actively often arrive more relaxed, alert and ready to start their day. Active Travel counts as walking, cycling or scooting. During Active Travel Week we want to focus on increasing awareness of road safety, particularly as we head towards the darker mornings and evenings. Remember, helmets are essential. We know lots of you live too far away to walk, cycle or scoot your whole journey, but perhaps you could park nearby and do a combi journey. There will be prizes for the classes with the most active travel journeys during the week!





After School Clubs

Our external providers started their after school clubs this past fortnight. We are delighted to see so many boys and girls getting involved. Staff led clubs begin next week, and your child will have had the opportunity to sign up for these over the last few days. Dismissal will be from normal gates. If your child cannot make a club week, or they wish to withdraw, a note must be sent to the club leader.

Macmillan Big Breakfast Morning

On Friday 27th September at 8:15am, we will be hosting a Macmillan Big Breakfast. This is for our pupils only (due to the size of the hall), but parents are welcome to visit the adult coffee station situated in the main entrance. Please bring along a reusable coffee mug and for a small donation we will fill it for you!

All pupils who are coming along should come in via the main door into the assembly hall. P6&7 pupils should drop their school bags into their rooms before coming to the hall. All other pupils will have a space for their bags. There will be plenty of staff meeting and greeting to ensure all pupils have a breakfast!

Pupils will be able to have juice, fruit, toast or croissant for a minimum donation of £2. We look forward to seeing many of our pupils there!

NSPCC PANTS Lesson

As part of the preventative curriculum all classes will be discussing the NSPCC's Underwear Rule. This is designed to teach pupils how to stay safe from sexual abuse, without giving explicit information or telling scary stories or even using the term "sexual abuse". In the lesson, children will learn about the 'PANTS' acrostic, which stands for:

- Privates are private
- Always remember your body belongs to you
- No means no
- Talk about secrets that upset you
- Speak up, someone can help

The lesson will be delivered in a way that's fully age-appropriate.

More information about the Underwear Rule, including a short film and a parent guide can be found at www.nspcc.org.uk/underwearrule

As we do each year, you will find our school Safeguarding Policy attached along with this newsletter.

Fairview Ambassadors

Our new Fairview Ambassadors had their first meeting last week. Two representatives from each P5-P7 class form the group which will play a lead role in making the views and thoughts of pupils known and work to improve the school experience for all.

Each member had an opportunity to share what they hope to achieve as a Fairview Ambassador this year. It was lovely to hear all the pupils speaking so confidently.

One of the first roles on Fairview Ambassadors is to elect a chairperson. A number of P6 and P7 pupils put themselves forward and we look forward to announcing our new chairperson after presentations are carried out and votes are cast on Monday.

Over the next few weeks, our Fairview Ambassadors will be working on producing a school wide leaflet on 'Being a Good Friend' for the upcoming Anti-Bullying Week, organising a lunchtime buddy rota and contributing to our updated school ethos and core principles. It is going to be a busy year, but we are proud of the Fairview Ambassadors and can't wait to see how they represent Fairview throughout their time in office.

Pick Your Own Fruit

We have the apples for sale again this year, grown in our very own orchard. Pupils can pick their own for 20p. I can assure you, they are very tasty! If you are collecting at the front gate, do feel free to try one. We also have a tremendous crop of 'cookers'. If you are a bit of a baker and fancy having a go at apple tart or crumble, let us know and we will get you a handful of apples. If you need Mr McAllister to taste your baked goods, he is very happy to oblige!

Cash for Clobber

Our first Cash for Clobber collection will take place on 1st October. This is an excellent way for us to raise funds for our school. The programme is managed by Cookstown Textile Recyclers who will collect unused clothes, shoes (pairs only), handbags, hats, scarves, bed linen and curtains. Duvet covers and pillow cases can also be re-used. They sort the items to see what they can reuse or recycle. If you are clearing out over the next couple of weeks, bag your unwanted items and leave them in the bike shelter at the front of school.

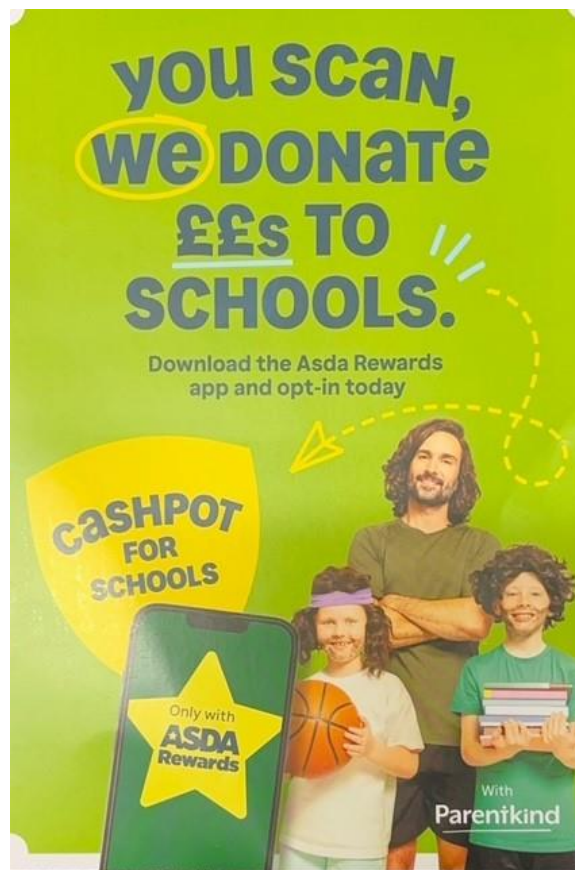
ASDA Cashpot

We know many of you shop in our local ASDA store. The 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative is an amazing way for you to support your local school simply by doing your shopping!

It is a really straight forward process, detailed below in three easy to follow steps. Please get involved and start raising money for Fairview.

Please share the word, especially with our past parents and all in the local community. We would really appreciate all your support.





Internet Safety- Online Assembly

On Thursday morning, our pupils in P4-P7 participated in our first 'Be Internet Legends' Online Safety Assembly of the year. The short program, facilitated by Google, focussed on their 5 main target areas for staying safe online:

- Be Sharp – Think Before you Share
- Be Alert – Check it's for Real
- Be Secure – Protect your Stuff
- Be Kind – Respect Each Other
- Be Brave – When in Doubt, Discuss

It was great to have these valuable messages reinforced with our pupils in such an interactive way. Please do talk to your children about what they are doing online, how to use the Internet safely and what they should do if anything online annoys or upsets them.

School Safeguarding

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

Designated Teacher -	Mrs Norris
Deputy Designated Teacher -	Miss Earls
Deputy Designated Teacher -	Mrs Craig
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.



FAIRVIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL
PTA PRESENTS

FAIRVIEW PUMPKIN PATCH

SATURDAY 19TH OCTOBER

From 11am - last admission 1pm

Join us for a special themed trail, crafts, games, marshmallow toasting and scarecrow disco all included in your ticket price.

TICKETS PRICES:

CHILDREN £10

CHILDREN (NO PUMPKIN) £7

ADULTS £3

TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA SCHOOL MONEY



External Information

Templepatrick Cricket Club have big plans on and off the pitch over the next few years.

We are now launching our MANGO BIKE DRAW.

Thank you very much to MANGO BIKES for the

very kind donation of an excellent £700 bike.

The link to the draw is -

[TCC x Mango Bikes 2024 Super Draw](#)





Online Safety Newsletter

Sept 2024

Need app ideas?

Internet Matters have curated a list of age-appropriate apps depending on what your aim is when your child is spending time online:

Skill Building apps:

If you would like to help your child develop a new skill, then you might find some useful ideas here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/skill-building-apps-guide-for-kids/>

Apps to keep your child entertained:

These apps are organised into age groups so you can find an app that is suitable for your child:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/13-great-apps-to-keep-your-kids-amused-in-the-school-holidays/>

Apps to help get your child active:

Again, these apps are organised by age group:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/apps-guide/apps-to-help-kids-get-active/>

Wellbeing apps:

These apps are organised by topic such as sleep aids or managing anxiety and will help your child develop an understanding of how to look after their own wellbeing:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/wellbeing-apps-guide-for-kids/>

Social Media Algorithms

What is an Algorithm?

Algorithms influence what we see on social media platforms and predicts what type of content we are most likely to interact with, thereby keeping us online for longer. The algorithm uses information such as who you follow, what you have searched for and what you have watched, liked or shared to determine what it thinks most interests you, to then show you this content more, for example, in the explore tab on Instagram.



What do I need to know?

Whilst there are benefits to algorithms, for example it means we tend to see content that does interest us, unfortunately there are negatives as well. They can lead to increased screentime as we continue to see things that interest us. Secondly, it can lead to users being shown large amounts of inappropriate content which can exacerbate negative body image or heighten access to misogyny content. It can also lead to 'echo chambers' where you are only seeing content that relates to your opinion rather than seeing a balanced viewpoint.

The Family Online Safety Institute discuss algorithms in more detail as well as tips for you to help your child, such as how to reset their algorithm:

<https://www.fosi.org/good-digital-parenting/how-to-talk-to-your-kids-about-social-media-algorithms>

WhatsApp: chat lock/secret code

You must be at least 13 years old to use WhatsApp. Did you know that you can lock chats as well as apply a secret code setting? If a user locks a chat, then the chat will appear at the top under locked chats but cannot be viewed without your device password or biometric (face id/fingerprint). Furthermore though, a user can apply an additional setting to hide the locked chat (so it does not appear in their chat list and can only be accessed via the search bar). Whilst this feature adds privacy, it can make it difficult to monitor what your child is doing on WhatsApp, which is why it is important to have regular chats with your child.

Snapchat

What is Snapchat?

Snapchat is a social media app used for messaging and sharing photos and videos. **You must be 13+ to sign up.** Users can send messages (snaps) to others that can only be seen for a set time e.g., 10 seconds and users can also upload snaps to stories, which disappear after 24 hours.

What should I be concerned about?

Risks of using Snapchat include your child viewing content that is not appropriate for them, location sharing and contact from strangers.

NEW safeguarding features

Snapchat have recently announced their newest features to help protect 13-17-year-olds. The features include seeing a warning message if they receive a chat from someone who has been blocked/reported by others. Also, if a teen blocks a user, it will also now block any future friend requests sent from accounts created on the same device (to reduce the potential of bullying). **These two features are available to users aged 13-17-year-olds, this is one of the reasons why it is always important for your child to sign up with their correct date of birth, so they can benefit from such features.** You can find out more as well as about the other new features here: <https://values.snap.com/news/new-features-to-help-protect-our-community?lang=en-GB>

Family Centre

Family Centre is a set of parental controls designed to help you see what your child is doing when using Snapchat. You must have your own Snapchat account to set it up. Family Centre allows you to see who your child is friends with, who they are communicating with (not the contents of conversations though) and who your child has sent messages, photos or videos to in the last week. You will also be able to report any accounts that you are concerned about as well as restrict sensitive content. Snapchat have published a safety checklist to help support conversations about how to use Snapchat safely: <https://parents.snapchat.com/parental-controls>

Safety tips

Please make sure the appropriate privacy settings are set up on Snapchat and your child knows how to block and report other users if necessary: <https://help.snapchat.com/hc/en-gb/articles/7012343074580-How-do-I-change-my-privacy-settings-on-Snapchat>

More information

Parent Zone have published a short 5-minute guide here: <https://parentzone.org.uk/article/snapchat>



Check in on an iPhone

On iOS 17, you can use check in to let others know when you have arrived at a destination. When using check in, it monitors your journey and notifies the other person when you arrive at your destination or if you are not progressing as you should.

You can also use it to specify a period of time so if you are meeting somebody new then you can set a timer and if you don't end the Check In before this time then the other person is notified.

You can find out how to use this feature here: <https://support.apple.com/en-in/guide/iphone/iphc143bb7e9/ios>

Discussing distressing news

Following on from the recent awful events in Southport, INEQUE Safeguarding Group have published an article to help you when discussing distressing news with your child. The article also includes a downloadable resource that children can read when news becomes overwhelming for them.

Find out more here: <https://ineqe.com/2024/08/02/discussing-distressing-news-events-with-children>

Family Quiz for Online Wellbeing Tips

The NSPCC have created a quiz that can be completed as a family to help you have discussions together and find out about the NSPCC's top tips for positive online wellbeing.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-wellbeing/positively-online/quiz/>

Celebrating 70 Years : 1955 - 2025



117th Ballyclare
Methodist Girls' Brigade

Come along and join the fun every
TUESDAY night!

Tinies & Explorers (3-7yrs)
6.00 - 7.15pm

Company Section (8-14yrs+)
7.30 - 9.00pm

For more information please email:

ballyclaremethgb@gmail.com

Seek, Serve & Follow Christ

Sixmile Methodist Churches
23 Main Street, Ballyclare Co. Antrim,
BT39 9AA

**NEW MEMBERS
WELCOME**



#sixmilemethodistcircuit #ballyclaremethodist #GirlsBrigadeSixmileMC/