

NEWSLETTER

INSPIRE ~ SUPPORT ~ ACHIEVE

Diary Dates

SEAG Test 1	Saturday, 16 th November
P6 'Hot Chocolate and Buns' sale for Hope 365	Friday, 22 nd November
SEAG Test 2	Saturday, 23 rd November
Infant Concert (P1-P2) 9:30am	Tuesday, 26 th November
Junior Concert (P3-P4) 9:30am	Wednesday, 27 th November
Infant Concert (P1-P2) 7:00pm	Wednesday, 27 th November
Junior Concert (P3-P4) 7:00pm	Thursday, 28 th November
P1-P3 Christmas Dinner	Thursday, 28 th November
Grandparents Concert (P1-P2)	Friday, 29 th November
Open Day	Wednesday, 4 th December
P4-P7 Christmas Dinner	Thursday, 5 th December
PTA Wreath Making evening	Thursday, 5 th December
Christmas Assembly	Friday, 6 th December
P1-P3 Panto trip	Friday, 6 th December
Senior Concert (P5-P6) 7:00pm	Tuesday, 10 th December
P7 MAC Theatre visit	Tuesday, 10 th December
Senior Concert (P5-P6) 9:30am	Wednesday, 11 th December
P4 Panto trip	Wednesday, 11 th December
P7 visit to Ballyclare Secondary School performance of The Wizard of Oz	Wednesday, 11 th December
Fairview Christmas Trail (see below for tickets)	Thursday, 12 th December – Friday, 13 th December

Open Day

As ever, we will be hosting our Open Day on the first Wednesday in December. This year, that will be Wednesday, 4th December. If you have friends, family or neighbours with a child ready to start Primary 1 in September 2025, please let them know this date and tell them to keep the morning free. A visit to walk around our school and grounds is the best way to find out what our school is all about. Tour places are available to book online, or by contacting the school office.

Tours will be small in size to allow for any questions parents and children have, and will be led by one of our staff members. We encourage you to bring your 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 2025! It is that personal touch that makes all the difference.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fairview-open-day-2024-tickets-1008256661817?aff=erelexpmlt>



Festive Trail - Secure Your Tickets Today!

Fairview Primary School PTA proudly presents

FAIRVIEW FESTIVE TRAIL

12th & 13th December

This year sees the return of our magical winter wonderland. Take a wander down Candy Cane Lane and weave your way through our enchanting trail of fairy lights and more. Not forgetting to toast a marshmallow and visit Santa on your way.

Ticket includes:
Santa gift for kids
Toast a marshmallow
Pick a candy cane

Enjoy a hot drink and Christmas treat

Children £12
Adults £10
Family Ticket £30
(includes 2 adults and 2 children)

Food will be available to buy each night.

Tickets coming soon!

Fairview Primary School, Hillmount Avenue, Ballyclare

Christmas Concerts

Last week, tickets for our Christmas Concerts went live for parents and carers to purchase. Additional tickets have been made available for some concerts today (see email) with the extra tickets available to purchase on SchoolMoney, via the Shop section. Seats are not numbered so families may sit together.

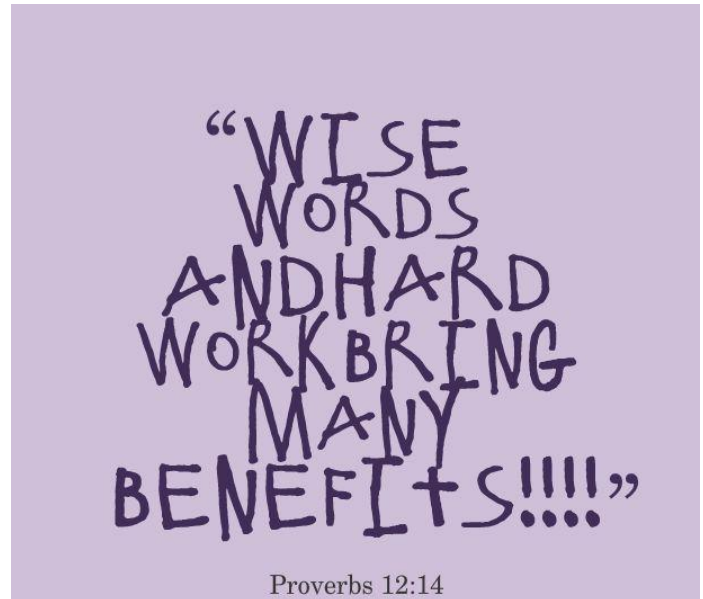
Pupil Christmas Dinner

Parents/Carers may now order a Christmas Dinner for their child on the School Money app. The P1-P3 Christmas Dinner is on Thursday 28th November. The P4-P7 Christmas Dinner is on Thursday 5th December. Both occasions are lovely days and I can assure you, the pupils are well fed and looked after!

Please note, canteen will only be available for pupils taking Christmas Dinner that day. There will be no cooked meals for the rest of the school and pupils will need to bring a packed lunch with them (a packed lunch will be provided for Free School Meal pupils).

Pupils to sit SEAG tests

Tomorrow and next Saturday, many of our P7 pupils will sit their SEAG test. This test replaced the old AQE test last year. Our pupils are well prepared having worked exceptionally hard in the build-up. A familiarisation day at Ballyclare High School last Saturday will have settled a few nerves! Regardless of outcome, we are immensely proud of all our pupils and the efforts they have made. You are nearly there boys and girls!



Wreath Laying and Remembrance

Mr McAllister and Mrs Norris accompanied Melah, Kyrin and Jake, three 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 visited Ballyclare's War Memorial Park, as part of their Forest Schools programme, to commemorate the local men and women who had lost their lives in conflict. We looked at all the beautiful poppies and learnt about how significant they were. We also looked at all the names on the memorials and discussed some key questions whilst there. We have been studying World War 2 as our topic, so it was very interesting to find out about some of the soldiers and pilots who had sadly lost their lives during it - especially learning about how we are very close to the Second World War Royal Air Force Crash sites, where eleven aircrew lost their lives in two separate aeroplane crashes.

- "To commemorate Remembrance Day, we counted all the poppies and read the names of the soldiers from the War." Bethanie Potter P6B
- "I really enjoyed our Remembrance Day session because we learnt a lot more about the War. It's important to remember those who gave so much for us." Max McCully P6B

Primary 6 Visit to NI War Memorial Museum

Last week our P6 boys and girls paid a visit to Northern Ireland War Memorial Museum in Belfast to further their learning about World War 2. We learned lots of new, interesting information about how Belfast was affected by the war, especially during the Blitz. We even got to try on some uniforms worn by WW2 soldiers, medics and pilots!!

"I loved learning about how people in Belfast would put sand on top of incendiary bombs when they landed on their roofs and gardens to stop them from exploding! I think the War Museum in Belfast would be great for other adults and children to learn more about WW2 and how different our lives are now." Lily Andrews

"The War Museum was fun and it made me aware of many new things about WW2. I thought the gas masks were really cool; babies had their own gas masks too which they were carried around in!" Martha Houston





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:

[Derrytrasna Pastoral Care Award 2025 - NI Direct - Citizen Space](#)

Visit to meet the Children's Commissioner

This morning, three of our Fairview Ambassadors were delighted to spend time with Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People. They enjoyed learning more about the UN Convention on The Rights of The Child and even got to make suggestions of issues they would like the Commissioner to address. #pupilvoice



Primary 6 Forest School Programme

P6 have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a range of activities as part of their Forest School programme. We walked down to the Sixmilewater Park each week and spent time studying the trees and leaves in depth. We learnt the names and properties of different types of leaves, and tried to find some of each, along with hunting for different coloured leaves as 'Dulux Detectives'. We also put our knowledge of parts of speech to the test in our 'Literacy Logs' session, where we used leaves to spell out our chosen nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs in a series of challenges.

- "I loved Literacy Logs as it was very fun and creative - we got to make words out of leaves!" Arabella Duffy P6B
- "My favourite part about Forest Schools is being able to spend time outside with your friends and having lots of fun while learning!" Isla Beattie P6B
- "In Forest Schools, we did a very exciting activity where we looked at pictures and then had to match our leaves to the right one." Jack Bleakley P6B
- "We got to collect some beautiful leaves and use them to spell out words in groups." Tenae Green P6B
- "My favourite part was when we tried to find the different types of leaves because we had to use a lot of teamwork skills!" Molly Redfern P6B

Christmas Lights Switch On – Saturday 23rd November 2024

Some of 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.

Attendance

There were a lot of bugs and illness about in October but our overall attendance in school remains high at 96.8%. 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 P4 Miss Cooke this week to present them with their attendance trophy for October, achieving an incredible 97.9% attendance. Well done to P1 Mrs Beattie who came second overall and winning the Junior School trophy with 97.7%. The Senior School top attenders were P6 Mrs Boyd, also with 97.7% 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 'Choose Respect' and in school pupils were learning how to respect themselves, their friends and all the adults around them. As ever, we did lots of work on how to be a good friend, but also the importance of speaking to a trusted adult if they are feeling upset or worried. To see some of our classroom activities and what else we got up to during Anti-Bullying Week, check out our Facebook page.

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. Please get involved and start raising money for Fairview. We have already well over £1000 raised for school.

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

After School Clubs

In Fairview, we feel we offer a wide range of clubs and it has been really encouraging to see so many of our pupils getting involved with these clubs over the first half term and getting back to activities these last two weeks. Our teacher led clubs finish next week so staff and pupils can prepare for our Christmas events. External clubs will continue to run based on the dates you have signed up for.

Crossing Patrol

Ballyclare High School have informed us that the Crossing Patrol man outside their school is currently off work. If your child crosses the busy Rashee Road on their way to school, please ensure they take extra care.

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 PTA proudly presents

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop

Thursday 5th December @ 7pm

at

Ballyclare Golf Club



£40 PER PERSON

Includes
light refreshments

To book your
place please email
chairfairviewpta@gmail.com

Delivered in conjunction with
Stem & Scent





OPEN DAY

Date: Wed 27th November
Time: Anytime
Between 12.30 & 1.30pm.
Where: Ballynure
Methodist Church halls

Come along and see the
Range of activities provided
For your preschool child.
(starting age of children is 2 years
and 10 Months)

Contact Lorna
07891420954



ballynureplaygroup@btinternet.com



**Ballyclare Nursery School 'Open Afternoon' 24
Tuesday 3rd December 3:30-5pm**
Come and have a look at our new school building!

If your child will be 3 on or before 1st July 2025 then you need to apply online for their pre-school nursery place this coming January!

Online applications open on Friday 10th January and close on Friday 24th January at 12: noon!

Doagh Road

Tir na nOg

Ballyclare

Tel: 028 9335 2982

W: www.ballyclarenurserieschool.co.uk

E: info@ballyclarens.ballyclare.ni.sch.uk

Have a look on our website for information about applying for a place in our school.

Go to the 'Parents and Carers' tab- and click 'Admissions Information'.

For more information on the Education Authority website and to apply online from Friday 10th January:

<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>