

NEWSLETTER

INSPIRE ~ SUPPORT ~ ACHIEVE

Diary Dates

Open Enrolment closes for P1 2026	Wednesday, 21 st January (12 noon)
SEAG results published	Saturday, 24 th January (from 8am)
Wellbeing Week	Monday, 26 th January – Friday, 30 th January
Primary 7 parents – application for Post Primary place opens (closes 19 th February)	Tuesday, 27 th January (12 noon)
Parent/Teacher interviews (12:30pm finish for pupils)	Tuesday, 3 rd February – Thursday, 5 th February
PTA Valentine’s Disco	Thursday, 5 th February
School closes for Half Term Break (2pm)	Friday, 6 th February

Welcome Back

Happy New Year everyone! It is hard to believe we are in Term 2 already, never mind the fact it is 2026, but here we are. I hope you all had a restful Christmas break and pupils are back, recharged and ready for another busy term full of excitement, experiences and everything else that makes Fairview special.

Our start back was made all the more ‘exciting’ with the snow we encountered last week. Thankfully that is all cleared now. As ever, this will be a busy term as you can see from the diary dates above. We look forward to speaking to all our parents again in February at the second set of interviews. Over the past couple of weeks in school, staff have been carrying out some testing on pupils to monitor progress and set targets going forward. This will, of course, be shared with you at the interviews in February.

As a school, we appreciate your support and look forward to working with you to ensure best outcomes for your child this year and throughout their time in Fairview.



Open Enrolment Process - P1 September 2026

The admissions process for children starting school in September 2026 opened on Wednesday 7th January at 12noon. If you have a child with a birthday between 2nd July 2021 and 1st July 2022, or if you deferred their admission to primary school in September 2025, then it is important that you register your child before 12noon on Wednesday 21st January 2026.

Please visit the EA website eani.org.uk to apply. Here you will find advice and support on how to apply as well as the admissions criteria for Fairview PS. The link below will take directly to the EA site:

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

If you have any problems with the admissions process or would like some assistance, please contact Mrs Craig in the school office.

If you know of any friends or neighbours who are still undecided on what school to send their child to, please do encourage them to join our family. If they missed Open Day and would like to visit school and see round for themselves, we would be delighted to facilitate this.

Key dates for SEPTEMBER 2026

- 10 December 2025**
Admissions Criteria published
- 7 January 2026**
Applications open at 12 noon
- 21 January 2026**
Applications close at 12 noon

www.eani.org.uk

AR Updates

Pupils in P4-P7 have made a great start to using our Accelerated Reader programme this year. During Term 1 pupils read a wonderful total of 38,702,876 words and 2,818 books. Many pupils have continued to work on their personal word count targets and have reached the milestones of 250,000, 500,000 and 750,000 words.

A special congratulations to our latest word millionaires:

1 million: Eva Meikle P7N
 Elijah Adamson P4M
 Flynn Meikle P4M
 Cameron Ennis P6H
 Luke McCrea P6C
 Jacob McLorie P6C

2 million: Daniel Lorrimer P5P

School Meals Update

A reminder for parents/carers that a school meal price increase took effect from Tuesday 6th January upon our return to school following the Christmas holidays. This has been set by EA across all schools. There will be no impact on pupils in receipt of free school meals.

The new menu will begin from Monday 16th February 2026.



School Meals Update



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The Education Authority (EA) recently set out a number of savings measures in response to a significant funding shortfall of around £300million.

As part of these measures, school meal prices will increase in January for the first time since 2017. Pupils entitled to Free School Meals will not be affected by this rise, and in pre-school, primary and special school settings will continue to receive a meal as before.

In post-primary, which operates on a cafeteria basis, the daily free school meal allowance will increase by 19.25% to £3.34 to mirror the price increase across all menu items.

For pupils who are not entitled to free school meals, new prices will come into effect in January 2026 and are reflected in the figures to the right.

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School Meal Prices Effective January 1 2026

Pre-School	£3.00
Primary	£3.10
Post-Primary	19.25% Price increase
Special	£3.10
Adult Meal	£3.99



Sponsored Child Update

Through the charity Stand By Me we support a sponsor child called Sifan. She is a 12 year old girl who lives in Ethiopia and attends Bethany Bekoji School. Stand By Me adopted the school in 2005 and provide the children with education, daily food and health care. Sifan recently sent a letter to school wishing the pupils at Fairview Primary School a Happy New Year and thanking us for our support to help her stay in school.



Visit to Ballyclare Nursery

We were delighted to share some festive cheer with Ballyclare Nursery School during the week before Christmas. Our Senior Choir loved taking part in the celebration with the Nursery pupils and singing some festive tunes.

This week, our P7 pupils started a buddy partnership with our friends in Ballyclare Nursery. Each class will have two visits down to the nursery to meet the pupils and enjoy some play time, both indoors and outside in the wonderful forest area. This is a great opportunity for our P7 pupils to build leadership skills but also for the little ones coming to us next year to meet some Fairview pupils and aspire to be like them in years to come!

Post Primary Applications

Next Saturday morning, our Primary 7 pupils will receive their SEAG results. Post Primary applications will open for September 2026 via EA Connect on **Tuesday 27th January**.

For many parents/carers, completing the application will be a straightforward process. However, for others, you may wish to discuss your child's options based on the results of the SEAG examination. Please contact the school if this is the case and I will be happy to help. All parents/carers must complete the online application, except those with a child who has a statement of special needs. I will write to P7 parents next week with more details around the transfer process.

Applications are open until **Thursday 19th February** and are **not** considered on a first-come, first-served basis. All schools require a birth certificate to be submitted with your application. Proof of address will also be required for many schools. Please ensure you read the published admissions criteria for each school you are considering, to confirm what supporting documentation is required.

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- 19 February 2026**
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www.eani.org.uk

Attendance and Uniform

Attending school regularly is important for all children because of the link between attendance and attainment. Regular attendance at school combined with high quality teaching and learning ensures that pupils get the best possible outcomes from their time in Fairview and also avail of the most opportunities presented to them, academic and extra-curricular.

I had the pleasure of visiting P7 Mrs Norris this week to present them with their attendance trophy for December, achieving an incredible 97.5% attendance. Well done to P2 Mrs Penney/Mrs Hyndman who came second overall and winning the Junior School trophy with 97.0%. Third place was P5 Mrs Davis with 95.7% attendance.

There has been a lot of sickness this winter, leading to many school absences. If your child is ill, they should not be in school. But as far as possible, please endeavour to have your child in school ready to start at 8.55am, with doors open from 8.45am. When your child is late, it disrupts their start to the day and very often it disrupts the whole class. Homes can be busy places in the morning but please make every effort to have your child in school on time.

We pride ourselves on our uniform in Fairview. At the start of a new term, it is worth a reminder so standards remain high. On PE days, P4-P7 should wear their PE kit which consists of navy tracksuit bottoms or navy leggings for girls, the Fairview T shirt and hoodie (both available from Sport 'n' Sound). All other days should be normal school uniform with black shoes. A change should be brought if required for P5-P7 who are doing after school activities on a non PE day. Pupils **should not** have earrings in when at school and we would really appreciate your support with this.

Road Safety Quiz

Earlier this week, four of our Primary 7 pupils attended the regional Road Safety Quiz, organised by Road Safe NI. Our pupils were selected following in house quizzing and have been preparing for the last couple of weeks on all things road safety!

Heidi, Emily Rose, Sawyer and Emily did us proud, narrowly missing out on a podium place. We are very proud of them all.



Fire Safety Talk

Primary 5 enjoyed a visit from two local fire fighters who told them all about fire safety in the home. The boys and girls were given the important job of taking the message home to their families.

"We had two firefighters come to school on Monday. They came to our classroom and explained how fires are caused. Some examples they gave were charging plugs and chip pans. He said that close supervision is needed for these activities. As they were leaving in their fire truck they turned on the flashing lights - it was so cool!" Harrison

"The firemen gave us messages to take home – they reminded us it was important not to charge any electronics overnight and definitely not under your pillow, as this can cause fires." Sophia

"I really enjoyed when the firefighters came to visit us. They taught all about fire safety and we all learnt about what to do if there is a fire." Emily

Valentine's Disco – date for your diary

Our half term disco in October was a huge success and we are delighted to announce our PTA are running a second disco of the year, with a Valentine's theme, on Thursday 5th February. A note with further details will follow but for now, get the date in your diary!

Entry will be £2 donation and pupils should dress to impress!

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.





NEW

Parent Workshop



Are you a parent fed-up fighting fires every day?

Do you feel caught in negative cycles with your partner and children?

You can **⇒ Bounce Back!**

Join our 3 week, practical parenting programme to support you to build calmer, more connected family relationships.

Online via Zoom, for three consecutive Tuesdays starting 20th January, 7-8:30pm.

Call 0808 8020 400 to book your place.

