

January (1) 2024

Dear parent,

I would like to wish all our families a happy new year and hope that everyone enjoyed their Christmas break. Many of the teaching staff were unwell in the run up to Christmas and during the Christmas break. With a range of bugs and viruses continuing to circulate in the community I cannot stress enough how important it is to **keep your child/ren away from school if they are unwell.** Teacher absences impact the delivery of the curriculum for those pupils who are well enough to attend and place additional stresses on the remaining teaching and support staff.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS JAN - FEB

Play sport commences on Tuesday 9 January. Any pupil who has not yet registered for this club but wishes to attend can do so. Please email the school office to have your child/ren added to the attendance register.

SHINING LIGHTS – P3-P7

Our friends at Shining Lights will once again be visiting the school on Tuesday afternoons to give the pupils in P3-P7 football coaching sessions. These sessions will be weekly running from Tuesday 9 January – Tuesday 6 February. Pupils in P3-P7 should wear **PE UNIFORM** on these dates.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

Lunches continue with week [3 from 8 January 2024.](#)

The lunch menu for term 2A was sent home with pupils before the Christmas break and has been updated on the school website.

ANNUAL PANTOMIME

All pupils should arrive at school on **Friday 5 January 2024** at **10.45am**.

There will be no school dinners on **Friday 5 January** as the pupils require an early lunch to arrive at the Grand Opera House on time. All pupils should **bring a packed lunch** on this date.

Date: Friday 5 January 2023

Time: 12.30pm – 4.15pm

School start time: All pupils **10.45am**

Collection: Pupils are to be picked up *from school* on their return.

Refreshments: Please provide each pupil with a strong plastic bag containing **one treat** e.g., a chocolate bar or packet of crisps or sweets etc. and one drink. No cans or glass bottles are permitted on the trip. We have

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been informed by the Opera House that no confectionary containing nuts can be taken into the auditorium.

SAFEGUARDING REMINDER

No pupils should enter the playground after the 08.45 bell until a member of staff is present.

P6/P7 POST PRIMARY OPEN DAYS/EVENINGS

Admission criteria for post primary schools will be available from **Thursday 11 January**. Some open afternoon/evening dates are listed below.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Ballyclare High School | 4 January 2024 6pm – 9pm |
| Ballyclare Secondary School | 3 January 2024 1pm – 3pm |
| Antrim Grammar School | 13 January 2024 |
| Parkhall Integrated College | 11 January 2024 |
| Slemish College | 24/25 January 2024 |

PTA NEWS

A meeting of the PTA will be held in school on Monday 15 January at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| 05.01.24 | Annual Pantomime Grand Opera House All pupils start at 10.45am. |
| 09.01.24 | Playsport Session 1 |
| 09.01.24 | P1 Admission Portal opens. |
| 15.01.24 | PTA meeting 7pm |
| 16.01.24 | Playsport Session 2 |
| 18.01.24 | STRIKE ACTION |
| 23.01.24 | Playsport Session 3 |
| 26.01.24 | P1 Admission Portal closes. |
| 29.01.24 | Post Primary Admission Portal opens. |
| 30.01.24 | Playsport Session 4 |
| 06.02.24 | Final Playsport session |
| 07.02.23 | Parent Consultations |
| 08.02.24 | Parent Consultations |
| 09.02.24 | School closes at 2pm for all pupils – mid-term break <i>School closed 12.02.24 – 16.02.24.</i> |
| 22.02.24 | Post Primary Admission Portal closes. |

Mrs V Ferguson
(PRINCIPAL)

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