

April (3) 2026

Dear parent,

We have been very fortunate to enjoy some beautiful sunny weather this week and we are hopeful it will hold long enough for our whole-school visit to Carrickfergus Castle tomorrow. The favourable conditions also allowed our pupils and staff to give the school garden a much-needed spring tidy.

Under the knowledgeable guidance of Mrs Clements, pupils planted a variety of seeds and learned more about how plants grow and thrive. Our sincere thanks go to everyone who contributed to keeping our school environment so attractive, and in particular to Mrs Clements for supporting our pupils' understanding of nurturing growth and caring for living things.

I hope all of our staff and families enjoy a restful and enjoyable long weekend.

CARRICKFERGUS CASTLE

Date: Friday 1 May 2026

Classes: P1-P7

Time: **9.45am – 2.30pm**

Cost: **£8.00 per pupil** – *payment to be made by bank transfer, ref [Surname] Castle, using the details below by **Friday 1 May.***

Pupils will enjoy a tour of the castle and a workshop followed by lunch and a visit to a local park. Pupils are required to wear school uniform. In order to prepare for any type of weather, please ensure that your child brings a school coat and has sun cream applied before school. Pupils should wear joggers or shorts and trainers.

Please provide your child with break and lunch in a lunch bag and a water bottle. No glass bottles, no yoghurt or food items which require cutlery.

Pupils are not required to bring a schoolbag tomorrow.

Please note, collection time for all pupils on this date will be 2.30pm.

BEE SAFE EVENT - ANTRIM

Date: Thursday 7 May 2026

Classes: P6-P7

Time: 12.30pm – 2.30pm

Cost: Free

As pupils are leaving school at 12pm, all P6&P7 pupils should bring a **PACKED LUNCH on Thursday 7 May.**

A copy of this newsletter is available on the school website. <https://www.parkgate-primary.co.uk/>

BANK TRANSFER

Account: Parkgate Primary School

A/c No. 77461057

Sort Code: 98-09-40

Reference: As provided

ALL TEETH MATTER – DENTAL HEALTH TALK

Date: Friday 8 May 2026

Classes: P3-P7

SPORTS DAY

Sports Day will take place on **Friday 22 May**, with a reserve date of **Friday 29 May** should inclement weather require postponement. This year, Sports Day will follow a slightly different format, with pupils participating in **mixed-age teams** and enjoying a range of **new and varied races**.

To support team activities, pupils will be asked to bring a small number of items into school. Please ensure these are returned to school **by Friday 8 May**.

We are very grateful to Mr Cunningham, who has once again kindly granted permission for us to use the field at **Thrushfield** and has already begun preparing the ground for the event. We are hopeful that we will be able to reinstate our **family picnic** at the conclusion of Sports Day, enjoying time together *in situ* at the field. We are also delighted to be planning a visit from the **ice-cream van** to round off the day.

Further details will be shared closer to the event.

P5-7 BELFAST ACTIVITY CENTRE

Date: **Friday 12 June 2026**

Time: 9am – 3pm

Payment: TBC

Activities:

- BAC - Outdoor activities led by qualified instructors (Archery, Climbing wall & zip Wire)
- Barnett Park for further outdoor activities

This is a non-uniform day for P6&P7. Pupils should wear sports clothing; legs should be covered and a hoody/fleece worn over a t-shirt to remove if the weather is warm. Girls with long hair should tie their hair into a low ponytail to allow for helmets. Pupils should also bring a waterproof coat with hood in case of wet weather

Pupils will also require a break, packed lunch and water bottle.

Pupils should be collected from school as usual.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

LIBRARY VAN – The next visit of the library van will be **Wednesday 13 May**.

TEMPLEPATRICK CRICKET CLUB – See attached flyer

BELFAST ROYAL ACADEMY – SEAG – See attached flyer

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

01.05.26	Whole School Carrickfergus Castle – whole school collection at 2.30pm
04.05.26	May Bank Holiday 1
07.05.26	P6/P7 Bee Safe Event
08.05.26	P3-P7 All Teeth Matter
09.05.26	Post Primary Admissions Notification of Outcome
13.05.26	Library van
18.05.26	SEAG registration opens
22.05.26	Sports Day
25.06.26	May Bank Holiday 2
26.05.26	School Development Day 5 – No pupils to attend
27.05.26	Transform Ed Day 3 – No pupils to attend
29.05.26	Reserve Sports Day
10.06.26	Library Van
12.06.26	P5-P7 Belfast Activity Centre
24.06.26	Library Van
18.09.26	SEAG registration closes

Mrs V Ferguson
(Principal)

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