

January (3) 2025

Dear parent,

This Saturday, 25th January sees the SEAG Transfer results for some of our P7 pupils. We wish them all the best! Please do not ask children or their parents about their result as this might be sensitive for some families. If they wish, I'm sure they will share their news with you. School is very aware how hard our P7 pupils have worked over the last couple of years, and regardless of whether they did or did not sit the SEAG test, all our P7s have the opportunity of a bright future ahead!

If any parent has difficulty logging on to their SEAG account on Saturday morning, please email info@parkgateps.ballyclare.ni.sch.uk – I will be able to share any information that school received for your child.

P7 WELCOME THE MAYOR

P7 pupils are very concerned at the lack of playground facilities in Parkgate. They wrote some excellent persuasive letters to Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council voicing their concerns. Alderman Neil Kelly was so impressed that he paid P7 a visit on Friday 17 to listen to their concerns in person. There was much excitement in the P7 classroom at hosting this VIP!

PTA NEWS

A meeting of the PTA will be held in school on Wednesday 22 January at 6pm. All are welcome to attend. Many thanks to all who attended the Zumba session on Saturday. A fantastic time was had by all, burning off those mince pies and Ferrero Rocher consumed over the Christmas holidays.

SCHOOL BOOK FAIR – WEDNESDAY 22 JANUARY

The book fair will be held in school on **22 January**. There are over 200 books for you and your child to choose from. Your participation will provide enjoyable reading resources for the family and free books and teaching resources for our classrooms/libraries.

Parents will once again be able to visit the fair with their child/ren and if you wish to pre browse the available books you can do so at

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/travelling-books/the-books>

BOOK FAIR PAYMENT

No cash payments will be accepted by the school; parents are asked to purchase **vouchers** in advance of the fair, print the voucher and bring to the fair with you. Vouchers are available to order at any time in advance of the fair using the link below.

A copy of this newsletter is available on the school website.

<https://www.parkgate-primary.co.uk/>

A **QR code** will also be available at the fair for those parents who wish to make an online payment.

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.co.uk/travelling-books/parents>

If you are not able to attend with your child, please pre browse the available books, purchase vouchers to the value of your chosen books and staff will then assist pupils to select their books on Thursday 23 and Friday 24 January.

To assist with the smooth running of the event please note the time slots below for your child/ren. Older siblings will have permission to visit the fair during the time slot of younger siblings.

1.45pm – 2.00pm	P1 – P3
2.45pm – 3.00pm	P4 – P7

NSPCC EVENTS

Over the next two weeks our pupils will be taking part in 'Speak Out, Stay Safe', a safeguarding programme for children aged 5 to 11 years old. The whole school will take part in a special safeguarding assembly on Wednesday 22 January and P3/4 & P6/7 will benefit from NSPCC led workshops.

P1 – P6 PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Appointment slots for Wednesday 26 February and Thursday 27 February will be sent home in due course.

P6 SEAG TRANSFER TEST INFORMATION SESSION

Mrs Winters will be holding a SEAG information session for P6 parents on Thursday 27 February at 3.00pm. This session will be in the assembly hall and all P6 parents are welcome to attend. If you are unable to attend, please ring the office and the information distributed at that meeting will be sent home.

P7 PARENT CONSULTATIONS

It is not customary at this time of year to schedule P7 parent consultations. However, if you have any worries or concerns then please contact Mrs Hutchinson to arrange a time to speak to her. Any P7 children with Individual Education Plans will be offered a consultation at the end of February to discuss progress.

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P6/P7 POST PRIMARY OPEN DAYS/EVENINGS

Admission criteria for post primary schools is currently available on the EA website. Dates for local open afternoon/evening are still to come.

Slemish College
Belfast Royal Academy
ring 028 90740423 to book)

22nd/23rd January 2025
5th February 2025 at 2.00pm

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Playsport will commence on 19 February. There are 6 sessions from 19 February to 26 March. Payment should be made prior to the first session. Please follow the instructions on the attached Playsport information sheet.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

22.01.25	School Book Fair
22.01.25	PTA Meeting at 6.00pm
22.01.25	Board of Governors Meeting at 7.30pm
24.01.25	P1 Admission Portal closes at noon
28.01.25	Post Primary Admission Portal opens
07.02.25	School closes at 2pm for all pupils – mid-term break <i>School closed 10.02.24 – 14.02.24.</i>
20.02.25	Post Primary Admission Portal closes
26.02.25	Parent Consultations
27.02.25	Parent Consultations
27.02.25	P6 Parents SEAG Information Session at 3.00pm

Mrs D Winters
(ACTING PRINCIPAL)

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