

October (3) 2024

Dear Parent(s)/Carers,

Thank you for your generous donations to our collection for Antrim Foodbank. It was warmly accepted and will make a significant difference to many families in the local community. Congratulations to our wonderful pupils who entertained us with songs, poems and prayers during our Harvest Assembly. It was fantastic to welcome so many parents and extended family members to the school.

STAFF

Mrs Ferguson is currently absent from school. Any queries or concerns can be raised with the class teachers or Mrs McLean (Senior Teacher) during her absence. P7 Parent Consultations will be with Mrs Hutchinson.

CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding and Child Protection are of paramount importance at Parkgate Primary. During Mrs Ferguson's absence, Mrs McLean will step into the role of Designated Teacher for Child Protection and Mrs Hobson will resume her role as Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection. I would like to remind all parents and visitors that taking images or video footage of the children on personal devices is **not permitted** at school events. Thank you for your co-operation in this important matter.

A representative from the Dog's Trust will be in school on Tuesday 22 October to deliver an assembly and workshops. They will focus on safe behaviour around dogs and help the children develop simple skills to have happy, safe relationships with dogs.

PROSPECTUS PHOTOS

Reminder – Laura from CS Moments will be in school tomorrow (18th Oct) to take photographs for our new prospectus. We would like the children to look their best wearing their formal school uniform.

FLU VAACINATIONS

If you returned a Flu Vaccine Consent form and your child was absent from school or did not receive the vaccine (16/10/24) the School Nursing Team will return to school in the coming week/s to provide vaccination, please do not attend the GP for vaccination. If your child/young person receives the vaccination from the GP is it important that you let the School Nursing Team know as soon as possible on 02828261951.

A copy of this newsletter is available on the school website

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

AFTER SCHOOLS

Lego Club (Led by Clay Razy) will commence on **Wednesday 6 November**.
The 6 sessions are on : 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th November, 4th and 11th December
£30 due in cash or cheque payable to Clay Razy on the day of the first session.

EARLY SCHOOL CLOSURES

DATE	REASON	COLLECTION TIME
23.10.24	P1-P7 Parent Consultations	1pm for all pupils
24.10.24	P1-P7 Parent Consultations	1pm for all pupils
25.10.24	Mid Term Break	2pm for all pupils

JOLLY PHONICS P1 PARENTS

A Jolly Phonics information session will be held for parents of P1 pupils on **Thursday 7 November at 2.30pm**. Please inform Mrs. Magowan if you are unable to attend.

PTA NEWS:

The PTA have been working very hard to organise a festive Christmas Wreath Making Workshop with local florist Chloe Clarke from Floral and Bow. The event will be on Thursday 14 November at 7pm in the school hall. Light festive refreshments will be provided and the cost is £40 per person. To book your place please email parkgateps.pta@gmail.com

BROWN MONEY FUNDRAISER

The pupils have made a fantastic start to this fundraising adventure and have already earned their second reward. They had 15 minutes of TV time this week. If they reach the fourth target by Friday 25th October they will be rewarded with a DVD and ice-cream.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Ballyclare Secondary School is hosting their second annual Autumn Fair on Saturday 19th October from 10am-2pm. Prospective pupils of the school are invited along with siblings and parents to attend this event which includes crafts, stalls and tea and coffee refreshments. A family ticket price is £5 entry, adult £2 and a child £1.

Library Van – The next library van visit is **Wednesday 20th November**.

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PARKGATE COMMUNITY GROUP

The Parkgate Community Group are generously donating a pumpkin to every child in the school. The PTA are planning to join forces with the Foundation Stage and Key Stage One classes to create a mini-pumpkin patch in the playground. Photographs of this fun event will be used to promote the school and strengthen community links. Please inform the class teacher or the school office if you do not consent to your child's photograph being used. Spar of Parkgate are also sponsoring this event and providing a colouring in competition.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – POPPY APPEAL

Every year the school support the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. Poppies and the other items listed below will be available in school from **Monday 21 October**. Donations should be sent in a sealed, named envelope stipulating which items you require.

Item	Suggested Donation
Pin	£2
Snap Band	£1.50
Wristband	£1.00
Zip pull	£0.50
Reflector	£0.50

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

23.10.24	P1-P7 Parent Consultations
24.10.24	P1-P7 Parent Consultations
27.10.24	School closes at 2pm for all pupils.
6.11.24	Lego Club commences
14.11.24	Christmas Wreath Making with Chloe Clarke (Floral and Bow)
29.11.24	New P1 Open Afternoon
10.12.24	Christmas Concert (6.30pm)
11.12.24	Last Lego Club
20.12.24	End of term – School closes at 12.00pm for all pupils and staff.

Thank you for your continued support,
C McLean

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