

December (1) 2023

Dear parent,

I would like to thank you and our pupils for helping to show the school at its best yesterday during our open afternoon. We hope that the families who visited us will choose to join the school in September. Please read on to find information about upcoming events as we now race towards the Christmas break.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS JAN - FEB

Tuesdays Playsport 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th January 6th February

Thursdays Max Coding 11th, 18th, 25th January 1st, 8th February

Please complete the google form below by **FRIDAY 8TH DECEMBER** if you wish to register your child to attend.

<https://forms.gle/ZPh1Z5VC7j5ttuAM8>

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE

Date: Tuesday 12 December

Venue: 1st Donegore Presbyterian Church

Time: 6.30pm

Event: A nativity and carol service led by our pupils and followed by refreshments in the church hall hosted by the congregation of 1st Donegore. This event is open to the whole community; all are welcome.

SCHOOL WILL CLOSE AT 2PM FOR ALL PUPILS ON THIS DATE

Parents are asked to bring pupils to the church hall at **6pm** where they will be met by staff and wait with them until the beginning of the service. At the conclusion of the service parents should collect their child/ren from the church hall and supervise them whilst refreshments are served.

Dress Rehearsal - Monday 11 December

Pupils should go directly to the church hall between 8.45am and 9.00am on this date.

P1-P3 Arrive dressed in your nativity costume and bring a normal set of uniform in a named bag. Pupils will be changed at the end of dress rehearsal; school joggers are preferred for ease of changing. Costumes will be returned home in readiness for the service on Tuesday evening. **Please ensure all items of clothing are named.** Remember to pack appropriate footwear for your child/ren to wear during the remainder of the school day and to bring a school coat as normal. (Pupils will be required to walk back to school.)

P4-P7 All pupils should wear full uniform. A long-sleeved school shirt/blouse is preferred. Pupils should wear black trainers or black shoes. Pupils should also bring their sweatshirt and coat as normal.
Pupils will require their school bags for afternoon classes.

A copy of this newsletter is available on the school website

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

CHRISTMAS PARTY LUNCH AND GAMES P1-P7 THURSDAY 7 DECEMBER

Every pupil has ordered a Christmas party lunch and we all look forward to a festive time together. **Payment of £2.60 should be sent on Monday 4 December.** Following the Christmas lunch the party atmosphere continues with party games.

Time: 1.00pm-**2.30pm** **ALL PUPILS SHOULD BE COLLECTED AT 2.30PM**

Pupils may bring up to £3 spending money to try their luck in the 'Christmas Lucky Dip' and to purchase a £1 bag of sweets.

This is a non-uniform event. Pupils may choose to wear a Christmas jumper/t-shirt or party clothes appropriate for party games. No fancy dress costumes are permitted.

SCHOOL LUNCH PAYMENTS

To assist with the smooth running of school lunches and due to the dress rehearsal on Monday 11 December please send payment for all remaining lunches of the term on dates listed below.

Monday 4 December – Friday 8 December Payment due **04.12.23**

Monday 11 December – Tuesday 19 December Payment due **08.12.23**

NO 'ON THE DAY' PAYMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER MONDAY 4 DECEMBER.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

Menu change - please see information received from Ballyclare kitchens.

There will be a change in menu week beginning 11th December/week 4 on menu. Due to the volume of Christmas party box meals in Ballyclare Primary and the fact that it will be served over 2 days, the external dining meals will be as follows.

*Monday`s advertised meal of **Spaghetti bolognaise** etc will be served on **Tuesday**.*

*Tuesday`s advertised meal of **pizza & Chips** will be served on **Monday**.*

Switching these 2 days allows us to accommodate Ballyclare Primary`s Party & normal service will resume on Wednesday.

*After the Christmas break, we will be commencing menu on **week 2 for the 4 January 2024.***

POPPY APPEAL

The school raised an amazing £104.92 this year for the Royal British Legion poppy appeal.

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COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

Thank you to all the pupils who sang at the Parkgate and District Community Lights on Friday evening. You all sang wonderfully well and we are very proud of you. Thank you to the PTA for the Tractor Run. What a sight that was! It was a terrific success and raised over £900.

LAST DAY OF TERM/CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Date: Wednesday 20 December

The last day of term will be a **non-uniform day**. The pupils are encouraged to wear any of the following seasonal attire.

Christmas jumper or T-shirt

Christmas hat

Christmas headgear

Christmas hair accessory

Pupils will also be permitted to bring a treat break on this date.

School will close at **12 noon on Wednesday 20 December** and re-open to pupils on **Thursday 4 January 2023**.

COMMUNITY NOTICES



OOH & AHH COOKIES are a drop off point for the Digg Deep for Kids charity. If you have any new and unopened gifts for kids and would like to donate, drop them off at Cookie HQ.

CHILDREN'S OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY Sensory Regulation Parent Workshops. These workshops are open to all parents of children presenting with possible sensory processing issues. There is a link for parents to access if they would prefer to watch a recorded version of the workshop. See attached information sheet.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

07.12.23	P1-P7 Christmas Party Lunch + Games All pupils collected at 2.30pm
12.12.23	Christmas Concert (6.30pm) School closes at 2pm for all pupils.
20.12.23	End of term – School closes at 12.00pm for all pupils and staff.
04.01.23	Term 2 begins.
05.01.24	Annual Pantomime Grand Opera House
15.01.23	PTA meeting 7pm

Mrs V Ferguson
(PRINCIPAL)

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