

January (4) 2026

Dear parent,

We wish to thank you for your cooperation and understanding during the recent school closure as a result of Storm Chandra. We appreciate the time taken to read school communications and make alternative arrangements.

Please note that this week's newsletter contains a significant amount of important information. We encourage you to read it carefully and take note of all key dates.

CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING – PREVENTATIVE CURRICULUM

Children's Mental Health Week.

As Children's Mental Health week is while we are on holiday for mid-term break pupils will be participating in a range of activities during next week. Pupils in P4-P7 will also attend an online webinar hosted by HIP Psychology and there will be no written HW next week.

Healthy Relationships

Representatives from Women's Aid will be delivering their one session programme on Healthy Relationships to the pupils in P6/P7 on Tuesday 17 February. An information letter has been sent home with these pupils.

THAI ARTS NI

Thai Arts NI will be visiting the school on **Friday 6 February**. They will lead workshops with P1-P4 and P5-P7. Activities will include Thai fan painting, sand mandalas, Thai costumes and plenty of cultural talk and discussion. We are all very much looking forward to this experience.

MID TERM CLOSURE

The school will close for all pupils and staff on **Friday 6 February** at **2pm** and will reopen on **Monday 16 February**.

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Parent consultations for pupils in P1- P6 will be held on **Tuesday 24 February** and **Thursday 26 February**. Appointments will be sent home with pupils week commencing Monday 2 February.

SCHOOL BOOK FAIR

Thank you to all those who supported the recent Book Fair. Any money raised by the school has still to be finalised but will be used to boost reading material for the pupils.

LUNCH MENU

A new menu running from 16 February until 26 June has been attached for your information. The lunch menu can also be found on the school's website.

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

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

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

PTA NEWS

The PTA in conjunction with the NI Science Festival have organised a Parkgate Primary School Colour Run.

Date: Tuesday 17 February

Venue: Six Milewater Park, Ballyclare

Time: 1pm – 2.30pm

Transport: Bus funded by the PTA

Cost: £2 per child (donation to NI Children's Hospice)

Pupils should wear a white t-shirt and black shorts/joggers. They should also bring a jumper/coat and change of joggers to put on at the end of the race. Pupils may choose to wear sunglasses to avoid eye contact with the coloured powder.

This event has been organised as a fundraiser for NI Children's Hospice. All pupils should pay **£2 cash** to the school office by **Friday 6 February**. Should you wish to do any further fundraising a sponsorship form has been sent home with pupils today.

If you have not already done so, please complete the online permission form using the link below.

<https://forms.gle/BJrFi5N9Qhnr6xFc6>

P6 SEAG INFORMATION AFTERNOON

A SEAG information session for P6 parents will be held on **Wednesday 4 March at 3.10pm**.

POST PRIMARY TRANSFER

A quick guide and Key Information leaflet have been sent home. A full guide and the Key Information Leaflet were also attached with the January 3 newsletter.

Further information and tutorials can also be accessed at:

<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/pupil-applications-and-grants/admissions/admissions-support#section-23468>

Post Primary Admissions Process Timeline

1 10 December 2025 Admissions Criteria Published	2 27 January 2026 Applications Open	3 19 February 2026 Applications Close	4 9 May 2026 Placement Notification
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A copy of this newsletter is available on the school website.

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

HOMEWORK CLUB

If you wish to register your child for February homework club, please complete the google form linked below by **Friday 30 January** and send payment to the school office.

<https://forms.gle/nG8WN4xQXZ3vWFE17>

STORY & RHYME – 2026 DATES

Friday 30 January

Friday 20 February

Friday 27 February

COMMUNITY NOTICES

LIBRARY VAN – The next visit of the library van is **Wednesday 4 February**

MID ANTRIM CEF SUMMER CAMP – SEE BELOW

CEF are hosting a camp for children aged 8-12 in Bangor Grammar School on the 19th-24th July.

The cost is £115 for the week.

The children will be provided with 3 meals per day with a little supper at night.

We will have 2 meetings each day and some dorm chats after them.

We will have lots of time for different activities, team sports (ice hockey /pool/board games, movie night/talent show) etc. Trips out to places like the swimming pool and Pickie Park (Bangor) and on the final day they can use their spending money at the shopping centre. They will be permitted up to £30 spending money, which can be used at our tuck shop throughout the week.

Registration Link: <https://share.google/7GTs5Dx70hvzDRCg1>

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

30.01.26 February HW Club registration and payment

04.02.26 Library Van

06.02.26 School closes at 2pm for all pupils – mid-term break

School closed 10.02.26-13.02.26

06.02.26 Payment for Colour Run due - £2 per child

06.02.26 Thai Arts NI visit

09.02.26 School Development Day 3 – no pupils should attend

17.02.26 Women's Aid – Healthy relationships P6/P7

17.02.26 Colour Run in aid of NI Children's Hospice

19.02.26 Post Primary Portal closes at noon

24.02.26 Parent Consultations

26.02.26 Parent Consultations

04.03.26 P6 Parent SEAG Information Session

23.03.26 P1 2026 Admissions Notification of Outcome

09.05.26 Post Primary Admissions Notification of Outcome

Mrs V Ferguson
(Principal)

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