# NEWSLETTER

INSPIRE ~ SUPPORT ~ ACHIEVE

**Diary Dates**

| | |
|---|---|
| School Closed – Bank Holiday | Monday, 31st August |
| Parent Information Sessions | See Below |
| Assembly with Ballyclare CofI | Friday, 4th September |
| Assembly with Stand by Me charity | Monday, 7th September |
| Primary 5 swimming first day | Tuesday, 8th September |
| Primary 7 Information Evening 6:30pm | Wednesday, 9th September |
| Blitz Day in school grounds | Friday, 11th September |
| Primary 1 in to 1pm | Monday, 14th September |
| Book Fair opens | Tuesday, 15th September |
| Book Fair Evening 6pm | Tuesday, 15th September |
| After School Activities commence (staff led) | Tuesday, 15th September |
| SEAG (P7 transfer test) registration closes<br>**If you are a P7 parent of a child intending to sit SEAG, and you have not registered yet, please do so at your earliest convenience. If you require assistance, contact your child's teacher | Friday 18th September |
| Assembly with Hope 365 charity | Monday, 21st September |
| PTA AGM 7:30pm | Tuesday, 22nd September |
| School Closed – Staff Development Day | Friday, 25th September |
| School Closed – Staff Development Day | Monday, 28th September |
| Assembly with Shining Lights | Friday, 2nd October |
| Harvest Assembly with CEF | Monday, 5th October |
| Primary 1 in until 2pm | Monday, 5th October |
| Individual and Family Photos | Monday, 12th and Tuesday, 13th October |




**Welcome Back!**

It has been lovely to welcome back all our pupils this past week after a well-earned summer break. It was such a pleasure to see so many happy faces and warm smiles, well rested and ready for the challenges and opportunities this year will bring. A special welcome to a number of new pupils and families who joined us in late June and this past week – we know you will enjoy being part of the Fairview family. We were very fortunate to have so many sunny and warm days over the summer months to renew everyone and enable you all to get out and about. I enjoyed visiting all the classrooms over the last few days and hearing some stories of summer adventures!

I have especially loved visiting the three P1 classrooms and trying to learn lots of new names. It has been lovely to see our youngest pupils so well settled at such an early stage, and looking wonderful in their new uniforms after two induction days on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Today, I talked to all our pupils in assembly about being thankful. As we promote our core principles as a school this year, it is my hope and that of all the staff that we prepare our pupils for the world in which they live and give them the attributes to be model citizens and outstanding contributors to society.

> 'Always be happy. Never stop praying. Give thanks whatever happens. That is what God wants for you in Christ Jesus' 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

**Uniform**
All our pupils are looking extremely smart at the start of the new school year. I have no doubt this high standard of presentation and pride in the uniform will continue. We adapted our uniform policy this year following consultation at Fairview Ambassadors last year. Pupils felt they should be allowed to wear one earring. We respectfully ask that if earrings are to be worn, a single small stud will be permitted. Hoop earrings or larger studs will not be permitted and pupils will be asked to remove these. This is for safety reasons. Long hair should be tied back.

Pupils should now be wearing normal winter school uniform. As with last year, boys are permitted to wear their school uniform shorts for the month of September as the weather can still be warm. Girls have the choice of navy tights or white socks with their grey skirt/pinafore. Your child's teacher should now have confirmed PE days when pupils P4-P7 may come to school in their PE uniform (plain navy tracksuit bottoms over navy shorts for boys or plain navy leggings for girls, red Fairview PE t-shirt and hoodie – all available in Sport 'n' Sound).




## Our Mission

Our mission is to be a nurturing, kind and respectful community where each person is valued and empowered to be the best they can be

## Our Vision

Our vision is to inspire creativity, support growth and achieve excellence through a wealth of opportunities in every student's journey

## Our Core Values

**Inclusive**
Everyone is a valued and welcomed member of our whole school community

**Nurture**
Our Fairview family cares for, supports and encourages one another

**Kindness**
We treat others as we would like to be treated

**Respect**
We show respect to ourselves, others and our environment

**Empower**
We enable each other to achieve our full potential




The Education Authority provide support with uniform costs for eligible families. If we can support you with this application, or indeed in applying for free school meals, please contact the school office and we will gladly assist. We would encourage you to apply, even if you do not intend for your child to avail of the support.

**Allergy Aware School**
A number of our pupils have a severe allergy to various types of nuts. Therefore, it is school policy that nuts, of any form, are not permitted in school. This also includes the likes of a chocolate spread such as 'Nutella'. We appreciate your support with this. If there has been a change in your child's allergies, please inform school.

Parents of any children who we know about as having allergies or a food intolerance will have been contacted this week to confirm foods which cannot be eaten and suggest alternatives, based on the form completed last year. If your child has developed an allergy or a food intolerance since last year, please complete the form emailed out and return to the office or your child's teacher at the earliest convenience.

**Eco Morning in School**
We are lucky to have such extensive school grounds and we have worked hard over the last few years to develop these grounds into an innovative and stimulating learning environment.

Our pupils and staff have worked to keep these grounds tidy but we need your help! We would love a few parents to give us an hour or two on Friday 11th September. No expertise is needed, just a willingness to get stuck in. We need some branches cut back, beds weeded, strimming and planting. Please bring your own tools if you have any.

If you have a trailer, we will need some help doing a couple of runs to Bruslee Recycling Centre. We are also hoping to replenish our outdoor teaching areas with some chipped bark and to do some wildflower planting. Lots to be done! All pupils and staff will be getting stuck in.....**we really need your help as well!**

Please send a note in to your child's teacher if you can help out on the day. Any amount of time, no matter how little, will be much appreciated. There will be special home baked treats for the class with the most helpers!




**Pick Your Own Fruit**
We have apples for sale again this year, grown in our very own orchard. Pupils can pick their own for 20p. I can assure you, they are very tasty! If you are collecting at the front gate, do feel free to try one.

**After Schools Programme**
We pride ourselves in Fairview on the amount of after school opportunities our pupils have available to them. All our staff are involved in delivering this programme and notes for signing up to these clubs will come out in the next week. On top of what our staff offer, we have a number of external clubs which will run throughout the year, booked directly with the provider. These details have been emailed out to you and will be on our new school website.

**School Enhancement Programme (SEP)**
You will remember last year, we were confirmed as one of the schools chosen for building work to commence on a school upgrade. For Fairview, we will be getting a school extension with 10 new classrooms being built to the side of school to replace the 9 mobile classrooms we currently operate. This is most exciting news.

As an update, a lot of work has gone on since the announcement and a contractor is now in the final stages of being appointed. We expect work to begin before the end of 2026 with the main programme commencing in January 2027. The work should be completed by Summer 2028.

**Religious Education and Collective Worship**
Please see attached two policies in line with recent DE circular regarding arrangements for withdrawal from Religious Education and Collective Worship in all grant-aided schools. The recent Supreme Court Judgement has set out that the right of withdrawal from RE and collective worship should be practical, effective and free from any stigma. Both policies detail arrangements in place for Fairview Primary School and include Appendix C which parents/carers should complete if they wish to withdraw their child from any or all Religious Education and Collective Worship. Please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any queries around these policies or if you require Appendix C in paper form.

**Breakfast Club and After School Provision**
We are delighted to be able to offer our early morning Breakfast Club each day. Doors open from 7.45am (please do not arrive any earlier than this) and last breakfasts will be served at 8.30am. Pupils will be accompanied to their class at 8.45am. Parents are asked not to drive into the school grounds when dropping their child to Breakfast Club – we appreciate your support with this.

After School Provision also started again this week and will resume its normal running time of 3pm to 5pm Monday to Thursday, and 2pm to 4pm on Friday.

Both Breakfast Club and After School Provision should be booked in advance using our SchoolMoney app.

**Email Communication**
As was the case last year, most school correspondence will be sent via email. A number of letters have already been sent via email in recent weeks. If you have not been receiving these, please first of all check your junk mail. If the correspondence is not there, please contact the office directly. The newsletter, and other school information, will be available on the school website and often through our Facebook page.

Please note emails will come from the principal's secretary hcraig598@fairviewps.ballyclare.ni.sch.uk.

**Parent Information Sessions**
Our Parent Information Sessions commenced with P2 on Wednesday and P6 yesterday and will continue next week. These sessions will be no more than 30 minutes and are very useful for you to meet your child's new teacher and to find out what your child will be working on in that particular year group. There will be a separate session for P7 parents on an evening later in September. Please note that these sessions are general and are not for individual pupil discussions. Anything you need to share with the class teacher can be done either through Seesaw or contacting the school office.

For those of you who have a younger sibling (P1-P3) who needs to be looked after for the duration of the talk, they will be brought to the Assembly Hall by their class teacher. Please inform the class teacher in advance. Unfortunately, we cannot look after any children who are not already at school.

**Parent Information Sessions (2.15pm – 2.45pm):**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Primary 2 | Room 6 | Wednesday, 26th August |
| Primary 6 | Room 7 | Thursday, 27th August |
| Primary 4 | Room 18 | Tuesday, 1st September |
| Primary 3 | Room 4 | Wednesday, 2nd September |
| Primary 5 | Room 9 | Thursday, 3rd September |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| P1 | P1 classrooms | Tuesday, 22nd September | 1.15pm |
| P7 | Assembly Hall | Wednesday, 9th September | 6.30pm |

**School Safeguarding**
If you have any safeguarding concerns, then the following is the school team:

| | |
|---|---|
| Designated Teacher - | Mrs Norris |
| Deputy Designated Teacher - | Miss Earls, Mrs Craig, Mrs McCullough |
| Safeguarding Governor - | Mrs Victoria Woodside |

The school's Safeguarding Policy is available to all parents on the school's website or from the school office, on request.

**EXTERNAL NEWS**

