



All pupils deserve a rewarding educational experience.

Dates for your Diary:

Monday 27th March 2023

Business Studies Controlled Assessment Exam
School choir performing at the Ballyclare Festival

Tuesday 28th March 2023

Half day; School ends at 12:30; Buses will only be available at 3pm - PLEASE SEE BELOW FOR INFORMATION
Year 8 Parent Interviews via School Cloud 13:00 – 15:00

Wednesday 29th March 2023

Music Department Spring Showcase 5pm to 6pm

Monday 1st May 2023

May Day Bank Holiday

Monday 8th May 2023

King's Coronation Bank Holiday

Friday 26th May 2023

School closed for pupils (Staff Development Day)

Monday 29th May 2023

School closed for pupils (Staff Development Day)

General Information:

Launch of new school website: We are delighted to announce the launch of our new school website. Work has been on going over the last number of months to create a new site which is user-friendly, easy to navigate and with a fresh modern look. We have updated and added new content to our site which will give you an insight into the wide variety of opportunities offered to our students, our daily school life and the successes our pupils achieve. In the 'school life' area, you will find useful information on the current curriculum offered in school, extra-curricular clubs, careers and Student Forum. In the 'parent' area you will find information on examinations, pastoral care, health and wellbeing, correspondence from the Acting Principal and much more. Please take some time to browse through the new site and visit it regularly to see what has been happening in our school.



Free Breakfast: The free breakfast will continue for all year groups, daily from 8am to 8.30am in the school canteen.

Zero Tolerance: As a school we continuously work to provide a safe, calm, orderly environment for pupils and staff. We encourage all our parents and external visitors to adhere to an appointment system, should they need to speak or consult with a member of staff. There are benefits to this, in that it ensures a calm, orderly running of the school. We have sent out previous safeguarding messages about visitors reporting to our visitor's reception, please continue to do this. As a further safeguarding update, we want to advise all our parents and carers that swearing, threats or any act of violence will not be tolerated. Anyone giving verbal abuse to members of staff will be asked to leave the premises.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Change to bus arrangements on Tuesday 28th March: Translink have contacted school and unfortunately, they cannot provide transport at 12.30pm on Tuesday 28th March. Buses will be available at 3pm for those pupils remaining in school. Apologies for the short notice but please understand that this information was only communicated to us yesterday.

Break and lunch time arrangements for Tuesday 28th March:

Early finish: on Tuesday 28th March at 12.30pm due to Year 8 Parent Consultations via School Cloud.

There will be no breaktime on Tuesday 28th March so period 3 will be 50 minutes long. Pupils will then have an extended snack/lunchtime:

Years 12, 13 & 14 - 11am to 11.30am

Years 10 & 11 - 11.30am to 12pm

Years 8 & 9 - 12pm to 12.30pm

The canteen **will** be serving food. Pupils should organise for their normal lunch arrangements, packed lunch or school dinners. There are **NO buses available at 12.30pm**, pupils can make their own arrangements to get home, or they can remain in school for supervised study until 3pm. Please tell your child to let their form teacher know if they wish to avail of this supervision arrangement.

EXAMINATIONS:

Business Studies Controlled Assessment Exam: The Booklet B exam paper for Business Studies Controlled Assessment will take place on **Monday, 27th March in R235**. Students in **12B** should arrive promptly to start their exam at **8.50am**. Students in **12D** will need to **take an early break from 10.05 am to 10.20 am** as they will start their exam at **10.30am**. It is very important that students attend on this date to complete their exam.

Year 11 Digital Technology class: As discussed on Year 11 Parents Afternoon, Miss Nevin will be running an after-school class for Year 11 Digital Technology pupils to support pupils in having the best chance of success in Module 1 on 18th May. The classes will continue **Wednesdays at 3pm until 4pm** and run until their module on Thursday 18th May. It would be highly beneficial for your child to attend these classes.

OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

Strange Events Management Multisports Easter camp: based at Ballyclare High School. *Please see attached poster, cover letter and camp registration form.*

Parentline Discussion Groups: Please see the *attached flyers* for a parent discussion group and workshop that Parentline are hosting during March:

- Parents Talk ADHD, **Wednesday 29th March 7.30-8.30pm**

Call Parentline on 0808 8020 400 for more information or to book a place.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Engagement Sessions for Parents and Carers: The Education Authority (EA) is holding a series of two-part Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) engagement sessions for parents and carers this month. *Please see attached letter for more information.*

CLUBS:

SU: will meet on **Wednesday** period 6 for Years 8 and 9 and 7 for Years 10 and 11 in room 121 in the Home Economics Department. This will be our last meeting for this year.

Year 8 Art Club: will not be running this Tuesday due to half day.

Year 8 Ukelele club: will continue on **Monday** at junior lunch

Robotics Challenge 2023: Pupils from Years 8, 9 and 10 have registered interest for this challenge. The club continues **Tuesday** in room 237 and is from 3pm until 4pm.

EVENTS:

Music Department Spring Showcase: It has been a busy year so far in the Music Department, and we would like to invite you to join us in celebrating our pupils' achievements in our Spring Showcase on **Wednesday 29th March 2023** from 5.00-6.00 pm. This event will take place in our assembly hall and drinks and refreshments will be available before the start of the event. Tickets for this event will be £5 for adults and £3 for children/concessions and can be purchased on Parent Pay App from Wednesday 8th March. Printed tickets will not be distributed for the event, but names will be ticked off at the door.



Monday	Ukulele club Year 8 – junior lunch																
	Junior and senior choir at Ballyclare Festival P.8-10																
	Junior choir meet in music at 1.15 senior choir meet in Miss Beattie's room at 1.15																
Tuesday	No orchestra																
Wednesday	<u>Rehearsals for the Spring Showcase</u>																
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Rehearsal</th> <th>Period</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Orchestra</td> <td>1&2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ensembles</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Senior Choir</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Junior Choir</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Solo's</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Piping and Drumming</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Run through</td> <td>8-10</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Rehearsal	Period	Orchestra	1&2	Ensembles	3	Senior Choir	4	Junior Choir	5	Solo's	6	Piping and Drumming	7	Run through	8-10
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	No senior choir after school																
Friday	No Theory club																

HOUSE SYSTEM:

House Competition 'Junk Couture': We are very excited to announce our next house competition: Junk Couture! Some of you may have watched junk couture TikToks in which school pupils get creative and design their own outfit from recycled and reused materials. Now it is your child's chance to be creative, channel your inner fashion designer and design an outfit, as well as promoting environmentally conscious behaviour. What kind of outfit would they want to create? Who will be their model? How might they use colour in their outfit to represent their house? They should create a small team of people in their school house; this can be across any year group. One of these people must be their model. They have until **Wednesday 29th March** to design their outfit before our own in-house fashion display before the Easter holidays. If they have any questions or queries, please ask them to speak to Miss Dunwoody in room 212.

'BSS Has Got Talent' House competition:

<p>Have you got a talent and fancy taking part?</p> <p>Speak to your House Captain ASAP!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> M Miss Dunwoody - Room 212 C Mrs Weir - Room 233 O Miss Dunlop - Room 201 L Miss Smyth - Room 304 	<p>BSS HAS GOT TALENT AUDITIONS!</p> <p>Week Beginning 17th April</p> <p>Auditions will take place with your house captain teacher and pupil house captains. You must sign the sign up sheet and arrange with them when you will complete your audition.</p> <p>3 acts for each house will be chosen to perform on Friday 5th May.</p> <p>If you are a chosen act, you must make your house captain aware of any special requirements and equipment that you may need for the day.</p> <p>Houses will be ranked 1-4 by our chosen judges, with an overall prize for the winner.</p>	<p>YEAR 8 AND 9 AUDIENCE</p> <p>At Ballyclare Secondary School we believe that everyone has a talent. However, if you are not performing on the day, you will still be a part of showcasing your talent as our audience and support your house acts.</p> <p>We are looking for each house to create a house chant.</p> <p>We are looking for each house to create posters of support.</p> <p>There will be house points awarded to the best chant and poster.</p> <p>Get to know your chosen act and show your support!</p> <p>On the day itself, there will also be house buckets for anyone willing to contribute a donation for our chosen organisation of the day, the Air Ambulance.</p>
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HOUSE POINTS:

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Canteen Menu:

Morning Break	Notes: 1st break only
<u>Toast Available Daily</u> Monday = Pizza Tuesday = Croissant Wednesday = Jambon Thursday = Sausage Rolls Friday = Croissant	2 Service Points Daily Subject to Staffing

Item	Allergy
Pizza	Wheat & Milk
Croissant	
Jambon	Wheat, Egg & Milk
Sausage Rolls	Wheat May Contain Milk, Egg, Mustard & Fish
Toast	Wheat & Soya

Week 1	Vegetarian	Pasta Bar	Main Course	Snack Items	Vegetables	Desserts
Monday	Salad Bar available For Wraps Baguettes	Pasta Bolognese Sauce Italiano Sauce	Sausages	Jambons Pizza slice Peperoni Pizza	Chips Gravy Beans Curry Sauce Grated Cheese	Popcorn Cookie Cup Cake 15'S Digestive Biscuit
Tuesday	Salad Bar available For Wraps Baguettes	Pasta Bolognese Sauce Italiano Sauce	Chicken Curry & Rice	Sausages Rolls Pizza Slice Finger Bread pizza	Veg Soup Wheaten Bread	Shortbread Yoghurt Bread Krispie slice Digestive
Wednesday	Salad Bar available For Wraps Baguettes	Pasta Bolognese Sauce Italiano Sauce	Lasagne & Garlic Bread	Chicken Burger Pepperoni or Plain Pizza Slice	Herb diced potato Baked Potato Beans Coleslaw	Choc Chip Cookie Date Krispie Flake meal Biscuit Digestive
Thursday	Salad Bar available For Wraps Baguettes	Pasta Bolognese Sauce Italiano Sauce	Chicken pie	Beef Burger & Bap Pizza Slice Soda Bread Pizza	Mashed Potato Peas Gravy	Chocolate Brownie Chocolate Cookie Creamed Fairy Cake Digestive
Friday	Salad Bar available For Wraps Baguettes	Pasta Bolognese Sauce Italiano Sauce	Southern Fried Goujon	Hot Dogs Pizza Slice	Chips Gravy Beans Curry Sauce Grated Cheese	Rice Krispie Bun Pineapple Delight Meringue Finger Digestive

Items available Daily, Sandwiches, Baguettes & Wraps all made to order & Panini. Fresh Fruit, Yoghurt, bread, milk & water available.

Thought for the week:

CountryLiving

"YOU CAN CUT
ALL THE FLOWERS
BUT YOU CANNOT
KEEP SPRING
FROM COMING."

Pablo Neruda

