

# In Touch

Parent/Carer Update

*The community of Ballyclare Secondary School strive to provide an inclusive learning and teaching environment in which all can reach their full potential. We aim to do this by fostering the core values of respect, kindness, compassion and joy.*



Week Beginning:  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023  
Timetable: Week 2

## Dates for your Diary:

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October – BFFS Autumn Fair, 10am-2pm  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October - Year 9 House Quiz (registration time and period 1)  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023 - Year 10 House Quiz (registration time and period 1)  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – Celebration Afternoon for Award Winners starting at 1pm  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October school will finish at 11.45am – there will be no school buses at this time, please make alternative arrangements.  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – Year 11 & 12 Science & English assessments  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023 – Last day of this half term - normal school hours  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 – Half term holiday  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 6.30pm – Year 10 Options Evening for Parents & Pupils  
20<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023 – Year 11 to 14 are off timetable and only attend school when they have an assessment.  
27<sup>th</sup> November to 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023 – Year 8 to 10 assessments completed in class.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

Homework club is on every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

Please note the canteen is only available to Years 10 to 14 at breaktime. Years 8 to 9 should bring a snack. Friday treat day will take place at break time every Friday for Years 8 & 9 to purchase chocolate bars and other sweet treats.

Breakfast club is up and running again, every morning from 8am to 8.30am.

Lunchtime football is on every Monday and Wednesday. Pupils must bring trainers and meet outside the 6<sup>th</sup> form centre.

### A Reminder of our exciting fundraising opportunity

An application to Tesco Stronger Starts (the blue tokens) has been successful and voting will commence in store from the first week of October 2023 until Mid January 2024 for Ballyclare Secondary School Healthy Breakfast Club. The project with the highest number of votes across our region will receive £1,500, the second placed project £1,000 and the third placed project £500. If you shop in Tesco in the following locations, **please** ask at the till for the **blue tokens** and pop them into the display for Ballyclare Secondary School.

### **Tesco stores:**

2023 Antrim Road Large Unit BT15 3BG  
2715 Newtownabbey Large Unit BT36 7GU  
5409 Mayfield Exp Small unit BT36 7WU  
5522 Ballygomartin 1 Large Unit BT13 3LD  
5585 Monkstown Newton Exp Small unit BT37 0HS  
6506 Northcott Extra Large Unit BT36 5HH  
6552 Doagh Rd Exp Small unit BT37 9QS

### Shoe Box Appeal

As a school, we are supporting the Shoe Box Appeal this year again, if can please help us with support this charity. The deadline to donate a shoe box is Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November. <https://blythswood.org/shoeboxappeal/>

## Important information for Year 12 – 14 pupils: Upcoming Dates

23<sup>rd</sup> October Ulster Insight Event Pharmaceutical and Bioscience  
23<sup>rd</sup> October Cinematic Talent Lab  
25<sup>th</sup> October Stranmillis Open Day  
26<sup>th</sup> October Ulster Insight Event Global Marketing  
26<sup>th</sup> October Ulster Insight Event History, English, Journalism and Interactive Media  
28<sup>th</sup> October Edinburgh Napier Open Day  
1<sup>st</sup> November Queen's University Geography Open Evening  
1<sup>st</sup> November Queen's University Online Careers in Planning Event  
2<sup>nd</sup> November Ulster Insight Event Biology and Biomedical Science  
3<sup>rd</sup> November Ulster Insight Event Optometry  
3<sup>rd</sup> November Ulster Insight Event Food, Nutrition and Dietetics

Bryson Training and Employability offer vocational training for 16/17 year olds who for various reasons do not want to continue on to their A Levels. Based in Belfast City Centre, Bryson offers a comfortable learning environment with smaller class sizes and all-round support from our dedicated learning and support team. To find out more information and/or to register interest for Skills for Life and Work September 2024 with Bryson Training and Employability, please make contact on 07803 833 373 or register at <https://tinyurl.com/Brysonregistrationform>

### Apprenticeships

#### Information Event for Parents and Pupils

Years 11 – 14

Want to hear about how you can fast track into a career where you can learn as you earn?

Gain new skills, experiences, friends, and a sense of independence.

#### Why choose an Apprenticeship?

- earn while you learn.
- achieve professional-level qualifications without paying higher education tuition fees.
- increased opportunities for career progression
- a clear pathway to achieving ambitions in the workplace.

**Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023 @ 6pm**

**Ulster University, Coleraine**

#### Keynote speakers

**Richard Kirk** CEO Workplus

**Abbie McKenna** Head of Centre of Apprenticeships,

Skills and Flexible Education, Ulster University



#### School Photograph

Have you ordered your school photos yet? A polite reminder that the closing date for **free delivery** back to school is **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October**. Order through the Tempest website using your unique link or visit [www.tempest-orders.co.uk](http://www.tempest-orders.co.uk) If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).

### External examinations in November

There are external GCSE modules taking place in school from 13-23 November. All pupils in Year 12, along with those pupils in Year 11 studying Double Award Science, will have at least one exam during this time. Pupils have all been issued with their examination timetable so please take time to discuss these exams with your son/daughter and make a note of the dates and times of exams. Attached is an Examinations Handbook with key information on some of the regulations for external exams. The dates of these exams can be found in the table below.

<b>Exam</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Pupils involved</b>
DAS Biology	13/11/23	9:00-10:00am	Year 12 re-sits
DAS Chemistry	14/11/23	9:00-10:00am	Year 11 DAS classes Year 12 re-sits
SAS Chemistry	14/11/23	9:00-10:00am	Year 12 re-sits
DAS Physics	15/11/23	9:00-10:00am	Year 12 re-sits
SAS Physics	15/11/23	9:00-10:00am	Year 12 SAS classes
English Unit 1	17/11/23	9:00-10:45am	Year 12 re-sits
English Unit 4	20/11/23	9:00-10:45am	Year 12 English classes
Maths M2	21/11/23	9:00-10:45am	Year 12 re-sits
Maths M3	21/11/23	9:00-11:00am	Year 12 re-sits
Maths M4	21/11/23	9:00-11:00am	Year 12 re-sits
Maths M6	23/11/23	9:00-11:00am	Year 13 re-sits

### House Points

McConnell 7

Ollar 6

Lindsay 5

Collin 2

### Quote of the Week:

