



Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 16th November 2023 – Year 12 Options Information Evening at 6.30pm. After the half-term break, your child will begin the process of considering their post 16 pathway. At our Year 12 Options Information Evening, we will be outlining the options available in Ballyclare Secondary School and how they link to future career pathways. This is a very significant evening for your child's future choices and we would ask that you make attendance a priority. We would also ask that your child attend the evening with you (they do not need to be in school uniform). Please complete the form at the link below to let us know if you are able to attend or not.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSczSExmvPDQVeN919OvtrwvhBoJliQ0qkblOMs0SK8GOoh5jw/viewform?usp=sf_link

Year 12 Options Information Evening

Your email will be recorded when you submit this form

* Indicates required question

Please choose from the options below regarding your attendance at the Year 12 Options Information Evening on Thursday 16th November at 6.30pm

Yes, I will be attending with my child

Yes, I will be attending without my child

I am unable to attend

Other

docs.google.com

Thursday 16th November – We are OPEN – The Education Authority (EA) has warned of expected disruption to some school services as a result of strike action notified by UNISON, UNITE the union, NIPSA and GMB. This strike action may also have a major impact on the availability of Classroom Assistants in schools. Our school is open to ALL pupils. Should circumstances change you will be notified as soon as possible.

Thursday 16th November – Duke of Edinburgh Parents Information Sessions at 6.30pm

Thursday 16th November – Year 13/14 BTEC Sport trip to Ulster Rugby

Friday 17th November - Odd socks day for anti-bullying week

20th – 24th November – Year 11 to 14 are off timetable and only attend school when they have an examination. Please find attached the Examination timetables for each of the 4 year groups.

Friday 24th November – Senior Choir will be performing at Parliament Buildings, Stormont @7:30pm

They have been invited by a local choir, 'The Clare Chorale' to join them for the evening in aid of the charity Aware. Admission to the event is strictly by ticket only which are priced at £12. Senior choir members should already have this as a purchase option in their Parent Pay. Anyone else in the school community will be most welcome to attend the concert. To purchase tickets please contact the school office or Miss Beattie to have the payment option added to your Parent Pay account. Tickets will be distributed by Miss Beattie to those concerned following receipt of payment. Many thanks for your support.

27th November to 1st December – Year 8 to 10 assessments will be completed in class.

Monday 27th November – Friday 1st December – PE Pink Week for Cancer Focus

Thursday 30th November – Friday 1st December – Year 11 Learn to Earn Event

Wednesday 20th December – Pupils finish at 11.45am for the Christmas break

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 6th form centre.

Important information for Year 12 – 14 pupils: Upcoming Dates

12th November Edgehill University Open Event Belfast

14th November Ulster Insight Environment Evening

15th November Ulster Insight Degree Apprenticeship Evening

15th November Ulster Insight Nursing Evening

15th November Dundalk Institute of Technology Open Day

15th November CAFRE Taster day Nutrition Loughry Campus

16th November Queen's University Arts and Humanities Event

18th November Liverpool John Moores Open Day

23rd November Union Theological College Open Event

24th November CAFRE Open Day Enniskillen Campus

Know your teenager's brain

Please see the attached flyer.

Emotional Health & Wellbeing

Please see the attached flyer.

Parents and Guardians of Year 12 GCSE Psychology Students

I am pleased to inform you that from Thursday 16th November Miss Agnew will be running **support study sessions** for Year 12 Psychology pupils. This is due to the demand for additional support with revision skills and refining exam technique in this subject. These sessions will take place **every Thursday** after school (3-4pm) and will give your child an opportunity for further study. **I would appreciate it if you could encourage your child to attend these sessions.**

CAFRE Equine & Food Course Taster Days

Please see the attached flyers.

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.

Exam	Date	Time	Pupils involved
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

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 OHS
6506 Northcott Extra Large Unit BT36 5HH
6552 Doagh Rd Exp Small unit BT37 9QS

Quote of the Week:

