



Week Beginning:

Monday 4th December 2023

Timetable: Week 1

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.

Dates for your Diary:

External exams information:

Date	Time	Exam	Pupils involved	Location
Wednesday 6 th December	9:00-12:00pm	BTEC Tourism Unit 2 Part A (1)	Year 14 BTEC Tourism class	Room 210
Thursday 7 th December	9:00-12:00pm	BTEC Tourism Unit 2 Part A (2)	Year 14 BTEC Tourism class	Room 210
Thursday 11 th January	9:00-12:00pm	BTEC Tourism Unit 2 Part B	Year 14 BTEC Tourism class	Boy's Gym
Friday 12 th January	9:00-10:30pm	BTEC Sport Unit 1 re-sit	Year 14 re-sit pupils	Boy's Gym
Tuesday 16 th January	1:00-2:30pm	BTEC Tourism Unit 1	Year 13 BTEC Tourism classes	Boy's Gym
Tuesday 16 th January	1:00-2:30pm	OCN Essential Skills Level 1 Communication	Year 12 OCN English class	Boy's Gym
Tuesday 16 th January	1:00-2:45pm	OCN Essential Skills Level 2 Communication	Year 12 OCN English class	Boy's Gym

Year 8 – BSS Road Safety Week.....Events have been planned for **Tuesday 5th December and Wednesday 6th December** with a particular emphasis on road safety for Year 8 pupils. Constable Noel Teeney (Road Policing/Road Safety Officer) will deliver a talk to the whole year group on pedestrian safety to and from school, e-scooters, bikes and seatbelts. Kevin Wallace from Translink will then deliver talks to individual classes across two days on the Safety Bus.

Monday 4th December, Wednesday 6th December & Thursday 7th December 2023 – Year 8 Health Checks

Wednesday 6th December 2023 Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh training begins 3-4pm in the Lecture theatre

Thursday 7th December 2023 – Year 13/14 Parent/Carer Consultations (2-4pm). **Early finish at 1.45pm**. Bookings open at 12pm on Friday 1st December and close on Wednesday 6th December at midnight.

Tuesday 12th December 2023 – Christmas Concert rehearsals

Wednesday 13th December 2023 - Christmas Concert @ 5:30pm

Wednesday 13th December & Thursday 14th December 2023 – Year 10 Young Enterprise Event

Thursday 14th December 2023 – Flu Vaccinations (Mop-Up Sessions)

Wednesday 20th December 2023 - 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

Form teachers distributed Formal letters on Monday 27th November 2023. Please return the consent form and conduct contract to Dr Flint by **Friday 8th December**.

UCL Outreach Programme

We have received the following information from University College London regarding their schools outreach programme. If your child would be interested in any of these sessions, they need to register at the following

link: https://www.ucl.ac.uk/widening-participation/learners/secondary/ucl-informed-futuresUCL

When registering, pupils need to indicate their Year group – these registration form is based on the English system, so you will need to use the following:

Year 8 = Year 7

Year 9 = Year 8

Year 10 = Year 9

Year 11 = Year 10

Year 12 = Year 11

Below is the information received from UCL.

Informed Futures is a series of online events aimed at equipping secondary school students, and parents and carers, with the knowledge and confidence to succeed in their next steps in education. With sessions for pupils in Year 8 all the way up to Year 12, there is a wealth of advice and information available for attendees.

Applications for our next series of Informed Futures events are now open. Please see below the sessions we will be running this autumn:

Introduction to University (Y8-10) - 5 December 2023

Get Ready for GCSEs (Y8-10) - 12 December 2023

Stepping Up Your Study Skills (Y10-12) - 21 December 2023

All sessions run from 5-6pm

Sessions will be hosted online. Audience participation will be encouraged through interactive elements such as games and quizzes and participants will have the chance to ask questions by typing in the chat function.

Important information for Year 10 – 12 pupils:

The Education Authority (EA) Children in Entertainment & Employment Team (CEET) are conducting a short survey to help establish the scale of employment among 13 to 16 year old pupils of compulsory school age. Information collected from this can provide valuable data to assist in the development of services offered by the Children in Entertainment & Employment Team (CEET). Please see the attached parental consent letter.

Instrumental tuition/Instrumental Hire Payments:

All payments for the hire of school instruments and board tuition should have been paid through the parent pay app. If you have an outstanding payment remaining could you please ensure this is paid before 15th December. Unfortunately lessons will be paused in January until payments have been made. If you have any issues please contact Mrs Stewart.

Christmas Concert:

We are delighted to announce that our Christmas Concert will be on Wednesday 13th December. The concert will be held in the school Assembly Hall at 5.30pm and is very much a family event. The cost of tickets are £4 for an adult ticket and £2 for a child ticket. These are now available to purchase on the Parent Pay App. We would love it if you could join us, support our pupils, and help us spread some Christmas cheer.



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

