



*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**

### **Key dates in Summer Term:**

- 6th May - May Day Bank Holiday
- 7th May - Start of External Summer Exam Season
- 14th May – 17th May - DOE Bronze Expedition
- 16th May – Kit Car Heat in Moneymore
- 27th May— Staff Development Day—Pupils do not attend.
- 30th May – 4th June – Year 8 to Year 11 Internal Summer Assessments
- 1st June - 60th Anniversary Gala Dinner

## **Examinations Information**

- 17th April - GCSE Music Practical
- 18<sup>th</sup> April – February Exam Results
- 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> April – GCSE French Orals
- 29<sup>th</sup> April – 1<sup>st</sup> May – A-Level Art Exam
- 30th April - AS Performing Arts Exam
- 3rd May - AS Music Practical
- 7th May - A2 Music Practical
- 16th May - A2 Performing Arts Exam

## **General Information**

### **Music Tuition Payments**

A reminder that all payments for term 2 should now be complete. Fees for term 3 will appear shortly on Sims Parents App. Please try to have these paid by the end of May if possible. Many thanks, Mrs Stewart.

### **Music Exams**

Pupils who will be sitting instrumental/vocal music exams in June will have received a letter this week. Please ensure these are returned promptly and the outstanding balance on Parent Pay App has been paid so that entries can be processed. If there are any issues or concerns, please contact your child's tutor or Mrs Stewart.

### **Drama Club**

Drama Club will take place on Thursdays from 3 - 4pm this term.

### **London Theatre Trip April '25**

A reminder to all students going that 2<sup>nd</sup> instalment is now due.

Pupils are to bring in their passports to Mrs Sialianskaia to ensure flight booking can be confirmed by end of month.

## Vaping

The use of e-cigarettes is unsafe for children, teens, and young adults. Most e-cigarettes contain nicotine which is highly addictive and can harm adolescent brain development, which continues into the early to mid-20s.<sup>1</sup>E-cigarettes can contain other harmful substances besides nicotine. Young people who use e-cigarettes may be more likely to smoke cigarettes in the future. See the attached factsheets on Vaping.

## Paper Cut Printing Credits

At the start of the academic year, each pupil received an allocation of printing credits. If your child has exhausted their allotted printing credits, additional credits can be purchased by visiting the school office. Upon payment via Parent Pay for additional credits, the office staff will update their Paper Cut account with the additional printing credits.

## Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is available every morning from 8am in our canteen.

## Canteen Menu

Please see attached.

## Pupil Drop Off

We kindly request that parents refrain from driving through the back gate for pupil drop-off. This decision has been made with the utmost consideration for the health and safety of our pupils. We encourage parents to explore alternative drop-off points. Special circumstances are accommodated on an individual basis in consultation with our pastoral staff.



## 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/Fundraiser Dinner

We are organising a belated 60<sup>th</sup> celebration/fundraiser dinner for the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2024 to be held in Dunadry Hotel, the cost of a ticket is £50 per head. Information has been released on social media. Please contact the school office to purchase tickets.



## Careers Information

- May 10<sup>th</sup> – Registration for Experience Maths at Queen’s University.
- July 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> – Swansea University summer school, Medicine, Healthcare and Psychology.
- Online conference on social work in Northern Ireland—TBC
- Additional information on higher apprenticeships. <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/higher-level-apprenticeship>
- Ulster University Scholarship – Please see attached flyer
- Deloitte Career Shaper programme is now open for years 11 and 12 more information is on Google Classroom—June 2024.

Please note many events require registration. Additional Information and links are available on google classroom.

## Year 11

Please see attached arrangements for Year 11 during the months of May & June 2024