

In Touch

Parent / Carer Update



Week Beginning:
Monday 29th April 2024
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

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

- 29th – 30th April – GCSE French Orals
- 29th April – 1st 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

Year 11

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

Strive NI Parent Group.

In light of the growing number of pupils who struggle with school attendance due to ‘anxiety-based school avoidance’ (ABSA), a new peer-to-peer group has just begun for parents who have children who are unable to attend school due to anxiety. The group meets every month in Newtownabbey and is open to parents / carers whose children may struggle with school attendance.

All Ireland Scholarship - Scholarships worth £5,500 per year

Is your child studying A Levels or a Level 3 Extended Diploma at school? In receipt of Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) and planning to go to university in September 2024? 25 All Ireland Scholarships are available to pupils who perform best in their A Level exams or Level 3 Extended Diploma.

Details of the Scholarships, including how to apply, will be available from the following websites:

NI Direct: All Ireland Scholarships

CCEA— www.ccea.org.uk

Please note that this scheme is not administered by the Student Loans Company and any queries should be emailed to AllIrelandScholarships@economy-ni.gov.uk

Revision Class

Business Studies revision class for Year 11 students (and any Year 12 students who are repeating Unit 1) is taking place on Thursday, 2nd May and Thursday, 9th May from 3.00 pm to 3.30 pm.

Careers Information

As a school we will be visiting at least one campus of Ulster University. Year 13 students have been asked to complete an online survey available through google classroom to gauge which may be the most suitable campus to visit. Different courses are offered at each campus, and it is beneficial to visit the campus which offers your chosen course.



- Year in Industry (YINI) Placements Open Day – Placements available please see attached flyer. Year 14 Students.
- Preparing for University course - Please see attached flyer
- Belfast Bible College Open Day Tuesday 30th April
- Health Trust virtual Information session for speech and language therapy Tuesday 30th April
- Almac still have places available on the higher apprenticeship programme.
- Pinsent Masons are offering summer work experience. Applications close 30th April.

Further Information on all the events listed above is available on google classroom.

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 2nd instalment is now due.

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

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.

60th Anniversary/Fundraiser Dinner

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

