



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.

Today we said our farewell wishes to Miss Miniss

Dates for your Diary

Year 11 Subject Choices

The deadline for Year 11 pupils to make changes to subject choices is Monday 30th September. Please note that changes are dependent on availability of space in other classes.

General Information

Year 8 Induction

Year 8 parents who did not attend the Year 8 Induction evening on Thursday 26th September, please collect your child's CAT4 assessment scores from the school office. These will not be sent home with your child.

Board of Governors

Parent Governor Election process for the term of office 2024-2028, please see the information sent out on Sims Parent App, today. If you have not received this, please contact the school office.

Music Tuition

All music lessons have now started, if your child has not been placed in lessons, please contact Mrs Stewart (cstewart825@c2ken.net). Payments for the board tutors (Mrs McKay and Mr Doherty) will now be in your Parent Pay basket. Any pupil who is hiring an instrument from school for the year will also find the one-off payment of £40 in their Parent Pay App. We would ask that these amounts be paid by Friday 4th October.

The tutors are in on the following days:-

Monday: Mr Shaw (Snare Drumming), Mr Cuthbertson (Drum Kit) and Mrs Greer (Piano)

Tuesday: Miss Hanna (woodwind) and Mr McGahey (Guitar)

Wednesday: Mr Doherty (brass) and Mr Heron (Cello)

Thursday: Mrs McKay (Violin) and Mrs Burns (Vocal)

Friday: Mrs Greer (Piano), Mr Coyle (Bagpipes), Mr Shaw (Snare Drumming) and Mr Riordan

Music—Extra-Curricular

Our Extra-Curricular music programme is now back up and running. Please encourage your child to come and take part in the following activities: -

Orchestra – Every Tuesday from 3-4 pm in the music department

Senior Choir – Will start in Term 2 for Years 10-14 every Wednesday from 3-4 pm in 102 (Miss Beattie's Room)

Junior Choir – Years 8+9 on Thursday Week 1 and Friday Week 2 at lunch time in 155 (Miss Francis's room)

Theory Club – Every Friday from 3-4 pm in 155.

School Canteen

Salad Bar is running as normal from Monday 30th September.

Year 12 Media Studies

Parents/Carers of Year 12 Media students, please see attached letter.

E-Sports

New Club for Ballyclare Secondary School on Tuesdays after school from 3-4pm in room 147 with Mrs Truscott.

Cost: See <https://nischoolsesports.com/sign-up/>

Starts 8th October

For more information, see the FAQ section of the www.nischoolsesports.com website.

Year 8—10 Assessments

Please see the attached poster for the dates of the first assessment.

Health and Wellbeing

Year 10 will be taking part in Mood Matters workshops between Wednesday 9 and Friday 11 October. These workshops are being delivered in partnership with Aware NI. Please see the attached letter for further details.

Autumn Fair

BFFS are hosting our second Autumn Fair in school on Saturday 19th October from 10am-2pm. If you as a parent or your child wants to hold a table at this event, please email Miss Dunwoody (ldunwoody109@c2kni.net) as soon as possible. Equally so, if you are aware of any local small businesses that would like the opportunity to hold a table at this event, please let me know. The table cost is £15 per table.

CAFRE

CAFRE are holding an Open Week from Tuesday 8th to Saturday 12th October where pupils can learn about what its like to study at Northern Ireland's specialist agri-food and land-based college. Discover course opportunities leading to sustainable careers in agri-food and land-based businesses. See attached course guide for more information.

Careers Information

Careers' Information for September can be found in the attached document.

Year 8 Pantomime Trip

All year 8 pupils have been offered the opportunity of attending a Pantomime on 19th December. Pupils should return permission slips whether they are attending or not.

Antrim & Newtownabbey Youth Voice

If you live in the Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council area you can join a group called Youth Voice to have your say on local issues. This gives the opportunity to meet new friends, engage with key decision makers and undertake training to grow and develop your skills? A opportunity for budding politicians. See attached flyer.