

In Touch

Parent / Carer Update

Monday 21st October 2024

Timetable: Week 2

Menu: Week B



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

- 21st – 24th October - Key stage 3 Assessment Week 2
- 25th October - Year 10 only to attend until 11.45am, all other year groups are working at home until 11.45am.
- 25th October - Celebration of Success Afternoon @ 1pm
- 4th – 15th November - Key stage 4 and 5 Assessment Point 1
- 6th – 7th November - Year 12 Interview Skills
- 6th November - Flu Vaccinations (Years 8-10)
- 7th November - Year 10 Options Information Evening (6pm)
- 9th November - Inter Schools Show Jumping League
- 11th November - DAS: Year 12 Biology Resit (9-10am)
- 12th November - DAS: Year 11 and Year 12 Resit Chemistry Unit 1 (9-10am)
- 13th November - DAS: Year 12 Physics Resit (9-10am) & SAS: Year 12 Physics (9-10am)
- 14th November - Flu Vaccinations (Year 11)
- 14th November - NEBSSA Cross Country Event
- 14th November - Year 12 Options Information Evening @ 6pm
- 15th November – Year 12 English Unit 1 Resit (9-10:45am)
- 16th November 2024 - School Show Saturday Rehearsal @ 10am

General Information

Friday 25th October 2024

The morning of Friday 25th October will be a learning at home day for all year groups, except Year 10. Year 10 students will soon be starting their Key Stage 4 Options Process. On the morning of Friday 25th October, Year 10 pupils will be engaged in activities that will help them make wise choices; they will also be receiving vital information about subjects available at Key Stage 4, which they have not studied at Key Stage 3. It is essential that Year 10 students attend school on this morning. School will finish at 11.45am. Please note there will be no school buses available on this day.

Year 10 and 12 Options Evenings

We invite the parents of Year 10 and 12 pupils to attend our options evenings on the following dates:

Year 10: Thursday 7th November 2024 at 6.30pm

Year 12: Thursday 14th November 2024 at 6.30pm

On these evenings the Options process will be explained and we request that **all pupils** have a parent/carer in attendance.

Year 10 and 12 Parents/Carers

You and your child have now received an invitation to an 'Options' Google Classroom. As all Options information will be shared via this platform, we request that all invitations are accepted.

Year 10 Pupils interested in Construction GCSE

An event is being hosted by the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) at W5 for Year 10 pupils who are interested in studying GCSE Construction. We have been able to secure 20 spaces with transport to and from the event. Any pupil interested in attending, please give your name to Mr Graham, places allocated on a first come first served basis. Cost is £4 per pupil. Please see attached flyer for more information.

Autumn Fair

BFFS are hosting our second Autumn Fair in school tomorrow.

Year 11 and 12 Assessment

Please see attached document highlighting assessments for years 11-14.

Careers Information

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

Year 8 Pantomime trip

Year 8 Pantomime payment is now accessible on the Parent Pay app. Payment due by 4th November.

Sister Cities Exchange Programme

Attention Year 13 students!

Please see the flyer attached for information about the Antrim and Newtownabbey exchange programme.

Attention Year 13 students! This Exchange Programme is centred around a 6 week exchange (3 weeks in Northern Ireland and 3 weeks in Gilbert, Arizona). Up to 4 participants from the programme will be selected to participate in this exchange. Young people will get the chance to experience a new place, people and culture while making new friends and building connections. Further information on the programme is available here:

www.antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk/youthexchangeprogramme

Information Sessions

Anyone interested in taking part in the Sister Cities Youth Exchange Programme are strongly encouraged to attend one of the below information sessions along with their parents.

- Wednesday 23rd October 6pm – 7pm Theatre at the Mill, Mossley Mill, Carnmoney Road North, Newtownabbey BT36 5QA

Registration is required; to register for the sessions or find out more about the programme

email: business@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk or T. 0300 123 4568.

Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council will cover all travel expenses for the programme and will help the students' parents/guardians to plan the summer activities. All students need to provide is a valid passport, ESTA visa and spending money.

This programme is now open for applications and students can apply online at the web address listed above. Please note that applications will close on Friday 22 November 2024. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us by E. business@antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk or T. 0300 123 4568.