

In Touch

Parent / Carer Update

Monday 2nd December 2024

Timetable: Week 1

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

2nd December - NEBSSA Hockey Tournament

4th December - Big Christmas Cuppa

6th December - Christmas Jumper Day

12th December—School Christmas Dinner

13th December—School Formal Completed consent forms and contracts should be returned to Mrs Colgan by Friday 13th December.

6th January 2025—School Open Day

General Information

Adults who want help with their Maths

In partnership with Stranmillis University College, we are pleased to offer a three week Maths course called the Multiply Project. This is open to anyone in our local community who feels they struggle with mathematical tasks in everyday life. Places will be allocated first to those who do not have a Grade C in GCSE Maths or equivalent. Details can be found in the attached flyer. If you would like to sign up for the Multiply Project please email info@ballyclaresec.ballyclare.ni.sch.uk

FACE Family Advice

Please see attached documents showing a wide variety of courses to equip parents for daily family life.

School Production—Wizard of Oz

Show Dates: 11th & 12th December

Ticket Prices: Adults £9 | Children £7

Time: 7:30pm (doors open at 7pm)

Get your tickets today on Ticket Source at this link <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/ballyclaress>

Canteen Menu

Please note on 12th December 2024 the canteen will have a Christmas dinner as an option for purchase.

Please note our school Open Day is on Monday 6th January 2025.

Big Christmas Cuppa

We would like to invite parents to our 'Big Cuppa' coffee afternoon on Wednesday 4th December from 2pm until 4pm in the staffroom in aid of Autism NI. See attached poster.

School Uniform September 2025

Thank you to everyone who completed the survey regarding school skirts. The consultation period for all stakeholders is now closed and a decision has been made. From September 2025, our school skirt will be a grey box pleat for Years 8 to 10, this will then be introduced to Years 11 to 14 for September 2026.

Important information about driving on to our school site

As part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our pupils, we wish to reiterate the drop-off procedures at our school.

Parents and carers and **not permitted** to drive on to the school premises in the morning to drop off pupils. This applies to the main entrance (Doagh Road) as well as the gate at the rear of the school (Avondale Drive).

This decision has been made with the utmost consideration for the health and safety of our pupils. In addition to this it causes congestion issues which poses safety risks to both pupils and drivers. By avoiding 2-way vehicular traffic in this area, we can create a safer environment for everyone.

Upcoming Year 12 Double Award Science

GCSE Practical Chemistry Examination

Attendance is essential!!

Class	Date	Periods
Mr Wray	Monday 2 December	1&2
Mr Hill	Tuesday 3 December	3+4
Mrs Baker	Wednesday 4 December	5&6
Dr Flint	Thursday 5 December	1&2



We encourage parents and carers to explore alternative drop-off points, while this may require a slightly longer walk for your child, it significantly enhances safety. Special circumstances are accommodated on an individual basis in consultation with our pastoral staff.

The Derrytrasna Pastoral Care Awards 2025

The Department of Education, in partnership with the Public Health Agency, is seeking nominations for exceptional pastoral care in schools. The Awards recognise school communities that have demonstrated exceptional co-operative effort in supporting the pastoral care of pupils by going above and beyond to make a real difference to the lives of pupils in the 2023/24 academic year. **Schools cannot self-nominate but pupils, parents or others in the wider school community can nominate a school that has provided exceptional pastoral care.**

[Derrytrasna Pastoral Care Awards](#) & [Nominate your school for Derrytrasna Pastoral Care Awards](#)

The closing date for nominations is Friday 13 December 2024. Nominations will be assessed by an independent panel. It is important to note that the panel will only assess the information supplied in each nomination, not the number of nominations a school receives. All nominations are anonymised before assessing. If you have any queries regarding the Derrytrasna Pastoral Care Awards, please email psu.mail@education-ni.gov.uk

<https://forms.gle/ukJsKVkY3siMcAwE9>