

NEWSLETTER

INSPIRE ~ SUPPORT ~ ACHIEVE

Diary Dates

Individual and Family Photos	Monday, 12 th and Tuesday, 13 th October
Football Competition	Wednesday, 14 th October
Flu Vaccine	Thursday, 15 th October
Parent Teacher Interviews	w/b Monday, 19 th October
Early finish for pupils to accommodate interviews (canteen lunches will be served)	Tuesday 20 th October – Thursday 22 nd October 12:30pm
Primary 7 visit to BHS musical production of 'Sister Act' ** 1.30pm return to school **	Wednesday, 21 st October
PTA Half Term Disco	Thursday, 22 nd October
School finishes for half term break	Friday, 23 rd October (2pm)
School returns following half term break	Monday, 2 nd November
Remembrance Sunday	Sunday, 8 th November
Remembrance Assembly	Monday, 9 th November
Crown Jesus Puppets visit	Thursday, 13 th November
Anti Bullying Week	Monday, 16 th November – Friday, 20 th November
Grandparents' Concert (P1-P2)	Monday, 23 rd November 9:30am
PTA Wreath Making Evening (see poster)	Tuesday, 24 th November
Infant Christmas Concert (P1-P2)	Tuesday, 24 th November 9:30am Wednesday, 25 th November 7:00pm
Junior Christmas Concert (P3-P4)	Wednesday, 25 th November 9:30am Thursday, 26 th November 7:00pm
Infant Christmas Dinner	Thursday, 26 th November
Open Day for Prospective Parents	Tuesday, 1 st December
Christmas Fair 5:30pm	Thursday, 3 rd December
Senior Christmas Dinner (P4-P7)	Thursday, 3 rd December
Senior Christmas Concert (P5-P6)	Monday, 7 th December 7:00pm Tuesday, 8 th December 9:30am

Open Day

We will be hosting our Open Day this year on Tuesday, 1st December 2026. If you have friends, family or neighbours with a child ready to start Primary 1 in September 2027, please let them know this date and tell them to keep the morning free. A visit to walk around our school and grounds is the best way to find out what our school is all about. Tour places will be available to book online from Friday 23rd October at 9am, or by contacting the school office. Do take a look at our promotional video by visiting [Fairview Primary School - Admissions](https://www.fairviewps.co.uk/admissions) or on our Facebook page. Our prospectus can also be found on the school website.

Visit our New Website

We are delighted to launch our new website:

www.fairviewps.co.uk

You will see a number of new features on the revamped website, with a calendar you can sync to your own phone, school policies available to download and an opportunity to view our promotional video. Lots of information about school is available on the website and we will be adding more as the year progresses. We hope you, and any prospective parents, find this a good starting point for keeping up with school life!



Parent Teacher Interviews

Our Parent Teacher Interviews will commence next week, with the majority being week beginning 19th October. Notes with your allocated time should now be with you – if you don't have this, please check your child's school bag first, then contact the school office. We would ask you to do your very best to be available for the meeting or call, but if the time doesn't suit, then please contact the teacher to have it rescheduled at a mutually convenient time.

Pupils will leave school early on Tuesday 20th, Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd October to facilitate the interviews.

- P1 - 3 pupils will start to leave from 12.15pm
- P4 & 5 pupils will leave at 12.25pm
- P6 & 7 pupils will leave at 12.30pm

Please make sure that all pupils are collected promptly on these days. Canteen lunch will be available. After school provision will also be available to book online on the three early closure days.

Half Term Disco

One of the most popular events on the school calendar, the Half Term Disco, is fast approaching!

Please note, it is on a Thursday evening (22nd October) again this year – your child will get a note home with further details next week. Check out the times for each session on the attached poster. We are also offering a Sensory Disco for pupils in school who find the crowd and noise in the hall too much. This will run in advance of the whole school discos, from 5.15pm - 5.35pm.

Pupils are very welcome to come in fancy dress and we always look forward to seeing a range of costumes on the evening! Thanks to all those members of the PTA and our staff members who will be facilitating the disco. We couldn't run the evening without you!



After School Clubs

In Fairview, we feel we offer a wide range of clubs and it has been really encouraging to see so many of our pupils getting involved with these clubs over the last weeks. This week finishes all the teacher led clubs for this half term. External clubs will continue to run based on the dates you have paid for.

Pupil of the Month

Mr McAllister was delighted to visit assemblies and classrooms earlier this month to present some of our wonderful pupils with the Pupil of the Month certificate, sticker and pencil. We adapted our Pupil of the Month targets this year to reflect our new Core Values in school.

Our target for September was:

We show: Respect

Respect was the first Core Value we explored with pupils this year and it is based around showing respect to ourselves, others and the environment. Respect is at the heart of how we learn, play and work together every day. Throughout September, staff were looking out for pupils who demonstrated respect by listening carefully to others, using good manners, following school rules, caring for property and equipment, valuing different opinions, and showing kindness and consideration to everyone in our school community. By showing respect in both words and actions, our pupils help make Fairview a happy, safe and welcoming place for all. As ever, this was a tough choice for all the teachers. Take a look at our Facebook page for pictures of all our recipients. The target for October is 'Building Independence' and this has been discussed in classrooms, with teachers sharing what they are looking for.

Finishing for Half Term

The last day of this half term, Friday 23rd October, will be non-uniform. We will use this as an opportunity to support a charity which we have partnered with now for many years and which continues to do incredible work in Shashemene, Ethiopia. Not only has [Hope365](#) provided a home for vulnerable street children in Shashemene, the charity now runs a school for local children, educating over 470 children every day and giving them an education, hot meal and a rescue from the street where they would have to fend for themselves. After half term, we will be sharing some exciting news about how Fairview will be taking this partnership even further later in the year!

For now, we are asking for a voluntary donation of £1 from all pupils for our non-uniform day on Friday, 23rd October. Your support with this would be greatly appreciated and will make a huge difference to the lives of many boys and girls at Hope Academy.

Please note, school will be closed to pupils from Monday, 26th October to Friday, 30th October inclusive. We hope our pupils enjoy a well earned break after a busy start to another school year.

Boys' and Girls' Hockey Blitz

On Wednesday this week we had two teams entered into our local Girls' Blitz at Parkhall Integrated College. This was the first Blitz of the year and for most of our P6 girls, this was unknown territory as they got to experience their first ever Hockey Blitz representing Fairview Primary School. With a strong warm up and lots of shots practised against our two goal keepers, the girls were ready to go.

Both teams played with incredible determination, teamwork and positive attitudes! The results from the girls' commitment were very impressive and the girls showed super sportsmanship, keep this up! Overall, one team had three wins, two draws and one loss and the other team had two wins, two draws and one loss. A very successful first Blitz for both teams!

Our hockey boys had a great time at their Blitz on Thursday at Parkhall Integrated College. Despite this being some of the boys' first time ever playing hockey, they were truly exceptional and did Fairview proud! 9 goals were scored throughout the tournament with 7 smashing goals from Roman!!!

Luke and Alfie also got onto the score sheet. A special shout out must also go to Coen and Archie who stepped into goals for the first time. There is so much more to come from this group!!

We can't show enough appreciation for those who helped to transport the children to both Blitzes and also those who came to cheer the teams along. Thank you again to Ulster Hockey for organising both Blitzes and giving our pupils the opportunity to have fun while playing matches against other schools.





A few reminders...

nmcallister634@c2kni.net



Fairview
Primary School

fairviewps.co.uk

In Fairview, our pupils are always at the centre of all we do. We need to keep them safe and we need your help with a few matters:

- We have noticed a number of products containing nuts being sent in lunchboxes. Please avoid this, even if you are not aware of a nut allergy in your child's class. We have a large number of pupils with nut allergies in school and we need to limit the risk of exposure to nut products
- I continue to hear from staff and receive correspondence from concerned parents and residents about parking at both Merion and Hillmount Avenue. Cars should not be parked on double yellow lines at any time (that includes the turning circle at the front gate). Please avoid parking on kerbs/footpaths as these need to be clear for pupils to walk on safely to and from school. Where possible, consider walking to school or car sharing
- There continues to be parents entering the school grounds for drop off and pick up. Just last week, a child on a bike was almost knocked down as a parent reversed out having parked in the school grounds. We kindly request that no parents drive in through the front gates at any time, including drop off for Breakfast Club
- Dogs should not be on the school site, even if they are held or on a lead

Can I also remind parents about uniform. We try to keep uniform costs to a minimum and the smart appearance of our pupils is always something commented upon by visitors:

- Please ensure pupils are in white school shirts. Polo shirts are not part of our uniform
- Girls should be in white knee length socks or navy tights
- Trainers should not be worn with school uniform, only on PE days for P4-P7. Black school shoes should be worn with school uniform, not boots or casual footwear
- For P4-P7, tracksuit bottoms/leggings/shorts should be plain navy or black
- If earrings are to be worn, one earring only (small stud)

We have a huge amount of lost property organized into boxes at the front entrance of school, including a range of very expensive coats. If you are missing any items, please come and claim them. Items left after half term will go to our clothing collection, or to anyone in our school community who could make use of them.

Thank you for your cooperation.

PTA and School Fundraising Target

Although our fundraising will be used year on year to maximise school life for your child, our PTA continues to work towards a fundraising target for the future. Plans for our new extension are now complete and funding has been secured from the Department of Education. This will commence in early January and will be completed mid 2028. We hope to be able to announce the appointed contractor shortly after half term as final checks are currently being completed.

As the extension opens, our current mobile classrooms will be removed and replaced with a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA). As a school, we have to fund this ourselves and we are already well on the way to doing this. Over the next three years, we hope our PTA, along with business support, can help us reach our target. So...

Will you join us to run (or walk) a leg of the Belfast City Marathon in May 2027?

This was a huge success last year with 10 teams entered and can be even bigger this year! We want to enter 10 teams again in next year's marathon, made up of Fairview staff members, parents and friends. All participants will aim to raise as much sponsorship as possible, with all we raise going directly to the MUGA fundraising pot. We would love our whole school community to get involved...please don't be shy and be prepared for Mrs Norris to approach you with a clipboard to sign you up!!







WHAT THE PTA SPENT

2025/26

INVESTING IN OUR CHILDREN

INTERACTIVE BOARDS



SELECTION BOXES



≡ TOTAL SPENT ≡
£5,902.36

Thank you to everyone who has supported
our fundraising this year!

We couldn't do it without you! ♥

RAISING FUNDS



SUPPORTING OUR CHILDREN



STRENGTHENING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY



TOGETHER WE RAISED AN AMAZING

CHRISTMAS FAIR



£1,273

SUMMER FAIR



£905

GRAND TOTAL



Thank you to everyone who has supported, donated and helped at our events this year.

We couldn't do it without you! ♥

STRENGTHENING OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Primary School



Fairview Primary School
PTA

Christmas Wreath Making Workshop



Tickets:
£40 per person



Includes:
Light refreshments &
all materials provided



Venue:
Ballyclare Golf Club



Date & Time:
Tuesday, 24th November
at 7pm



In conjunction with



Stem and Scent



Click the link to book now:
<https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/QH1JT1Z2>



Primary School

Harvest Assembly

As a school community, we like to think about others at this Harvest time. Can we say a huge thank you to all the families who supported our collection of items for the local foodbank over the last couple of days. We passed all these items on to Newtownabbey Foodbank this week following our Harvest Assembly on Monday, led by Rachel and Phil from Christian Education Fellowship.



Fairview Ambassadors

Last week, our Fairview Ambassadors had a fantastic visit to Mossley Mill to learn more about how Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council operates.

The children had the opportunity to find out about the different services provided by the Council and how decisions are made to support our local community.

It was a brilliant learning experience and a great opportunity for our Ambassadors to develop their understanding of local government and the important role it plays in our community. During their visit, Ambassadors debated the new uniform legislation and how we should be reviewing our own policy. It was so impressive to hear the mature points being raised and the discussion which ensued. Our future is in good hands!

A huge thank you to the Mayor and Mr Norris for welcoming us and helping make the visit so informative and enjoyable!



School Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns, then the following is the school team:

Designated Teacher -	Mrs Norris
Deputy Designated Teachers -	Miss Earls, Mrs Craig, Mrs McCullough, Mr McAllister
Safeguarding Governor -	Mrs Victoria Woodside

The school's Safeguarding Policy is available to all parents on the school's website or from the school office, on request.





Breckenhill

HALLOWEEN Adventure Day

★ SPOOKY ARCHERY, HALLOWEEN
TRAIL, BUSHCRAFT, WAND
WHITTLING, PUMPKIN CARVING AND
MORE

Ages 8-13

THURSDAY 29TH OCTOBER 2026

10AM - 4PM

MORE INFO
WWW.BRECKENHILL.CO.UK
028 9334 0311

£60

The poster is decorated with various Halloween-themed illustrations: a large spiderweb with spiders in the top left; a silhouette of a house and tree in the top center; a branch with hanging jack-o'-lanterns in the top right; a bat in flight on the left; a wooden sign with '£60' on the right; a large jack-o'-lantern on the bottom left; and a group of four small jack-o'-lanterns on the bottom right. There are also several stars and a wand scattered throughout the design.



HALLOWEEN HALF TERM FULL DAYS AVAILABLE! MONDAY, TUESDAY & THURSDAY

We offer afterschool care where children are genuinely supported to thrive in a nurturing, engaging environment. Our program extends to full-day care during school holidays, providing consistency and peace of mind for families year-round.

CHILDREN ENJOY OUR INDOOR AND OUTDOOR SPACES, ENGAGING DAILY ACTIVITIES, AND THE WARM, SUPPORTIVE FAMILY ATMOSPHERE WE CREATE.

our
Wee
FAMILY
AFTER SCHOOLS C
KIDS AGE 4 - 12

**HALF
TERM FULL
DAY**
£55 PER DAY*
*sibling discount & half day
rate also available

CALL Victoria 07792 522323

ourweefamily@theweevillage.co.uk

nmcallister634@c2kni.net



fairview
Primary School

fairviewps.co.uk

BIBLE CLUB MORNING

JESUS CALMS A STORM

THE MUSICAL

**REGISTRATION
FORM**

**PUPPETS
GAMES
CRAFT
MEMORY VERSE
SONGS!!**

**For all Primary
School Children**



**10:30am to 12 noon
24th October**

**Followed by
hotdog lunch**



**@ Ballyclare
Presbyterian**





Online Safety Newsletter

October 2026

CapCut

CapCut is a video editing app. Their services are intended for those over the age of 13 (those under the age of 18 must have consent from their parent/legal guardian). It is rated as 13+ on the App store.

What can I do on CapCut?

CapCut is used as a video and image editing tool allowing users to edit their videos/ images as well as add music, sound effects, text and stickers.

What should I be aware of?

- The templates are user generated, therefore they may not always be appropriate for your child to view, for example may contain adult themes.
- CapCut includes access to a library of music that may include explicit lyrics.
- Premium content – CapCut does include in-app purchases/monthly subscriptions to allow users access to premium content.

Further information

Wayne Denner provides further information about the social side of CapCut including a comments section: <https://www.waynedenner.com/capcut-parents-guide/>

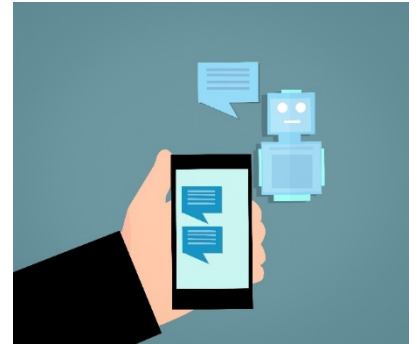
Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translate tool on our web version: <https://www.knowsleycitylearningcentres.org.uk/october-2026>

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AI companions

What are AI companions?

AI companions are artificial intelligence services designed to interact with users to simulate friendship or romantic relationships. There are many different AI companions available, accessible via apps or websites. **Many of these apps are intended for adults and have an age rating of 18+.**



Why are children using AI companions?

There are many reasons a child might want to use an AI companion, including:

- To ask advice and questions that they may be embarrassed to ask another person. It may be easier to talk to an AI companion, so it is imperative children understand the difference between AI and real people.
- They feel lonely and are looking for friendship.
- Children may just be curious and want to try new technology.

What should I be aware of?

- **Age restrictions:** it is important to check the age rating to see if it is appropriate for your child.
- **Inappropriate content:** there is often a lack of moderation so users could be exposed to content/language that is not suitable for their age.
- **Emotional dependence:** AI companions are designed to act as a friend, encouraging an emotional dependence. This may lead to your child becoming over reliant on the service. A chatbot should never replace a parent, a medical professional or other trusted adult.
- **Relationships:** repeated use of AI may influence a child's understanding of relationships and consent in real life.
- **Privacy and personal information:** children should not share personal or confidential information with AI companions.

What can I do?

- Check the age rating and any privacy settings.
- Set up appropriate parental controls on their devices/ broadband.
- It is crucial to have regular conversations with your child about the risks outlined above and about what they are doing online. Ensure your child knows that they should talk to you or another trusted adult if anything concerns them.

Further information

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/ai-chatbots-and-virtual-friends-how-parents-can-keep-children-safe/>

Discord

Discord is a social networking app originally designed for gamers, but is now used by lots of different people to **chat to each other online**. The minimum age to access Discord is 13. **The App store rates it as 17+.**

Discord is made up of servers, which are spaces for groups to chat, upload files and share images etc. Anybody can set up a server, and it can be set as either public or private. Users can video call and send direct messages to other individuals or groups. Children who play online games such as Fortnite may use Discord to chat whilst playing the game (**rather than using the game's own chat facility**). In-app purchases are available through Discord's subscription service called Nitro.



How can I make it safer?

Discord have created a Family Centre, which provides further information about what Discord is, as well as information about different safety settings available:

<https://discord.com/safety-family-center>

As always, we would encourage you to chat to your child to see why they use Discord and ensure that they know how to block users and what to do if they see any inappropriate content. It is important to be aware that Discord does include video/voice calling which cannot be filtered. **Discord is used by an array of users and therefore adult content can be found on Discord, as well as inappropriate language.** Discord have produced this article, which answers frequent questions:

<https://discord.com/safety-library>

5 fun online activities

Whilst we must be aware of the negative aspects of the internet, it's also important to remember that it can also be a great place to have fun or learn something new as a family. Why not try the following?



1. Play a game together.
2. Take a family quiz – it could be around the topic of online safety (e.g. from Childnet) or you could use Kahoot to create your own.
3. Learn something new – explore BBC Bitesize, National Geographic Kids or Khan Academy.
4. Create something – make a digital drawing or video.
5. Read an Audio book.

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.10.26. The inclusion of any links does not imply any affiliation with or endorsement of the linked websites, documents, or videos, nor are we claiming any ownership or copyright in the content of the linked materials.

Doki Doki Literature Club

Doki Doki Literature Club is a game that, due to its cartoon anime appearance, may appear to be a game suitable for all. However, as the game progresses, it contains much darker and potentially distressing themes. The game includes references to suicide, self-harm and death.

The App store rates it as 18+ as it has cartoon or fantasy violence and horror/fear themes as well as infrequent profanity and crude humour. The game is described as psychological horror. You should also be aware that the app also includes in app purchases.

The game's own website also states that it "is not suitable for children or those who are easily disturbed."

Please ensure you have set up appropriate parental controls on any devices and platforms that your child uses to ensure they can't access games that are not suitable for their age.

Happy Tree Friends

Happy Tree Friends is another animated series that might look harmless because of its cartoon graphics, but the programme contains violence, death and blood. Clips of Happy Tree Friends are also circulating on social media platforms.

As above, we would recommend that you have set up appropriate parental controls to limit exposure to content like this. Also, chat to your child about what they are watching online and ensure they know that if they do see something online that upsets them, then they should talk to you or another trusted adult.

Further information:

<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/website-reviews/happy-tree-friends>