

MPS Newsletter

www.maghaberryyps.com

Friday 10th October 2025



Lisburn Food Bank Collection

In 2023/24, Lisburn Foodbank supported 3,858 people, of which 1,612 were children. 1 in 5 of the UK population live below the poverty line.

This year, to celebrate Harvest, we are asking each child (Nursery – Year 7) to bring in ONE item from the list below, which we will donate to Lisburn Foodbank. Harvest refers to the season of gathering the food of the land.

Items that are currently most needed include:



UHT long-life milk	Tinned fish	Sugar	Pasta sauce
Tinned meat	Rice pudding	Custard	Small diluting juice

Items can be left at the main school reception or nursery reception. We will accept items up to Friday 24th October. We will then arrange delivery to the Foodbank over the half-term break. Many thanks for your support!

Parent Consultation Meetings

Our parent teacher meetings provide an opportunity for you to discuss the progress of your child with the class teacher. These will take place during the week beginning Monday 20th October 2025. School will close at the times below this week to facilitate these meetings. There will be no school dinners this week and no packed lunches required.

FINISH TIMES - Monday 20th to Friday 24th October	
Primary 1 to Primary 4	Collect at 12:20pm
Primary 5 to Primary 7	Collect at 12:30pm

Policy Reviews

We are currently reviewing the following policies:

Complaints Procedure/Policy

Attendance Policy

As part of the review process we are offering the opportunity for parents to comment on these policy updates. This can be done via the school website:

<https://maghaberryyps.com/policies/>

DIARY DATES

Week beg 20 Oct

Parent Interview week. School closes at 12:30pm all week.

Wed 22 October

PTA Half-Term Hoolie Fancy Dress Disco - See poster below.

Wed 22 October

Cash for Clobber Collection

Fri 24 October

School finishes at 12:30pm for Halloween half term break

Mon 3 November

School reopens after Halloween

Tues 11 and Wed 19 November

Family Photo afternoon - more info soon

Sat 15 November

SEAG Paper 1

Sat 22 November

SEAG Paper 2

Fri 19 December

School closes at 12noon for Christmas

Tues 6 January 2026

School opens for Spring term

Fri 6 February

School finishes at 12:30pm for half term

School Council

Congratulations to our newly elected school councillors! We are thrilled to welcome our new School Councillors, who will be representing our pupil voice and helping shape things at MPS. They have already held the first meeting and have shared ideas from their classmates on how to make our school an even better place to learn and grow.



Safer Schools NI - IMPORTANT!

We would **strongly** encourage parents to download and explore the **SAFER SCHOOLS NI** app to help inform you about internet safety at home.



The Safer Schools NI app is a free interactive safeguarding tool designed for schools and parents across Northern Ireland. It provides advice and support for parents regarding internet safety and popular apps being used by children. Please download the Safer Schools NI App using the instructions in the letter (linked below) and create a parent/carer account using the 4-digit code 0504.

[Further information can be found in this letter \(click here to view\).](#)



PTA

Half-Term Hoolie Disco

Wednesday 22nd October 2025 (see poster below)

P1-3 from 6:30pm to 7:15pm

P4-7 from 7:30pm to 8:30pm

£3 entry (includes drink and snack) PLEASE PAY USING THE SCHOOLMONEY APP.

IMPORTANT DISCO INFORMATION

The PTA want the disco to be a good fun event for our children so whilst the children have the opportunity to dress up, we also ask parents to observe the following guidelines:

- **COSTUMES MUST BE FAMILY FRIENDLY AND NOTHING SCARY PLEASE - FANCY DRESS!**
- **WE ASK THAT CHILDREN DO NOT WEAR MASKS AS THESE CAN BE FRIGHTENING AND MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR THOSE SUPERVISING TO IDENTIFY INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN.**
- **Following the disco the children will be dismissed from the front door of the school.**
- **ALL PUPILS MUST BE COLLECTED BY AN ADULT - it will be dark at the end of both discos.**

Pumpkin Competition

PTA Pumpkin Competition - See poster below for details. £1 per entry.

Annual Voluntary Donation

Each year our PTA ask parents for a small **voluntary** donation towards PTA funds from our families. As a registered charity our PTA can claim gift aid on any donations! We are asking for £20 per child and £5 per sibling. £5 per nursery child. This can be paid via the School Money App. Letters have already been issued by the PTA.

Christmas Cards

Christmas Cards - as in previous years the children will be designing their own Christmas cards in school - these will then be made available for you to buy in the run up to Christmas. We will send more information on how to order soon.

Christmas Craft Fair

Christmas Craft Fair - The PTA are planning a Christmas Fair on **Thursday 27th November 2025**. Please put this in your diary. More information soon.

Next PTA meeting will be Monday 3rd November at 7:30pm. All welcome!



Don't forget to read the PTA Newsletter below!



CHILD PROTECTION AND SAFEGUARDING TEAM
Designated Teacher for Child Protection:
Mrs R Wilson

Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection:
Mrs J Hamilton

Principal and Deputy Designated Teacher for Child Protection
Mr D Spratt

Governors responsible for Child Protection:
Mr J Watson
and Mr K McCarthy

Copies of the Child Protection Policy are available from the school website.

CLICK HERE



MAGHABERRY PS PTA

sign up for our Half-Term Hoolie

Save the Date – Wednesday 22nd October!

All children are invited to a fun-filled disco where they can dance, sing, and enjoy some tasty snacks. Fancy dress is welcome but completely optional!

Payments can be made via the SchoolMoney App.



School Fund

Each year, the PTA kindly asks for a voluntary contribution from parents to help enhance our children's learning experiences. These donations support the purchase of digital resources, reading books, play equipment, and help subsidise school trips.

We suggest a donation of £20 for the eldest child, plus £5 for each additional child, though any amount you are able to give is deeply appreciated. A letter has been sent home with your child explaining the School Fund in more detail, along with a Gift Aid form.

If you are eligible, allowing the school to claim Gift Aid can make a significant difference at no extra cost to you – please do consider returning the signed slip.

Payments are available through the SchoolMoney App now.

Who's who in the PTA

Name: Hannah McCarthy

Children: Charlotte (P5), Harriet (P3)

Role: Treasurer - managing PTA account paperwork, making payments and end of year report for The Charity Commission.

Most used phrase: - "Sure, there's no fun being sane".

Where I can often be found: In the garden, out for a walk or hiding behind a good book!

Likes: Autumn, cars and bikes, pizza, baking and art and music.

Dislikes: Needles or any blood, not getting enough sleep and football. 😊



Pumpkin carving Competition

Get creative and carve a pumpkin! Put your creative skills to the test and see what masterpiece you can make.

Prizes to be won!

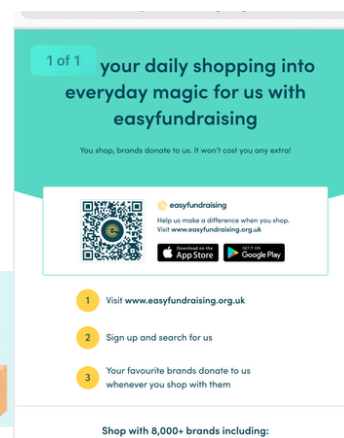
£1 per entry.

Winners will be announced at the Half Term Hoolie.



Easy fundraising

Have you heard of Easyfundraising? This a great way to raise funds for your school when you purchase from a huge variety of shops online.



Christmas Fair Stallholders

Do you own a business? Do you make crafts as a hobby? Do you know someone who does? Why not hire a craft table at our Christmas Fair?

Contact Helen - 07867471981 to secure your table.



Christmas Fair 2025

Planning for our annual Christmas Craft Fair is already underway! Save the date in your diary for a fun-filled evening of games, crafts, food and drinks as well as having the opportunity to browse products from our independent stallholders.



Thanks

Thank you to Sticker'd NI for making our banner in time for the fun run in June. This will be used for all of our big events in the future.



amazon

wishlist

Amazon Wishlist

A message will be sent out soon with a link to our Amazon Wishlist where you will be able to purchase items for the Christmas Fair. This is a great way for parents to get involved in contributing to events and it means that all money then raised from an event can be used to buy resources for your children.

Upcoming events

- 21st/22nd October 2025 - Pumpkin carving competition
- 22nd October 2025 - Half-term Hoolie
- 3rd November 2025 - PTA meeting @ 7.30pm
- 27th November 2025 - Christmas Fair



MAGHABERRY PRIMARY SCHOOL
INVITES YOU TO OUR ANNUAL

Christmas Craft Fair

Santa's Grotto • Crafts and games • Food & Drink

Discover the magic of handmade treasures from independent sellers at our Christmas Craft Fair!

FREE ENTRY

ALL AGES WELCOME



27TH NOVEMBER 2025 @ 6.30PM



MAGHABERRY PRIMARY SCHOOL
PRESENTS OUR ANNUAL

CHRISTMAS



CRAFT FAIR

THURSDAY-27TH NOVEMBER 2025 AT 6.30PM

WE ARE LOOKING FOR STALLHOLDERS WHO WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS FAIR. YOU CAN PURCHASE A TABLE FOR £25.

CONTACT HELEN - 07867471981