

MPS Newsletter

www.maghaberryyps.com

Friday 14th November 2025



SEAG Transfer Test

As our P7 pupils prepare to sit the SEAG test tomorrow morning, we want to take a moment to acknowledge the dedication and effort they've shown throughout their preparation.

We know this can be a significant time for both children and families, and we want to assure you that your child is in our thoughts and prayers. We are proud of each pupil and grateful for the support and encouragement you continue to provide at home.

Wishing all our P7s calm minds, confidence, and the very best of luck as they do their first SEAG test tomorrow.

SEAG Paper 2: 22nd November



Christmas Events

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Thursday 27th November:	6:30 - 8:30pm	PTA Christmas Fair - School will finish at 2pm for all pupils to allow prep.
Tuesday 9th December:	9:30am	P1 & P2 Christmas Performance (45 mins)
	11:00am	P3 & P4 Christmas Performance (45 mins)
	1:45pm	P5, P6 & P7 Christmas Carols (45 mins)
Wednesday 10th December:	9:30am	P1 & P2 Christmas Performance (45 mins)
	10:45am	P3 & P4 Christmas Performance (45 mins)
	2:00pm	P5, P6 & P7 Christmas Carols (45 mins)
Thursday 18th December	Mrs Hamilton will confirm	Nursery Performance - times to be confirmed

DIARY DATES

Wed 19 November
Family Photo
afternoon 2

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

Mon 16 February
School opens after
half term

Tues 17 March
School closed St
Patricks Day - EA
non-operational day

How to book tickets!

Next week we will issue links, via the School App, to book tickets for the above performances (excluding Nursery). To allow every family to book tickets we will INITIALLY allow 2 tickets per family. Closer to the performances we will let parents know if additional tickets are available. These will be limited and sold on first come, first served basis. Cost - £1 per ticket. More details will be on the booking form, which we will issue at the end of next week!

Mrs Hamilton will communicate separately with Nursery parents regarding their Christmas performances on Thursday 18th December.

Keep an eye on the School App next week!

PTA Christmas Fair - Early finish

This year the PTA Christmas Fair is on Thursday 27th November 2025. Due to the time required to prepare the school for this event we will be closing a little early for P4 to P7 on this day. All pupils will finish at 2pm.

Please read the PTA Newsletter below for full details of the Christmas Fair!

School Meals Costs

As you may be aware the Education Authority are increasing the cost of school meals from £2.60 to £3.10 from January 2026. We understand this is a significant increase, but is it beyond our control. Those entitled to free school meals will not be affected.

Football News

A massive well done to our footballers, led by Mr Duddy, who again played some exceptional games this week at the Lisburn Schools' Tournament. The team did us proud winning 2 of their 4 matches:

Downshire PS 1 - 0 MPS

Ballymacash PS 1 - 0 MPS

Dunmurry PS 0 - 2 MPS WIN!

Ballycarrickmaddy PS 0 - 3 MPS WIN!



Children In Need

Our pupils had a fun-filled day today in their sports gear, taking part in raising money for Children in Need. Our assembly hall was filled all day with classes doing sports activities. They raised £216!!!!!! Thank you.



Pantomime

We are delighted to announce that on Tuesday 16th December there will be a professional pantomime performance in school for the children! This will be a great show. A team of actors will bring costumes, sets, lights etc. We know the boys and girls will enjoy this experience! The cost per child would be around £8, however, the PTA have generously agreed to pay for this Christmas treat for the children. **WOW!** More details will follow soon!!!

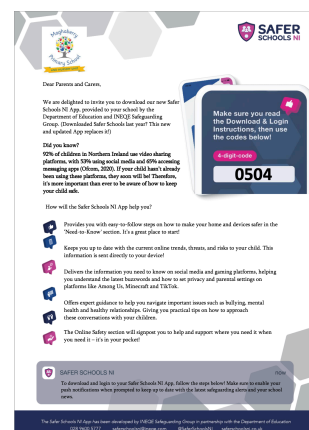
Policy Reviews

We are updating our Child Protection Policy this term. The draft policy is on the school website - we would welcome any comments from parents. [Tap here to view the draft policy.](#)

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.





Don't forget to read the PTA Newsletter below!



Christmas Fair

Our annual Christmas Fair is taking place on **Thursday 27th November** from 6.30pm.

The PTA elves have been busy bees, working behind the scenes to make sure that this is the best Christmas Fair yet!

As well as much-loved games such as Guess the Name of the Elf, we have glitter tattoos, crafts and tuck shop and of course, tea and coffee for all parents and carers.

We have lots of fun games to play:

Can you help Santa solve the puzzles and crack the code to find the key to his sleigh? Can you make your way safely across the icebergs to the igloo? Can you knock the Elf off the shelf?

You can meet Santa and get a gift and even pop in to make some magic reindeer food!



Special Thanks

Special thanks goes to MST Transport Ltd and BMF Business Services, both local companies, who made very generous donations toward the running costs of the fair.



MAGHABERRY PS PTA

Competition



Next week, children will be receiving a cake box. They are asked to decorate the box with a Christmas theme and fill the box with delicious goodies which will be used on the night of the fair.

We are asking for homemade or shop bought tray-bakes and buns which we can use to serve with our tea and coffee.

The cake boxes will be judged and a prize (tokens for the fair) will be awarded to one person out of each year group.

Christmas Craft Fair

As with every year, we have had great support from independent vendors who will be selling their goods at the fair.

There is a huge range of items to buy, including tray bakes, cupcakes, crocheted goods, cards, books, jewellery, etc.

INDEPENDENT SELLERS DO NOT ACCEPT TOKENS. THEY ACCEPT CASH AND IN SOME INSTANCES, CARD.

Santa's Workshop

This year, we have the exciting addition of Santa's Workshop. Children will be given a card and can play games to get stamps on their card. Once they have collected as many stamps as they want, they can go to the Workshop and pick something based on the value of their stamps.

There are a huge selection of toys available to suit all ages and likes.



Christmas Fair Help

Each year, the PTA asks parents to volunteer some of their time to help out at the fair.

Due to the very ambitious amount of games and activities we have planned this year, we are asking for parents to step up and help out for an hour during the fair. **We need more volunteers to make sure these games can happen.**

There are **2 slots** (6.30pm-7.30pm and 7.30pm-8.30pm) which you can sign up for.

We need volunteers to help supervise games and serve tea and coffee, amongst other things.

PLEASE CONTACT HELEN GRAY ON 07867471981 TO HELP OUT.

Christmas PRICE LIST 2025	
GAMES	TOKEN
KNOCK THE ELF OFF THE SHELF	1 = 3 THROWS
SNOWBALL THROW	1 = 5 THROWS
ICEBERG HOP	1 = 1 TURN
SNOWBALL SHOVEL	1 = 30 SECONDS
CANDY CANE FISHING	1 = 3 TRIES
SANTA'S SECRET SLEIGH ESCAPE	1 = 1 ATTEMPT
SANTA HAT RING TOSS	1 = 5 TRIES
BAUBLE BLAST	1 = 5 TRIES
ACTIVITIES	COST
REINDEER CRAFTS	1 = 1 CRAFT
REINDEER FOOD	1 = 1 BAG
GLITTER TATTOOS	1 = 1 TATTOO
WATER TATTOOS	1 = 3 TATTOOS
GUESS THE NAME OF THE ELF	1 = 1 GUESS
GUESS THE NUMBER OF BERRIES	1 = 1 GUESS
CHRISTMAS TREE TOMBOLA	1 = 3 TRIES
SANTA'S GROTTTO	2 = SANTA/GIFT
TUCK SHOP	1 = 1 BAG

*NB. RAINBOW RAFFLE WILL BE CASH ONLY
*NB. INDEPENDENT STALLHOLDERS WILL NOT ACCEPT TOKENS

Price List

Above, you will find a list of prices for activities at the fair. We operate a cashless system. All activities, including tea and coffee (2 tokens) can be purchased using tokens.

Raffle tickets can be bought using CASH.

Tokens can be pre-bought on the SchoolMoney App and will be sent home the day before the fair.

Please try and remember to buy tickets prior to the fair as this saves time on the evening. (Tokens will, however, be sold on the evening of the fair - you can purchase them with cash or card).

Rainbow Raffle

Please remember to send in a **NEW and UNUSED** item for your class rainbow raffle hamper. Each class has been given a colour. These hampers will be raffled off on the night of the fair.

Think sweets, chocolate, toiletries, candles, etc.



You are now 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.

Look out for a message with the link for purchasing from the Wishlist.

Many thanks to those who have already donated items.

Upcoming events

► 27th November 2025 - Christmas Fair

Get in touch

📞 Helen - 07867471981

✉️ maghaberrypspta@hotmail.com

🌐 www.maghaberryps.com/pta



**MUNCHKINS
AFTERSCHOOL CLUB
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CARE**

❄️ ❄️ ❄️

OPENING DATES

22ND DECEMBER
23RD DECEMBER
5TH JANUARY

8 AM TO 5.30 PM
£31.50 PER DAY

BOOK NOW:
EMAIL:
LITTMUNCHKINSKIDSClub@
GMAIL.COM

CHECK US OUT AT MUNCHKINS
AFTERSCHOOL
FACEBOOK PAGE 



**Jingle & Mingle
at The Ballance House**

SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER
11 - 3.30 PM

Santa arrives at 11 am!
BOOKING: www.theballancehouse.com
£6 per child, adults £4
(children must be accompanied by an adult)

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Christmas Craft Fair
Kellswater Band
Seasonal treats, Exhibition tours
Complimentary festive drink

.....

118a LISBURN ROAD, GLENVARY, BT29 4NY
www.theballancehouse.com
facebook @Ballance House

Supported by LCCC



Parent Well
A source of inspiration



Parent Line NI
0808 8020 400

Staying Safer & Smarter Online

***Content *Contact *Conduct *Consequences**
Supporting children 11yrs & over to stay safer online

 Small group information
session for parents

Thursday 20th November
10-11.30am on Zoom

To book your place call
0808 8020 400




**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 

FREE WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS & CARERS



Let's Talk- simple tools for building early language

TUESDAY 25TH NOV 7-8.30PM, ON ZOOM

Join Leigh, one of the Clinical Directors, and Speech and Language Therapists, at Insight Clinic for a session exploring how children learn to communicate, from first sounds to fluent conversations.

Hear Me, See Me, Know Me

WEDNESDAY 3RD DECEMBER, 7-8.30PM, ON ZOOM

A workshop for parents of children who are being assessed or are diagnosed as autistic, delivered by Elaine McGreevy- Speech & Language Therapist.

Surviving the Season: Fussy Eating & Autism Made Easier

WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER, 7-8.30PM, ON ZOOM

A session on fussy eating and autism with Dr Kirsty Porter, Children's Dietitian at Nutrition4kidsNI.

CALL 0808 8020 400 NOW FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO BOOK YOUR PLACE



Let's Talk- simple tools for building early language



Join Leigh, one of the Clinical Directors, and Speech and Language Therapists, at Insight Clinic for a session exploring how children learn to communicate, from first sounds to fluent conversations.

We'll cover what's typical at different stages, when to seek support, and simple, practical ways to build language through everyday play and routines. You'll leave with realistic milestones, tips, and confidence to nurture your child's communication journey.

When: Tuesday 25th November

Time: 7-8.30pm, on Zoom

To book a place call free 0808 8020 400



Hear me, See me, Know me

A workshop for parents of children who are being assessed or are diagnosed as autistic- delivered by Elaine McGreevy- Speech & Language Therapist

- Support communication preferences
- Understand sensory experiences & attention
- Communicate with a child/young person in distress

When: Wednesday 3rd December

Time: 7-8.30pm, on Zoom

To book a place call free 0808 8020 400



Surviving the Season: Fussy Eating & Autism Made Easier

Join our session on fussy eating and autism, led by Dr Kirsty Porter a Children's Dietitian from Nutrition4kidsNI.

Discover practical strategies to help master fussy eating including mealtime challenges, sensory eating and food acceptance tips.

When: Wednesday 10th December

Time: 7-8.30pm, on Zoom

To book a place call free 0808 8020 400

