

# MPS Newsletter

[www.maghaberryyps.com](http://www.maghaberryyps.com)

Friday 19th December 2025



## Happy Christmas!

Now that Christmas is almost upon us and all of our Christmas events and shows have finished in school, I want to say a final massive thank you to the whole team here for all their efforts with the children throughout this term in the run-up to Christmas. I also want to thank parents for their support over the last few months and also, of course, the children for making us so proud. Thank you to the PTA who work so hard in the background to plan our fundraising events and to make tea and coffee for school events. We are very grateful. Together we raised £814 for the NI Cancer Fund for children!!!!  
**THANK YOU!**

On behalf of everyone at our school, I wish you all a most joyful and happy Christmas and we look forward to an exciting start to 2026.

**School reopens on Tuesday 6th January 2026 at normal times.**



## Pantomime

On Tuesday of this week, we had two performances of Peter Pan for the children in school. These were wonderful and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone (Oh no it wasn't!!....). There was lots of fun and lots of laughs throughout! This was a magical experience for our children to see professional actors on the stage performing. A huge thank you to the PTA for paying for this experience, and for organising the treats (courtesy of Eurospar) for the boys and girls.



## DIARY DATES

**Fri 19 December**  
School closes at 12noon for Christmas

**2026**

**Tues 6 January**  
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

**Fri 27 March**  
School closes at 12noon for Easter

**Mon 13 April**  
School reopens for the summer term



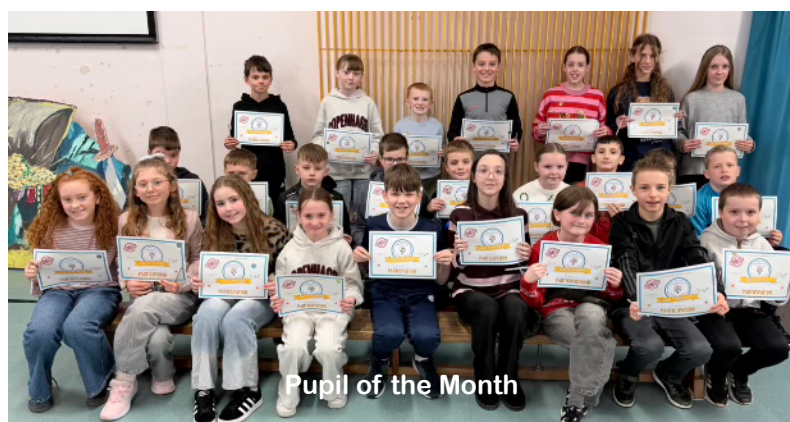
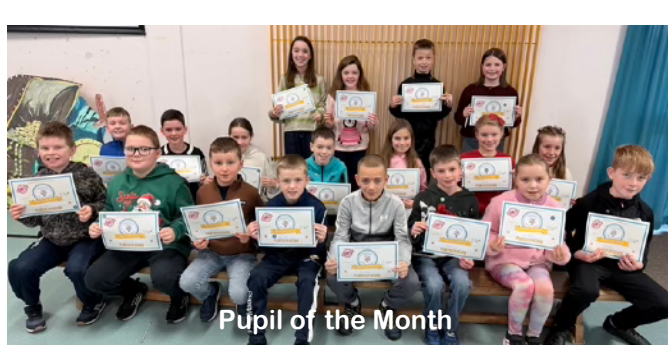


## Mr Fraser - New Vice-Principal

Our new vice principal, Mr Fraser, was in school recently visiting us and meeting his P4 class and our team at MPS. He is looking forward to getting started in January. I'm sure he will be made very welcome as he starts his new role here at Maghaberry!

# LETS CELEBRATE!

This months Pupil of the Month was for Participation - we have never given out so many certificates! Well done.



## Swimming Achievement

Well done to Ruby who participated recently in the Primary Schools Cup. This was Ruby's first 50m event and she thoroughly enjoyed the experience and representing the school. Great job!



## Post Office Visit

This week, some of our classes visited the post office at the Eurospar. The children were excited to post the letters to Santa and also learn about how the post office works. This links well with some of our topic work at the foundation stage at the moment. A massive thank you to the Eurospar for inviting us, and also to our staff team who organise this and got the children safely to and from the post office. This was a wonderful and valuable experience for the children!



## New School Meals Prices

The price of a school meal for a paying pupil will increase by 50p, to £3.10, from 1st January 2026. The increase will have no impact on those children entitled to a free school meal.

## After School Clubs for Term 2

We have some exciting new clubs in the New Year including:

ROBOTICS and JUNIOR SCIENCE

It is anticipated that these clubs will begin the week beginning Monday 12th January 2026 (second week back).

Booking information available on the school website :

<https://maghaberryps.com/after-school-activities/>

More information on Mr Duddy's football, netball and Good News club will follow early next term.



## Nursery and P1 Admissions - Tours

Online applications for Nursery and P1 open on 7th January at 12noon on EA website. Applications close on 21st January at 12noon. For anyone who has a child starting Nursery or P1 in September 2026 we will be offering tours of the Nursery and/or school in January. See the poster below for details. To book please contact the school office on 02892611529 or email [info@maghaberryps.lisburn.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@maghaberryps.lisburn.ni.sch.uk).

Please pass this information on to anyone who may be interested in joining our school community.

## Smart Watches and Jewellery

It is important to note that smart watches are not permitted in school. Very simple "Fitbit" type watches with basic step counters are OK, but anything with a screen is not allowed. Please discuss this with your child, especially if they get a smart watch for Christmas.

Please also note that jewellery, other than simple stud earrings, are not permitted for health and safety reasons. Bracelets, necklaces, rings can catch on things at playtimes or during PE lessons. To avoid potential injury we ask pupils not to wear jewellery to school. Thank you for your support with this.

The Admissions Helpdesk is available from Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm by telephone on 028 9047 0177 or by email.

Pre-school: [preschooladmissions@eani.org.uk](mailto:preschooladmissions@eani.org.uk)

Primary 1: [primaryadmissions@eani.org.uk](mailto:primaryadmissions@eani.org.uk)

EA Connect technical queries: [digital@eani.org.uk](mailto:digital@eani.org.uk)

See [key dates](#) for pre-school and primary admissions

**7 January 2026**

Applications open on EA Connect at 12 noon

**21 January 2026**

Applications close on EA Connect at 12 noon

**23 March 2026**

Parents and guardians application outcome via email for pre-school Stage 1 (target age) and primary one

**19 May 2026**

Notification of (pre-school Stage 2) outcome via email (includes underage application)

## 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.



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





**MUNCHKINS  
AFTERSCHOOL CLUB  
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY CARE**

❄️ ❄️ ❄️

**OPENING DATES**

22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER  
23<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER  
5<sup>TH</sup> 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 



**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** 