

MPS Newsletter

www.maghaberryyps.com

Friday 5th December 2025



Christmas Events

Next week marks the beginning of a very exciting, yet busy 2 weeks in school life! We have lots of Christmas activities for the children and parents, starting with our Christmas performances. The children have been really busy with rehearsals in the run up. We can't wait to see everyone next week. PTA will be offering tea/coffee (there will be a voluntary charity collection bucket for The NI Cancer Fund for Children).

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Tuesday 9th December:	9:30am	P1 & P2 Christmas Performance (30 mins)
	11:00am	P3 & P4 Christmas Performance (30 mins)
	1:45pm	P5, P6 & P7 Christmas Carols (45 mins)
Wednesday 10th December:	9:30am	P1 & P2 Christmas Performance (30 mins)
	11:00am	P3 & P4 Christmas Performance (30 mins)
	1:45pm	P5, P6 & P7 Christmas Carols (45 mins)
Thursday 18th December	Mrs Hamilton will confirm	Nursery Performance - times to be confirmed

PTA Update

A massive thank you to the community for supporting our recent PTA Christmas Fair. As usual there was a super turn out. We hope the children enjoyed everything that was on offer from seeing Santa to the games and activities. The total raised was £3,490.85. This is an amazing total and is the most raised at Christmas in recent years!

Credit must be given to the members of the PTA, who are a small but dynamic team, for making it all happen! Massive thanks to any parents who volunteered on the night. A huge amount of work and effort goes into the planning of PTA events from which all the children benefit!

If you would like to help, even in a small way, please feel free to attend the next meeting in January. Keep an eye on the school app for more details in the New Year.

Pantomime

On Tuesday 16th December there will be a professional pantomime performance in school for the children! There will be two shows, a morning show for Nursery and P1 to P3 and then an afternoon performance for P4 to P7.

We know the boys and girls will enjoy this experience! The cost per child would normally be around £8, however, the PTA have generously agreed to pay for this Christmas treat for the children. WOW! More details will follow in the days before the shows. Thanks to the Eurospar who are providing the PTA with snacks for the children for the pantomime!

DIARY DATES

Tues 16 December
Peter Pan
Pantomime in school

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



LET'S CELEBRATE!

As always there is so much to celebrate in school recently, from achievements in Accelerated Reading to Lexia and of course pupil of the month for Manners.



P1 to P4 Pupil of the Month



P5 to P7 Pupil of the Month



Lexia Achievement Certificates



Lexia Achievement Certificates



Accelerated Reader Certificates



Accelerated Reader Certificates



Accelerated Reader
Star Certificates



P6/7 Swimming Badges

ICT Developments

The development of creativity in the use of ICT is a major part of our school development plan this year. Thanks to a anonymous donation towards ICT equipment we have been able to invest in lots of wonderful resources to be used in the classrooms by the children and the teachers to enhance ICT at our school. We have purchased along other things, 18 iPads for filmmaking, tripods for the iPads, green screen equipment and backgrounds, wired and bluetooth mics, Sphere kits, Bluebots and Beebots. The children will be using this new equipment in the weeks and months ahead as part of the ICT curriculum - we look forward to seeing the exciting work that they will produce! The staff have already had training in the use of green screens and we have more staff training planned for next term.



Outdoor Numeracy

Another part of our School Development plan for this year, is the development of numeracy through the use of the outdoor environment. Mr Spratt has been with every class this term and observed an outdoor maths lesson from every teacher. He was delighted to see the children enjoying the school environment to develop their maths skills.

We hope to further develop our playground next term by adding more outdoor resources to enhance our grounds as a learning environment. Below are a few pictures of some of the lessons that Mr Spratt observed this term. Well done to all!



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@maghaberryys.lisburn.ni.sch.uk.

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



Maghaberry Primary School AND NURSERY UNIT

Is your child due to start Nursery or Primary 1 next September?

To book a personal tour in December or January contact the school office

028 92 611 529

info@maghaberryys.lisburn.ni.sch.uk

www.maghaberryys.com

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.

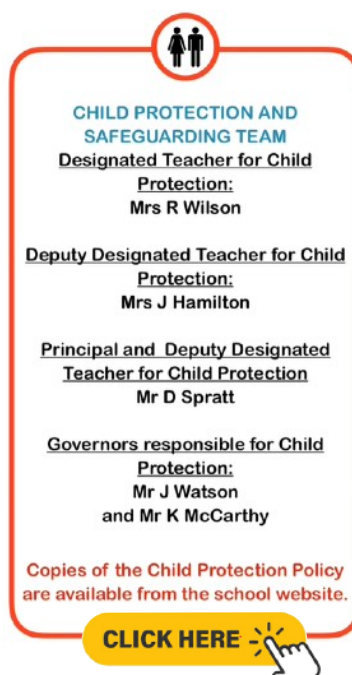
Safer Schools NI - IMPORTANT!

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 \(click here to view\)](#)



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



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



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:
LITTEMUNCHKINSKIDSClub@
GMAIL.COM

CHECK US OUT AT MUNCHKINS
AFTERSCHOOL
FACEBOOK PAGE

