

December (2) 2024

Dear parent,

Thank you to everyone who supported our Carol Service last Tuesday, it was a lovely way to get into the festive spirit and the children performed wonderfully. Thank you for your generous donations, £346.20 was collected and has been donated to Cash for Kids Mission Christmas, helping ensure that every child in Northern Ireland receives a gift this Christmas.

CHRISTMAS PARTY P1-P7 WEDNESDAY 18 DECEMBER

Time: 1.00pm-2.30pm **ALL PUPILS SHOULD BE COLLECTED AT 2.30PM**

Pupils may bring up to £2 spending money to try their luck in the Christmas Lucky Dip.

This is a non-uniform event. Pupils may choose to wear a Christmas jumper/t-shirt or party clothes appropriate for party games

LAST DAY OF TERM/CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Date: Friday 20 December

The last day of term will be a **non-uniform day**. The pupils are encouraged to wear any of the following seasonal attire.

Christmas jumper or T-shirt

Christmas hat

Christmas headgear

Christmas hair accessory

Pupils will also be permitted to bring a treat break on this date.

P5-7 pupils may bring in one game/toy from home to play in class on Friday. No electronic games are permitted. Children are responsible for bringing their game/toy home at the end of the day.

School will close at **12 noon on Friday 20 December** and re-open to pupils on **Monday 6 January 2025**.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENU

After the Christmas break, we will be commencing menu on week 2 for the 6 January 2025

All pupils will require a packed lunch on Friday 10 January due to the pantomime trip.

A copy of this newsletter is available on the school website.

<https://www.parkgate-primary.co.uk/>

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS JAN - FEB

Playsport will be offered as an afterschool club in February. A Google Form will be sent out in January to sign up.

ANNUAL PANTOMIME

The annual pantomime is a highlight of the school year and we are delighted to return again on Friday 10 January. Our pupils look forward to their trip to the Grand Opera House each year but, as collection time for pupils is 4.15pm, it is a long day for all pupils and staff.

To make the day more manageable therefore, all pupils should arrive at school on **Friday 10 January 2025** at **11am**.

There will be no school dinners on **Friday 10 January** as the pupils require an early lunch to arrive at the Grand Opera House on time. All pupils should **bring a packed lunch** on this date.

Apologies, please note that the school start time has been amended. School will start at 11.00am for ALL pupils.

Date: Friday 10 January 2025

Time: 12.30pm – 4.15pm

School start time: All pupils 11.00am

Collection: Pupils are to be picked up from school on their return at 4:15pm.

Refreshments: Please provide each pupil with a strong plastic bag containing **one treat** e.g., a chocolate bar or packet of crisps or sweets etc. and one drink. No cans or glass bottles are permitted on the trip. We have been informed by the Opera House that no confectionary containing nuts can be taken into the auditorium.

P5 – P7 SWIMMING JANUARY 2025

Swimming will begin for P5-7 pupils on the 9 January 2025. Please read the attached information.

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P6/P7 POST PRIMARY OPEN DAYS/EVENINGS

Admission criteria for post primary schools is now available on the Education Authority Website.

Some open afternoon/evening dates are listed below.

Ballyclare High School	9 January 2025 6pm - 9pm
Ballyclare Secondary School	6 January 2025 2pm - 4pm
Antrim Grammar School	11 January 2025
Parkhall Integrated College	16 January 2025 6.45pm – 9.00pm
Slemish College	22/23 January 2025 at 6.30pm

PTA NEWS

The PTA are hosting a Zumba evening, 16:00-17:00 on Saturday, 18 January 2025. More details to follow.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

20.12.24	End of term – School closes at 12.00pm for all pupils and staff.
06.01.25	Term 2 begins.
06.01.25	Payment for school lunch today (week 2)
10.01.25	Annual Pantomime Grand Opera House all pupils start at 11am.
18.01.25	PTA Zumba event

As we come to the end of Term 1, we would like to thank all our families for their continued support of the school. We wish you all a restful and enjoyable Christmas break and look forward to seeing everyone again in the New Year.

From all the staff at Parkgate Primary School

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