

Dear Parent and Guardian,

Well done to our pupils that participated in the SEAG exams, they will receive their results on Saturday morning, and we know they have tried their very best in these tests. Of course, it is important to remember that a test score at eleven does not define a child and the score they get does not limit their chances in life. We're proud of the effort they have made in the tests.

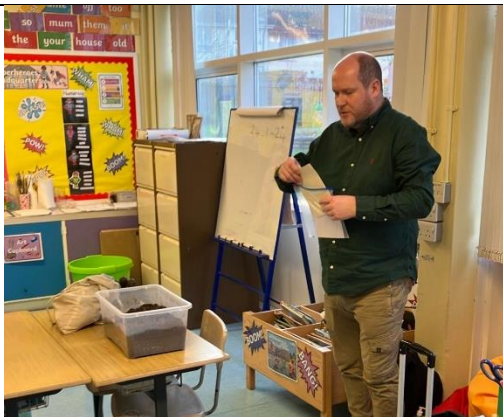
As we finally reach the end of an eventful January, with snowstorms, extreme wind and rain, and a staff strike, we can hopefully look forward to a brighter month in February, with a stretch in the days and the knowledge that Spring is on the way.

Admissions for September 2024 have now closed for primary school, and we look forward to sorting through to accept our new class of September 2024. It is also time for our year seven children to select their school for September 2024 and they will be completing this process during February.

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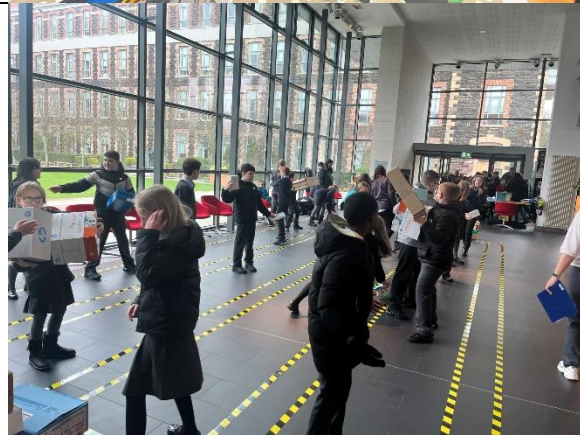
ARC 21:

It was great to have Noel from ARC21 visiting school to give the children some great messages about recycling and looking after the environment. The children had a great day completing many activities.



Transport & Logistics

Our year seven pupils had a great day attending the Transport and Logistics Industry Masterclass in the Theatre at the Mill on Tuesday 23rd January. As you can see from the pictures it was a great day for all the children.



Parent Pay

Please make sure that your child's Parent Pay account has credit for any services that they use. Unfortunately, we have to refuse break to some children and we never want this to be the case. Please ensure that your child's account has credit, otherwise they will not receive their break.

In an emergency please contact the school office for support.

Vaping:

I have become very concerned with the knowledge and awareness of children in our older classes, about vaping. I have found that some of our older children have tried vapes and I am very worried about the lack of understanding about the long-term dangers of vaping. Please take the time to read the article regarding vaping.

<https://saferschoolsni.co.uk/youth-vaping/>

Superhero Week

Superhero Day – Friday 9th February

This year we are supporting Autism NI – Superhero Week

Autism is growing in our community, and it is estimated that 1 in 20 children have autism, in school we feel the percentage is much higher. This year we are going to raise some funds for Autism NI to help support the work that they do supporting children and families. Please note, for this week, the children will be completing home activities, will have a family sponsorship form and coming to school dressed as a superhero. Superhero day on Friday 9th February, please do not buy a new costume for your child, use one they have at home or design from some old clothes or even, make a superhero mask. I would rather raise money for Autism NI, than you give your money to a supermarket or online provider of costumes. As you can see from the picture below, the child has a simple mask a cape and a white t shirt.



School Uniform

Most children in school wear their uniform properly and are a credit to you and our school. We are less than halfway through the year and the standard of some of the uniforms is poor.

- We have an array of coloured footwear, it should only be black footwear,
- Ties missing for weeks and not replaced, these are available from the office or from Wallace's in Antrim.
- Leggings are not suitable for school; children must wear skirts or trousers.
- Only school jumpers in school, no hoodies, sweatshirts, or other jumpers.
- Please put your child's name on uniform, it helps when they get misplaced.

Parenting NI

Parenting NI are now live with the Big Parenting Survey! This is the only NI specific research into parenting, and we are keen to hear from as many parents as possible.

Parenting NI, committed to supporting parents and ensuring that their voices are heard, are launching the **2024 Big Parenting Survey** and are keen to reach more parents than ever before. It is arguably more important than ever to gain an insight into the realities of parenting in Northern Ireland, particularly given the current cost of living crisis which is putting extreme pressure on parents and families.

We are asking all parents to take this opportunity to be part of our anonymous "**Big Parenting Survey**" **2024**. This survey will give them a chance to tell us about their experiences, the high points and the struggles. This will help shape the work of Parenting NI and enable Parenting NI to lobby and campaign for change for a better Northern Ireland for all families.

We would encourage anyone in a parenting role to please use the QR code or visit [Parentingni.org](https://www.parentingni.org) to complete the survey which should take no longer than 10 minutes.



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/L65K7WD>

A purple-themed promotional graphic for 'THE BIG PARENTING SURVEY 2024'. It features a megaphone icon and a 'Now open' badge. Below the title, it lists three reasons to take the survey: to help shape the future of Parenting NI's programs, to advocate for positive changes in Northern Ireland, and to ensure voices are heard on important parenting issues. The background shows a blurred image of a family.



PTA

St Valentine's Day Basket

Would you like to share this super treat basket with your family?

If you do, please buy and complete the puzzle and you could be in with a chance of winning the prize. The puzzle sheets will be on sale for £1 from Monday 29th January.



Internet Safety from NSPCC



NSPCC

Online gaming and keeping children safe

**Do you know your whispers
from your skins? Your Fortnite
from your EA Sports FC 24?**

As part of the NSPCC Game Safe Festival, we're encouraging parents, carers and those working with children and families to have conversations about online gaming.

GamCare will be sharing expert advice, and you'll hear directly from young people.

Our webinar will help you:

- understand how young people game online.
- learn about tools and resources that support safe play.
- gain the knowledge you need to keep children safe.



GAME SAFE FESTIVAL

**7 February 2024, 7pm-8pm, via
Zoom. Book your place via this link:
nspcc.org.uk/gamesafe/tickets**

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

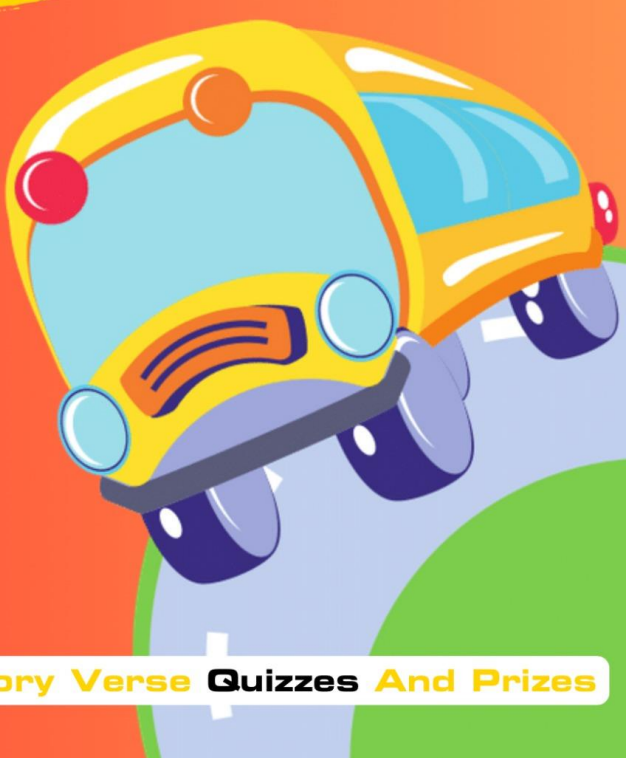
PUPIL OF THE WEEK

Well done to our Super Pupils of the Week!



Bible Club

If your child is interested in attending, please contact the leaders.



**LOOK OUT FOR THE
ABC BIBLE CLUB BUS...**

organised by antrim free
presbyterian church

**For Collection
and Drop-Off**

Friday's @ 7:00pm

**contact Billy 07749 959592
or Sharon 07871 522003
with your address**

Singing Bible Story Memory Verse Quizzes And Prizes

Dates for your diary

Saturday 27th January – Year Seven SEAG test results
Tuesday 6th February - Internet Safety Day
Friday 9th February – Superhero Day
Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February - Half Term
Monday 19th February – Children return to school.
Monday 26th February – Friday 1st March – Parent Teacher consultations
Thursday 7th March – World Book Day
Thursday 21st March – Key Stage Two Show – The Little Mermaid
Thursday 27th March – Last day of Term Two
Monday 8th April – Children return to school.

School Meal Menu next week:



EAT SMART WITH **THE LUNCH BUNCH @ Parkhall PS**

WEEK TWO – Week beginning - Monday 29th January.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Course	Main Course	Main Course	Main Course	Main Course
Sausage Roll	Pasta Bolognese with Garlic Bread	Roast Chicken with Stuffing & Gravy	Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry & Naan Bread	Beef Burger in a Bap with Tomato Ketchup
Or	Or	Or	Or	Or
Sweet and Sour Chicken	BBQ Chicken Pizza	Salmon	Salad Filled Pitta with Pulled Pork & Coleslaw	Pepper Chicken & Rice
SIDES	SIDES	SIDES	SIDES	SIDES
Spaghetti Hoops & Garden Peas	Sweetcorn Salad	Cauliflower Or Broccoli and Carrots	Garden Peas Rice	Sweetcorn Salad
Chipped Potatoes Rice	Oven Roasted Potato Wedges	Mashed Potatoes Oven Roasted Potato		Chipped Potatoes Rice
DESSERT	DESSERT	DESSERT	DESSERT	DESSERT
Ice Cream, Chocolate Sauce and Sliced Pears	Zesty Orange Sponge & Custard	Blueberry Muffin	Fresh Fruit Salad & Yoghurt	Flakemeal Biscuit & Fruit
MILK, WATER, BREAD AND FRESH FRUIT AVAILABLE DAILY	MENU MAY CHANGE DUE TO DELIVERY ISSUES		IF YOU REQUIRE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON ALLERGENS AND SPECIAL DIETS, PLEASE CONTACT SCHOOL	