

Dear Parent and Guardian,

As we look to celebrate Superhero Week, next week, the children will be bringing home sponsor forms today. Please only ask family and friends for sponsorship and return the forms and any money to school on Friday 9th February. Please see below for more details about the week.

Please remember that next Friday will be our last day of this half term and school will be closed, week beginning Monday 12th February.

S Baillie

One Million Trees

On Tuesday 30th of January, our Eco Committee, were delighted to help the [Mayor of Antrim, Mark Cooper BEM](#), and the council's Parks Development Team plant a tree on Tuesday this week as part of the one million native trees project. The project aims to tackle climate change and reduce carbon emissions, our contribution is planting twenty trees, which Mrs Wray continued with her class on Friday. If you are interested in finding out more about the project, please follow this link or scan the code
<https://antrimandnewtownabbey.gov.uk/residents/community-initiatives/plant-a-million-trees/>



On Friday 2nd February Year 5 planted the remaining trees during their Forest School session and it just happened that they got to plant one each! We look forward to watching them grow.



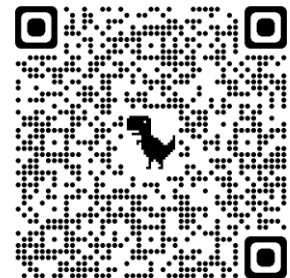
Parent Pay

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.



School Attendance

I will be reviewing attendance following half term and contacting families that have worrying attendance levels. Please make sure your child has great attendance at school.

Please remember 90% is great in a test but not in attendance, over a school year 90% attendance means four weeks or twenty days of learning lost. If maintained for all the child's primary school career that would mean seven months of lost learning, a good chunk of a school year.

Car Park

Currently some of our families have been granted permission to use the car park in the morning and in the afternoon. These are for children coming to and from school and they have been agreed with governors and me. All other families must not use the car park, before school or for afternoon pick up, unless this has been previously agreed with school. The car park is also a pedestrian walkway, and we need to ensure it is safe for our pupils at the start and at the end of the day.

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.



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.



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 until Thursday 28th February.**



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://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 parents' voices are heard on important issues. The background shows a blurred image of a family.

Safer Internet Day



SAVE the DATE

Safer Internet Day

2024 | **Tuesday**
6 February

www.saferinternetday.org



The theme for Internet Safety Day this year, is *"Together for a better Internet"*. Many of pupils now have access to devices, which gives them access to the internet.

You will find some helpful tips to help you manage their device and their online behaviour.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers/tablets>



PUPIL OF THE WEEK

Well done to our Super Pupils of the Week!



Dates for your diary

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 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 THREE – Week beginning - Monday 5th February.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Course	Main Course	Main Course	Main Course	See special menu below!
Golden Crumbed Fish Fingers	Italian Beef with Crusty Roll	Roast Beef with Stuffing & Gravy	Lunch Bunch Chicken Curry & Naan Bread	
Or	Or	Or	Or	
Mighty Mac ‘n’ Cheese with Garlic Bread Slice	Pepperoni/ Margherita Pizza	Savoury Mince	Steak Burger in a Bap & Cheese	
SIDES	SIDES	SIDES	SIDES	
Baked Beans/Coleslaw Chipped Potatoes/ Mashed Potatoes	Garden Peas/ Salad Homemade Diced Potatoes	Carrot & Parsnip Cauliflower Cheese Mashed Potatoes/ Oven Roast Potato	Steamed Rice/ Salad	
DESSERT	DESSERT	DESSERT	DESSERT	
Artic Roll with Peaches & Pears	Fresh Fruit Pot	Melon Wedge	Lemon Drizzle Cake & Custard	
MILK, WATER, BREAD AND FRESH FRUIT AVAILABLE DAILY		MENU MAY CHANGE DUE TO DELIVERY ISSUES		

MENU

Valentine's Day

FRIDAY 9TH FEBRUARY

ALL YOUR FAVOURITES

CHICKEN NUGGETS
PEPPERONI PIZZA
COCKTAIL SAUSAGES
CHIPS

BLACKCURRANT JUICE
ROCKET ICE-LOLLY

SPECIAL PRIZES
FOR SCHOOL DINNERS

*Please make your server aware of any allergies
or special dietary requirements before ordering*