

Hazelbank Primary School Newsletter



Term 1b
November

Christmas Season Dates

We are well and truly into the Christmas season now and we are looking forward to the busy few weeks ahead.

Open Morning: Friday 6th December

P1-P3 Nativity: Wednesday 11th December

Christmas Dinner Day: Friday 13th December

School Carol Service: Thursday 19th December

End of Term: Friday 20th December **(12:00pm finish)**

Open Morning

Do you have a little one who is ready to start Primary 1 in September 2025? If so, we would love to welcome them to our Open Morning event on the **6th December 2024**.

We would be grateful if you could spread the news amongst family and friends, as well.

Christmas Guessing Competitions

Whilst we had our Tropic evening and our baubles in the jar guessing competition, many pupils were disappointed that they could not take part.

So... throughout December we will be having some in-school guessing competitions for the children.

Competition One – Guess the Sweets in the Jar. The jar is full of sweets but how many? Prize – sweetie jar.

Competition Two – Guess the Teddy Bear's birthday. Mr Bear has forgotten his date of birth. Can you guess his birthday month and number? Prize – Mr Teddy.

Competition Three – How many LEGO pieces are in the model? Have a look, estimate the amount of bricks. Prize – Lego Set.

50p per guess.

Christmas Dinner Day

School will finish for all pupils at 1:00pm on this day.

Our school Christmas Dinner is planned for Friday 13th December. A note with more details has been sent with the eldest child in each family.

Payment of £2.60 is requested by Monday 2nd December.

On this day we will be wearing our Christmas jumpers/non-uniform and supporting the Northern Ireland's Children's Hospice. All donations are welcome! For every pound donated we get a free entry into their Jingle All The Way competition that gives us the opportunity to win some stationery items for use in our classrooms.

Please send in any donations in clearly marked envelope marked with your child's name and class as some individual prizes are also up for grabs.

Christmas Events

We are already practising hard for our special Christmas events.

P1-P3 – Nativity – Buckna Presbyterian Church Hall

Our Nativity will be taking place on **Wednesday 11th December** at 7:00pm. We will run a matinee for all grandparents and friends at 1:30pm. More information will follow from the P1-P3 staff. We will be asking soon for an indication of ticket numbers.

P4 – P7 Carol Service – Buckna Presbyterian Church

School will finish for all pupils at 2:00pm on this day.

All parents and friends are invited on **Thursday 19th December** at 7:00pm. Our P4-P7 children are all involved in our Carol Service production. Children should come in full, school uniform – arriving at 6:30pm. Thank you.

We will be having several practices in the church beforehand and will need parents help with dropping children off and collecting them from the church. (more information to follow).

Happiness - Learning - Success

Hazelbank Primary School, 20 Hazelbank Road, Aughafatten, Broughshane, BT424LP

SeeSaw

SeeSaw is a useful means for keeping parents updated with what is happening in school and within their child's classroom.

Teachers endeavour to update and check the class page often but as you can appreciate, school is a busy place. Please remember for any messages that you would like to be seen by your child's class teacher urgently, please send in a note. We are trying to ensure that important information is not missed during the school day.

For other enquiries, please send an email to our school office: info@hazelbankps.ballymena.ni.sch.uk

As staff are teaching during lesson time, they will not be able to receive or respond to parent messages. Just a gentle reminder that, as expected, staff will not receive or respond to messages in the evenings or at weekends.

Should you need to make contact during these times, please send an email to the above address and this will be picked up upon school opening the following day.

Thank you for your understanding.

Choir Events

It is a busy time for our choir.

Millbrae Fold - Mon 2nd December

Radio Cracker - Tower Centre - Wed 4th December

Sunshine Club: Buckna Presb. - Thurs 5th December

Whilst these events are for pupils only, spectators are welcome in the Tower centre for our slot at 10:10am.

Child Protection, Safeguarding and Wellbeing

We want our school to be a safe and happy place. Please talk to us if you have a worry or concern.

BOG Chairperson - Mr D Bradley

Designated Teacher - Mrs J Scott

Deputy Designated Teacher - Mr R Heyburn

We are an 'Operation Encompass' school. For more information about this initiative, please visit,

www.operationencompass.org

Fundraising for Hazelbank PS

Many thanks to all who supported our Tropic Dessert Party in anyway. Even though the weather was icy, we had a super turnout and a great night together. A total of £660 was raised which will add to our school fund account, which is used throughout the year to update and replenish resources and allows for us to subsidise extra-curricular opportunities.

Asda Cash Pot:

We only have a day or two left before our ASDA cash pot closes. Thank you to all our ASDA shoppers who supported us with this. £136.38 was raised.

easyfundraising.com:

Please consider signing up to support our school as you do some Christmas shopping. Black Friday/Cyber Monday are the perfect opportunities to shop online, visiting your favourite stores through the easyfundraising app first. It doesn't cost you any extra, but online stores donate a percentage to us.

SEAG is over!

Well done to all of our P7 pupils for their hard work and dedication over the past few months.

Whether testing or not, all have been absolutely fantastic!

P7 News...

Swimming - P7 swimming lessons at Seven Towers Leisure Centre, Ballymena, are due to start on 9th January 2025. (more information to follow).

P7 Residential Trip - Tollymore (May 2025)

We are finalising plans for our P7 residential to Tollymore, Newcastle. Provisional dates for this are 27th - 29th May 2025. Please see the P7 note sent home this week.

Early Closures

Friday 13th - 1:00pm, Thursday 19th - 2:00pm, Friday 20th - 12:00 pm

We will run our usual staggered exit on these days to help ease traffic congestion.

**School will recommence on
Monday 6th January.**

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