

HOW ARE WE MORE THAN JUST A SCHOOL?

We pride ourselves on being a family and going above and beyond for our children..

We have Breakfast Club each morning at £1 a day. 2-3 and HOP which both extend the day to 4pm. These are £2 a session.

We have a wide range of sporting teams and all children have the opportunity to compete competitively. This year we have entered Cross Country, Hockey Blitz, Antrim Football League and Basketball tournaments.

We organise a wide range of afterschool clubs including drama, hockey, music, Samuel McIlveen Coaching, festival dancing and Antrim School of Music. Through extended schools we have sessions with Play Sport, Antrim, Mini Me Yoga and Jo Jingles. We have worked with the local boxing club. We have EA music lessons and a wonderful school choir.

For our families we have a wide range of events to help you feel welcomed and included. Some examples include our Back to School Picnic and Grandparents Day.

We have an active PTA and the children experience a varied and creative curriculum.



HOW DO WE ENSURE A SMOOTH TRANSITION TO P1?



We want everyone to feel happy and secure when they join us so we have developed a tailored transition programme. This includes:

- Parents' Information session in June
- Stay and Play morning in June
- Pre-school visits by PI teacher and SENCo
- Welcome bag- with handwriting guide, special book to collect family photos and information
- Road to Ballycraigy, which outlines key skills to develop
- The use of a Pupil Passport, which the adult uses to outline likes and dislikes
- Invites to summer events, such as the Summer Fair
- Postcard home, with photos of the key adults
- Video tour on dojo of classroom

At the end of August we start our settling in programme.. We teach the routines and expectations explicitly during this time and by the end of September our children are in until 2pm and have access to an extended day with 2-3 Club and Breakfast Club.

Our flexible drop off (8:45am-9am) means the children do not have to line up. They come straight into the classroom each morning. Anxiety is reduced as there is no need to wait and the children simply come into school at their own pace.

Our welcoming team of adults and children are there to aid transition and the PIs love going into class with their P7 buddies. At playtime they also have support from their Playground Pals. The majority of our children settle in quickly, however if required a settling in plan is written with parents and carers.

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BEYOND BALLYCRAIGY

Do you know our pupils achieve in so many ways whilst at Ballycraigy and beyond?

Here are a few of our past pupils' success stories.

Eoin is currently a junior prefect at Parkhall and was awarded a Duke of Edinburgh Bursary Award

Elizabeth and Sophia are playing football for Ballymena Ladies and won their league last year.

William was Head Boy at Antrim Grammar last year and completed his placement with us. He is now studying to be a teacher at Stanmillis.

Eva is at Cambridge House and has had several pieces of poetry published and won a creative writing award this year.

Hannah is currently studying journalism at UUC and won the Deanes awards and won a variety of awards when studying at Parkhall and Antrim Grammar.