



BALLINAMALLARD PRIMARY & COMMUNITY NURSERY SCHOOL

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November/December 2025 News

Pre-School and Primary Admissions for September 2026

If you know of any family who have children that will be 3 or 4 years old on or before 1 July 2026, please either let us know or ask them to phone the school for application information for Nursery and Year 1 places for September 2026. Online applications open on 7th January 2026 at 12noon and close on 21st January 2026 at 12noon. **Information will become available on the EA website from Wednesday 10th December.**



OPEN DAY – Tuesday 16th December @10.30 to 11.30am in Primary and from 1 to 2pm in the Nursery. All new parents and current parents are welcome to drop in any time between 10.30 and 11.30am.

After School Clubs

This term we have had a range of After School Clubs running from 3 to 4pm which have included -

- Yr 1 to 4 football sessions (during school)
- Year 5 Art & Craft Club
- Yr 7 Transfer Club
- Yr 5 to 7 SU Club
- Yr 1 to 4 Gymnastics Club
- Yr 1 & 2 – CoreKids Club
- Yr 4 to 7 – Rugby
- Yr 6 & 7 – Christmas Music Club



A big thank you to all our staff who facilitate these clubs and to the volunteers who have helped us this term – the team from Mullaghmeen Baptist Church.

Credit Union – Every Wednesday morning in school. A big thank you to Gloria Verner & our Yr 7 pupils for facilitating this. Remember if you want to save come along and sign up!



Anti-Bullying Week

The whole school participated in a range of activities on the theme 'Power of Good' during anti-bullying week, including wearing odd socks for the day and World Kindness Day – see our website for more details and photographs.

Christmas Postal Service

Our Year 7 are busy organising and delivering our school postal service for Christmas cards. Thank you to everyone who has purchased stamps with all money going to the Cedar Foundation Charity.

Payment for Dinners, Clubs etc

Please can you ensure that children are booked in, with payment, for both 2 to 3 Club and After School Club on a Monday to assist with administration.

Dinner money must be sent in each Monday with the days your child is taking dinner clearly marked on the envelope please. Thank you.

PTFA

The PTFA would love to hear from parents interested in helping out and joining the team! They held their AGM on Wednesday 19th November. Our committee for the incoming year are:-

Chairperson – Mrs D Kerr & Vice-Chairperson – Mrs J Penny

Secretary – Ms L Thornton

Treasurer – Mr A Donald



The PTFA have organised a Christmas disco in school from 6.30 to 7.30pm on Wednesday 17th December. We look forward to seeing you all there. £2.50 per child or £6 for a family of 3 or more. Please remember to bring some small change as there will be a tuck shop.

Friday 19th December – PTFA selling unhealthy snack at 50p per item (more information & order form to follow)

Christmas Raffle Draw – information to follow.

Yr 5 Amazing Jesus

A big thank you to Alastair McFarland from SUNI who came in and led the Year 5 children in 3 workshops – see the website for more information and photographs.



Safety in our Carpark

Please continue to park in the designated spaces only and not along kerbs, yellow boxes or bus lanes within our school carpark. The safety of all users of our carpark is paramount so it is of utmost importance that all drivers please follow these rules. Please ensure to pass on this message to other adults who may be collecting your child/children.

Junior Road Safety Officers

Thank you to our Road Safety Officers who continue to spread road safety messages throughout our school. They recently organised a competition from Nursery to Year 7 and provided the winning prizes. Congratulations to all our winners.

Absence notes

If your child should be off school for any reason please telephone the school office on the morning to notify us and follow up with a written letter for our records within 5 days of their return to school. Many thanks.



Healthy Snacks

Our school promotes healthy eating and part of this scheme is the children eating a healthy snack at break time and having bottles of water to drink throughout the school day. Please ensure this is water and not juice! We also encourage a healthy packed lunch box at dinner time too.

Santa Daily Mile

All classes will enjoy taking a walk on **Friday 5th December** as part of a festive daily mile. Have a look on our website for photographs after the event. All children from Nursery to Year 7 can bring something festive to school, eg Christmas hat, jumper and/or piece of tinsel to wear for the walk.

Class Assemblies

This year each class will perform a Class Assembly for their parents and families.

Yr 5 Harvest Assembly – took place on the mornings of 21st & 22nd October 2025.

Yr 1 Nativity

Our children in Year 1 are well under way with rehearsals for their Nativity which takes place on **Wednesday 10th December** at **10am in the School Hall**. Year 1 parents should already have received their invitation along with the parents of any Year 7 pupils who are also taking part. Our Strings & Brass Ensembles will also be performing and if any of their parents would like to attend the whole performance they are also very welcome.



Nursery Nativity

Our Nursery Nativity will take place on Tuesday 16th December at 10am in the school hall followed by light refreshments. A welcome talk by Mrs McEldowney and viewing of our short Open Day video will take place at 9.45am, prior to the Nursery Nativity.

- Our Primary Open Day will take place immediately after the Nursery Nativity commencing at 10.30am until 11.30am. Our Nursery Open Day will begin at 1pm until 2pm.

Yr 6 Class Assembly – 25th February 2026

Yr 2 Class Assembly – 11th March 2026

Yr 7 Leavers' Assembly – provisionally 24th June 2026 (dependent on when the Post Primary Familiarisation Day is)

Health & Wellbeing Fayre

It was great to see so many people attend our Health & Wellbeing Fayre for the community on the evening of Wednesday 19th November. There was a great variety of stands full of information and resources on how to keep us healthy. Thank you to Mrs Magee for planning and organising the event and to everyone for giving of their time to host information stalls, craft activities and exercise taster sessions. A great evening was had by all.

Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day



Save the Children®

Our Christmas dinner will take place on **Tuesday 9th December**. Each year as part of our festive celebrations we all wear our Christmas jumpers on this day. Everyone will be asked to wear their silliest, sparkliest or cosiest Christmas woollies and make a donation, eg of £1, or whatever they can give, to go to Save the Children Fund. If your child doesn't have a festive sweater already, just dig out a plain jumper and decorate it with tinsel, baubles or homemade snowflakes.

Flu Vaccination Programme

The School Nursing Team were in school on 10th November for the annual flu vaccination programme.

School Council

Thank you to our School Council for organising a recent unhealthy snack day for all the pupils. Altogether they raised £87. They also organised a PJ & bring a teddy day which raised another £142.95. They are planning on charging £1 for a non-uniform day on Friday 19th December. All the money they raise will be used by the School Council to choose and buy resources for all the children in our school, from Nursery to P7.

Usborne Book Fair

A huge thank you to Miss Potters for organising and running a Book Fair at the start of November in our school. Thanks to everyone who supported this we raised an amazing £600 worth of books which are now in our class libraries for all the children to enjoy.

Safeguarding Team

Designated teacher – Mrs McEldowney

Deputy Designated teachers:- Mrs Hassard, Mrs Magee and Mrs Kerr (Nursery)

Chair of Governors:- Rev J Beacom

Governor for Child Protection:- Mr D McBrien

The Poppy Appeal

A big thankyou to our Year 7 children for organising and running this year's Poppy Appeal and thank you to everyone who donated. We raised an impressive £242.11. Thank you!



Children & Young People's Rights Webinar

The children from Yr 5 to 7 joined an online webinar on the morning of 6th November.

Swimming Programme for Term 1



Our Yr 5 & 6 swimming programme is coming to an end. Fantastic achievements from all the children – well done! Year 7 will commence the first of two 6 week blocks of swimming at Omagh Leisure Centre in January.

Enniskillen Food Bank

Thank you to everyone who donated items of food at our Harvest Service. We were delighted to send all the donations to the Food Bank in Enniskillen. Thank you for your kind generosity.

Devenish Panto 'Dick Whittington & his Cat'

The children in Years 2 to 7 will travel on Thursday 11th December to see 'Dick Whittington & his Cat' performed by the pupils of Devenish College. This will be a lovely treat for the children and staff to finish off a busy term where everyone has been working very hard.



Facebook & Instagram Page

We are currently in the process of setting up a Facebook and Instagram page to link with our school website. We will let you know when this is completed.

Nursery

The children and staff in Nursery have been very busy over the past term getting everyone settled in and staying for their school dinner.

The children had a visit from Fermanagh & Omagh District Council Climate Team and learned all about the signs of Autumn - different trees, leaves and berries as well as making their own Autumn crowns.

They had a PJ day on 14th November for Children in Need and raised an amazing £50! Thank you.

They have started their Getting Ready to Learn Big Bedtime Read and book bags are going home every Friday with lots of lovely stories to share at home.

They are expecting a visit from the PSNI on Thursday 4th December.



Year 7 SEAG Test

A huge well done to all our Year 7 pupils on completing their SEAG Transfer Test. The children have all been working so hard and putting all their efforts into preparing for the tests.



Dates for your Diary from Website

4th December – Craft Fair – 7 to 9pm in school

4th December – PSNI visit to Nursery

5th December – Santa Daily Mile

9th December – Christmas Dinner & Christmas Jumper Day (£1 donation)

10th December – Year 1 Nativity @10am

11th December – Yr 2 to 7 Devenish Panto

16th Dec – Nursery Nativity @9.45/10am & **OPEN DAY** (10.30 to 11.30am Primary) 1 to 2pm Nursery)

17th December – EA music concerts in school (am)

17th December – Rev Beacom & Rev Capper – Santa Sit out

17th December – PTFA Christmas Disco (6.30 to 7.30pm)

19th December – School closes early at 12pm – DRESS DOWN DAY (£1 for School Council) & unhealthy snack (50p per item)

22nd Dec to 2nd Jan (inclusive) – Christmas Holidays

5th January - Staff Training Day – School closed to pupils

6th January – Start of Term

7th January – Nursery & Year 1 applications open online for Sept 2026



Please remember to visit our school website for events on the calendar, photographs and further information about what the children have been up to since the start of September.

