



A happy place to have fun learning!

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School Newsletter – January 2026 – week 6

Extra staff development days

The Department of Education has recently designated two additional staff development days for all schools across Northern Ireland as part of the TransformEd curriculum reform programme. In order to ensure these days cause the least disruption possible to our families, we have reviewed our school calendar and the additional dates will be:

Tuesday 17th March and Thursday 21st May.

School will be closed to all pupils on these days while staff undertake the necessary training. Thank you for your support and understanding as we work to ensure the best possible education experiences for our children.

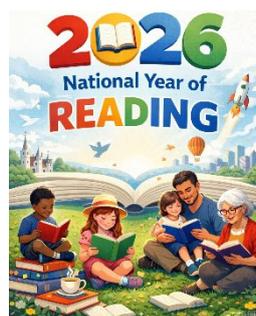
Emotional wellbeing support

As part of our communication questionnaire for parents, you told us that you would be interested in some advice to support your child's emotional wellbeing and that you would like this communicated by sending the information home, rather than holding a workshop in school. To meet this request, we have uploaded the Take 5 monthly booklets to our website. They have information for parents on the parent hub pages and you can also see some of the activities that may take place in school to support your child's emotional wellbeing. The booklets can be found on the parent area of the school website, in the section labelled parent support page.



2026 The Year of Reading

The Department of Education has identified 2026 as a year of reading. This is music to our ears as we have identified Reading as an area that we would like to focus on for our school development plan. On our last school development day, Mr Leyshon talked to us about reading strategies and the staff spent some time sorting the reading materials we have in school. The library has been rearranged, and class libraries were spruced up. Mr Leyshon was also very excited to have been given a budget of £1,000 to spend on getting new stock of reading books for the class libraries. We will keep you up to date of other activities to support reading development as the year goes on.



Parent Questionnaire feedback

Thank you so much for your feedback from the most recent questionnaire. 100% of the responses felt that the school uniform is affordable and works well. I will feedback the queries around quality and pricing of the PE kit to the Signature works. 100% of the responses were satisfied with the information that we give out at parent teacher appointments. The question about the special provision classes is not one that is in our gift to answer as it is the EA who determine the placements and the age ranges. It was great to read about you sharing our enthusiasm for a Nursery in the village. Unfortunately, there were not very many names put forward so it may be a tricky battle to fight. However, it is still a battle that we are prepared to take on. We will keep you posted if we get anywhere with it.

School Development Plan

Our School Development Plan 2025–2026

— Working Together for Every Child's Success —

Our Vision: An inclusive and inspiring learning community where we promote everyone's wellbeing and success.
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— Our 4 Key Strategic Priorities This Year —

Raising Achievement in Literacy & Maths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better literacy & maths support Booster groups for pupils Improved assessments 	A Broad, Balanced & Modern Curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced digital learning Exciting, updated curriculum Improve curriculum communication 	Inclusion & SEN Hub of Excellence <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Targeted support plans Improved SEN provision Personalised Learning Plans (PLPs) 	Stronger Community & School Growth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor learning & Parent Hub Nursery provision progress Wraparound care
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— Major Projects for 2025–2026 —

Outdoor Learning & School Garden	Parent Hub	Nursery Provision Development	School Readiness Programme	Digital Development	SEN Centre of Excellence
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— How We Will Keep You Involved: —

- Curriculum overviews each term
- Parent workshops & info sessions
- Community events & celebration days

— Together, we are building a school where: —

- Every child feels valued
- Every learner is supported
- Every family is involved
- Every pupil can succeed

Upcoming Events

- 24th February – Netball club begins each Tuesday
- 25th February – Football club continues each Thursday
- 27th February – School nurse P1 Health checks
- 6th March – PFA Lovely Ladies Shop
- 17th March – additional school development day
- w/b 23rd March – ARTS WEEK
- 25th March – KS2 School play – Jack and the Beanstalk
- 27th March – End of term, half day for pupils.