

Buick Memorial Primary School Newsletter

Friday 5th September 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

Our littlest nursery pupils are settling into their new routines. They look incredibly happy, and they are enjoying the newness and independence of Nursery life.

Each child's readiness for the longer session is assessed independently, so finishing times may vary over the coming weeks before every child is able to avail of the full day provision to 1:30pm.

Your support in achieving this full day provision is greatly appreciated. p



Parking

We would kindly ask parents to park responsibly and not on in the bus lanes at the back of the school, or on the zig-zag or yellow lines on Main Street. Children's safety is of paramount importance and we need your full co-operation in this matter. We appreciate that Pottinger Steet and parking at the back of the school can also be difficult to navigate at times; however, it is essential that everybody parks responsibly.

Parenting

As a school, we actively dissuade children bringing mobile phone devices to school. This is in line with school policy. If any emergencies arise during the school day, we will contact you directly.

Furthermore, parents who choose to give their primary school child a mobile phone or tablet device at home, **MUST** ensure that the parental controls are locked and children are kept safe online. In Buick, we teach our children about internet safety, but we cannot monitor devices at home - this is a parental responsibility!

We actively encourage all parents to routinely monitor browser history and the apps with which your child is engaging. Primary school children should not have any Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram or Tik Tok accounts as they are far too young! Please let children be children - there is plenty of time for those social media platforms when they are older, matured and truly ready for them.

Child Protection

If you have any concerns about your child's safety in school, you can speak to Mr Beattie, (Designated Teacher for Child Protection), or to Mrs Shirlow, (Deputy Designated Teacher). If you are still concerned, you may contact the Principal, Miss R Peters, who oversees the Safeguarding Team within Buick Memorial Primary School. Additionally, you may contact the Board of Governors. Our Child Protection Governor is Rev. Philip Moffett.

If you have any concerns about a child or community activity out of school hours, you can talk to a Social Worker at the Social Services Gateway Team on 0300 1234 333 or PSNI on 101.

Like all primary schools, Buick links with PSNI Officers to engage in Operation Encompass. This is a legal requirement which ensures appropriate information is shared accordingly.

As professionals, we have a legal duty of care for children. As part of this, 'Notes of Concern' are completed inhouse if staff have any worries regarding a child's presentation. This presentation includes their attendance, personal hygiene, nutritional provision, growth and development, uncharacteristic behaviours and comments/worries they share about home life. If appropriate, these records may be shared with Social Services.

If your individual circumstances or family composition has changed over the summer, please contact the school to inform us. These open lines of communication will ensure each child's needs are met.

Primary 7 SEAG Registration

Primary 7 parents are reminded that SEAG Registration is still open. Please ensure you have registered if you wish your child to sit the SEAG Transfer. Please visit <https://seagni.co.uk/> for further registration information and to gain information on the timings and contents of the assessments.

Registration for SEAG is a parental responsibility and the school cannot complete such applications. The closing date for submission is Friday 19th September 2025.

The SEAG Entrance Assessments (now only 2 papers) will be held on the following dates:

Saturday 15th November 2025 (AM): Entrance Assessment Paper 1

Saturday 22nd November 2025 (AM): Entrance Assessment Paper 2

Saturday 24th January 2026: SEAG Outcomes released

2-3 Club

Our After school wraparound care will recommence on Monday 8th September. Places on this must be booked in advance via ParentMail to allow staffing to be planned accordingly. Our 2-3 Club cost remains fixed at £3 per pupil, per day and is open to all P1s (w/c 22nd September), P2s and P3s in Term One. This Club is operated by Mrs Francey and Mrs S. Greer.

Dining Centre and Lunches

Monday, 8th September is Week 2 of our new Lunch Bunch Menu. School dinners remain at a cost of £2.60 per day. Any pupil with a food allergy **must** complete the relevant form before availing of food from our Dining Centre.

We would like to remind parents that they should clearly name pack lunch bags too as they can easily get misplaced or swopped in a school environment! Also, please do not send food to school which your child cannot open or does not like! It is important that children have enough food and drink to sustain them for the full day.

Parents are encouraged to be mindful about sending in big bags of sweets as lunch. As nutrition is essential for growth and brain development, please carefully consider the content of your child's packed lunch.

Free School Meals

We have a number of children enrolled within the school who would be entitled to free school meals but are not registered as such. If your child is not currently on the 'Free Meals Register' and you feel that they could/should be, please visit www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals to make an application. It is in the school's best interest to have all children who are eligible registered as such, as this impacts on the budget allocated for this academic year.

Parents who have applied should not presume their child will receive a free school meal immediately. Only parents who have completed the registration process and who have received written confirmation will be on our list. The Education Authority has stated that pupils who are awaiting processing should pay £2.60 per day, if availing of a school meal, until the registration process has been completed.

Assessments

From Monday 8th September we will be conducting Baseline Assessments in P1-P7. These skilful judgements inform teaching and learning experiences and opportunities. Your child's class teacher will carefully monitor and track your child's progress throughout the academic session. In May, we will complete our End of Year PTE / PTM Assessments and evaluate the individual progress made.

The data from these Biannual Assessments, alongside professional judgement, is utilised to identify specific children who require additional support in Buick or further assistance from external agencies.

In house, we, despite a challenging budget, we have Mrs Kennedy (Learning Support Co-ordinator) in place. She works with specific children who are encountering Literacy difficulties in Early Years. This tailored support is wonderful to have within our staffing complement, but we must be clear that pupils who are not completing the additional work sent home or who are failing to benefit from the extra help, will no longer receive it.

Parental partnership is more important than ever to ensure your child fulfils their educational potential. Our Assessment Co-ordinator, Mr Beattie, analyses the trends and considers the learning journey of all children, throughout their time at Buick.

Music Lessons

Our peripatetic Music Teachers will be in school to deliver string and woodwind tuition. Miss McKinney will deliver string lessons on Tuesday and Mr McCubbin will teach wind instruments on Thursday. Please ensure your child has their instrument with them on the correct day. Additionally, we would like to thank parents for paying for the deposit for their child's tuition in advance.

Mrs McCleery will be holding Choir auditions for new choir members on Thursday 11th September. Please see ParentMail for further details.

Term 1A

Monday 8 th September	Ballymena Guardian taking P1 photograph - full school uniform please!
Wednesday 10 th September	P6 pupils visiting Cuningham Memorial Church
Thursday 11 th September	Coaching For Christ in Buick
Wednesday 17 th September	Buick Ju-Jitsu P2 & P3 = 2-3pm and P4-P7 = 3-4pm
Thursday 18 th September	Coaching For Christ in Buick
	3pm - 4pm - P4-P7 Boys and Girls Football Training
	6pm - Primary 1 Information Evening
Monday 22 nd September	Primary 1 pupils staying until 2pm
	Some Nursery pupils staying until 1:30pm
	3pm - 3:45pm - Choir
Tuesday 23 rd September	3pm - 3:45pm - Netball
	6:30pm - Board of Governors' Meeting
Wednesday 24 th September	Buick Ju-Jitsu P2 & P3 = 2-3pm and P4-P7 = 3-4pm
Thursday 25 th September	10:30am - Primary 6 pupils to Swimming (1/10)
	Coaching For Christ in Buick
	3pm - 4pm - P4-P7 Boys and Girls Football Training
Monday 29 th September	P7 Parent SEAG Transfer Interviews
	3pm - 3:45pm - Choir
Tuesday 30 th September	3pm - 3:45pm - Netball
Wednesday 1 st October	Buick Ju-Jitsu P2 & P3 = 2-3pm and P4-P7 = 3-4pm
Thursday 2 nd October	Coaching For Christ in Buick
	10:30am - Primary 6 pupils to Swimming (2/10)
	3pm - 4pm - P4-P7 Boys and Girls Football Training
Monday 6 th October	3pm - 3:45pm - Choir
Tuesday 7 th October	Citizenship
	3pm - 3:45pm - Netball
Wednesday 8 th October	Buick Ju-Jitsu P2 & P3 = 2-3pm and P4-P7 = 3-4pm
Thursday 9 th October	Coaching For Christ in Buick
	10:30am - Primary 6 pupils to Swimming (3/10)
	3pm - 4pm - P4-P7 Boys and Girls Football Training
Monday 13 th October	3pm - 3:45pm - Choir
Tuesday 14 th October	3pm - 3:45pm - Netball
Wednesday 15 th October	Harvest Service
	Dining Centre - Harvest Special
	Buick Ju-Jitsu P2 & P3 = 2-3pm and P4-P7 = 3-4pm
Thursday 16 th October	Coaching For Christ in Buick
	10:30am - Primary 6 pupils to Swimming (4/10)
	3pm - 4pm - P4-P7 Boys and Girls Football Training
Monday 20 th October	Parent Interviews - 1pm finish for all pupils
Tuesday 21 st October	Parent Interviews - 1pm finish for all pupils
Wednesday 22 nd October	Parent Interviews - 1pm finish for all pupils
Thursday 23 rd October	Coaching For Christ in Buick
	10:30am - Primary 6 pupils to Swimming (5/10)
	Parent Interviews - 1pm finish for all pupils
Friday 24 th October	Parent Interviews - 1pm finish for all pupils
Monday 27 th October - Friday 31 st October = Half-Term Holidays	

Parents who have any concerns about their child's learning, health or attendance should contact their child's Class Teacher in the first instance. If concerns are not resolved, an appointment can be made with Miss Peters to discuss matters further.

Kind regards, R. Peters, Principal

BLAST

TOWNHILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PORTGLENONE
TOWNHILL ROAD

Kids Aged
4-11

Friday Nights

GAMES
SINGING
BIBLE STORY
CRAFT
QUIZZES
JUICE & BISCUITS

- 12th Sept • 24th Oct
- 26th Sept • 14th Nov
- 10th Oct • 28th Nov

Register
with our
consent form
on Facebook



6:30-7:30pm

Any further enquiries contact
Evelyn : 077 34 66 44 42

1st Cullybackey Boys' Brigade

Boys, are you looking for a place to have fun, make friends, and try new activities?

Come and join us at Boys' Brigade!



Here's what you can look forward to:



Fun and Games



Learning New Skills



Crafts and Baking



Friends and Teamwork



Bible Lessons



ANCHOR BOYS

Commences: Thursday 18th September

Time: 6.30-7.30pm

Reformed Presbyterian Church Hall
(Main Street)

Ages: P1-P4

Contact: Diane 07849697353

JUNIOR SECTION

Commences: Tuesday 16th September

Time: 6.30-8.00pm

Methodist Church Hall
(Shellinghill Road)

Ages: P5-P7

Contact: Gavin 07710900060

Come along and bring a friend!

More information about registration, fees, uniforms etc will be made available when you come along on the first night.

MINIS NETBALL

SEVEN TOWERS



NETBALL CLUB

BALLYMENA
ACADEMY

MONDAY
5 P M - 6 P M



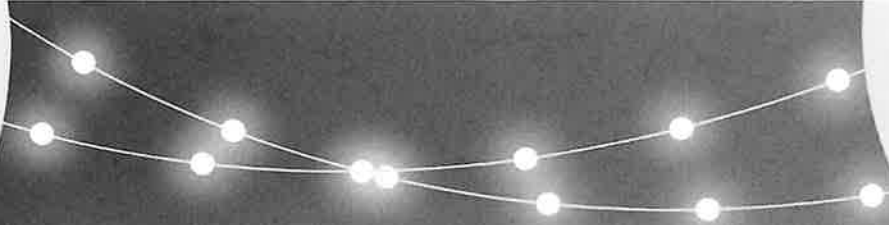
🏐 Seven Towers Minis – P4 to P7 🏐 Is your child ready to fall in love with netball?

💖 Join our Minis section and get started with fun, friends, and fantastic coaching! 🧑🏫 Head Coach: Louise McKean 🙋

Venue: Ballymena Academy 🕒 Training: Mondays, 5.00pm–6.00pm 💎 P6–P7: Court 1 💎 P4–P5: Court 2

💬 New players welcome! Whether they've never picked up a ball before or already love the game, our Minis programme is a brilliant place to start.

👉 To join, click here: <https://heja.io/download/TU789169>



QUIZ NIGHT?

FRI 26 SEPT



at 7:30PM

BALLYMENA RUGBY CLUB

Up to 6
per team



**RADIO
CRACKER**
• Ballymena •

£5 per
person

SUNDAY BIBLE SCHOOL CLASS

Pre-School to P7

YEAR 8 - ADULT

Sundays from 10.15 - 11am

Starting 7th September at Ballee Baptist Church.



Free bus pick-up available
See online form for more information

**"For whoever shall call upon the name
of the Lord shall be saved."**

Romans 10:13

Find out more and register online at:

balleebaptist.org/register



**Ballee
Baptist
Church**

166 Toome Road

balleebaptist.org

[/BalleeBaptistChurch](https://www.facebook.com/BalleeBaptistChurch)

[@balleebaptist](https://www.instagram.com/balleebaptist)

Ballee Baptist Church is registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland NIC101764

Ballee Baptist Church

GOOD NEWS

CLUB

Bible Stories Crafts Verses Songs Quizzes Lego

**All boys and
girls aged 3+**
Don't miss it!



**Register
now!**

Mondays from 6.30 - 7.30pm

Starting 15th September at Ballee Baptist Church.

Free bus pick-up available from:

Antrim Rd, Ballykeel 2, Brooke Pk, Camphill, Carrolhill, Cassino
Av, Centuripe Av, Chichester, Drumtara, Kincora, Lantara,
Lettercreeve, Montague, Old Antrim Rd, Riverdale, Rossdale,
Shancoole, Shanlieve, The Rosses, Tullyagh Dale, Tullyross
Mews, Wakehurst.