



December 2024 & January 2025 Newsletter



As we enter the month of December we turn our attention towards thinking about one of the most important festivals in the Christian calendar – Christmas.

This year the pupils and staff are preparing to stage a production entitled '**Straw and Order**'. This will be held in the Presbyterian Church Hall on **Tuesday 17th December**. There will be two performances. A morning performance commencing at 10.00am and an afternoon performance commencing at 1.30pm. Children under twelve admitted free. Friends and family are very welcome to attend either of the performances. Tickets are £5 each and will be sent home with the pupils. Extra tickets can be purchased from the Secretary, Ms Devlin.

The **Parents Support Group** had a very successful **Ditch the Dark Sponsored Dander** last month raising **£1564!** The **Craft Fayre** realised an amazing profit of **£2569.09**. A huge thanks to our parents, pupils and to our hard-working P.S.G. that ensured that the fayre and sponsored walk were overwhelming successes! Proceeds from fundraising this year will be used to pay for our enhanced Outside Play Area and purchase 7 new PC's for our ICT suite.



The PSG held a very successful Craft Fayre!



PSG Ditch the Dark Dander top Sponsorship Collectors

The Mid-term Fancy Dress Party and Treat Break Day brought in **£226**. Thank you to the P.S.G. who decorated the school and gave yummy treat bags for each pupil.

Any prospective new parents with children starting P1 in September 2025 may contact Mr Dennison by telephone at 028 8284 1613 or sdennison687@c2kni.net to discuss a **Guided Tour** of the school or to answer any queries. **Thursday 12th December 10.30am and 11.30am** are the only slots still available for prospective parents to walk round and see the school in action. If you have any siblings already at the school you do not have to do the tour.

Please note that the Children's Centre and P1 Applications for Pupil Admission in September 2025 opens on Friday 10th January at noon and closes on Friday 24th January at noon. Applications should be completed on-line at <https://connect.eani.org.uk/parent> The Education Authority have put up information on their website – <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>. For your convenience a copy of McClintock's School Criteria is attached to the end of this newsletter. If you are unsure of the process concerning the admission application or important school criteria, please contact Mr Dennison or Mrs Moffitt early in the New Year. Applicants must note in their applications where they meet the school's criteria.

The popular annual Christmas dinner for pupils will take place on Wednesday 18th December. This is also a Christmas Jumper/Non uniform/Treat Break Day. No money required.



Miss Condy our new P4/5 Teacher

With winter on our doorstep, we have taken practical steps to address the situation of having to close the school unexpectedly, eg electricity/heating failure, roads impassable due to heavy snowfall or other severe climatic conditions etc. In the unwanted eventuality of such a situation occurring I will be consulting with the Education Authority and the McClintock Board of Governors' Chairman to make an informed decision, based on health and safety guidance and recommendations. If the school has to be closed, we will contact parents via Google Classroom and leave a post on our school Facebook Page.

The **British Legion's Poppy Appeal** in the school last month raised **£365.64** from the sale of poppies, thank you for raising this amazing amount!

The School Council raised £206 from selling aeroplane badges.



McClintock paying their Respects on Remembrance Sunday



Numbots & Times Table Rock Stars are the latest Numeracy resources for P1-7. Pictured are Mrs Aiken's P3 pupils at the Numbots Launch Day



McClintock PS played an important role with Seskinore Community Group to lobby for a new footpath to the forest

We continue to post important information onto the '**Friends of McClintock Primary School**' Facebook page. Please encourage as many of our school community to 'like' this page to keep up-to-date.

May we take this opportunity to remind parents what their children should bring to school –

- A healthy break such as fruit, crackers or breadsticks. Please refer to the guidance in the September newsletter.
- Please ensure that your child has enough writing pencils.
- For PE pupils may come into school wearing Navy coloured bottoms.
- Wear the school navy sweatshirt to school.
- Make sure your child has a coat to wear outside at break and lunchtime as the temperature has dropped. All pupil clothes should be clearly labelled with your child's name for ease of distinguishing.

With Christmas shopping now taking place an excellent way to raise funds for McClintock P.S. at no cost to you is through using our on-line shopping app. Please type in the link www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/mcclintockps to register and support our school. It is easy to use, with over 4000 retailers offering donations to the school, at absolutely no cost to you! **We have discovered that there is an Easy Fundraising App available on Android Google Play and Apple App Store that makes it very convenient for you to purchase when using mobile devices such as phones and tablets etc.** Retailers such as eBay, Amazon and all the major main street stores, including supermarket chains are in the scheme. **Please ask your family and friends to support us too!**

Parent, Alistair Barker has arranged a **Car Wash** on Christmas Eve in memory of his father, Ivor Barker who was always a great advocate for the school. All proceeds from the Car Wash will be given to McClintock Primary School. Each car wash will be entered into a free draw. If anybody has any prizes, these can be left into the School Office by 19th December.

The last **Fit for School Walk** from the Forest is Tuesday 10th December. Thanks to all pupils/parents for participating and to Mrs Forbes for arranging. An Ulster-Scots Ceilidh is scheduled for early February.



The school is looking festive thanks to William Howard from the Seskinore Rural Community Group



Individual Winners from the recent Ulster-Scots Choral Recital Competition

After school Guitar will resume **Wednesday 8th - Friday 10th January.**

Mrs Thompson has been trained in the **Roots of Empathy** programme. She has begun this programme with P7 pupils which promotes sharing, inclusion, resilience, well being and positive mental health.

Mr Johnston's **After School Sports Clubs** will resume from **Monday 13th January.** A letter of expression of interest will be given out on the pupils' return in the New Year.

P5-7 Brass Tuition will now take place on **Friday mornings from the 13th December** due to change of tutor. Stephen Crooks will take over from Louise Edwards.

Miss Cathers is continuing in the New Year on Friday 10th January with **Literacy Support for P1-7 pupils.** The school is paying for this excellent and worthwhile additional provision.

After a request from the **Pupils School Council** Miss Condry will be taking **Choir** with P4-7 pupils on Tuesday Lunchtimes throughout January.

Miss Hutchins will be offering **After School Spanish** lessons to P6-7 on Monday afternoons in January. See Dates for your Diary for more information.

PGCE student Mr Jordan Orr placement at McClintock PS begins on Tuesday 7th January in the P3/4 classroom.

Finally, please note that **Friday 20th December** is the last day of the Autumn Term and the school will close at noon. **Please be advised that there will be no school dinners and Education Authority buses will not be available to leave the children home at noon.**

McClintock Primary School will re-open for pupils on Monday 6th January 2025.

Dates for your diary

- Friday 29th Nov** Seskinore Y.F.C. Tractor Run & Turning on the Christmas Tree Lights 6pm
- Mon 2nd & 9th Dec** After School for pupils who have booked Multi-Sports P1-2 2.15-3.15pm,
After School Football P3-5 3.15-4.15pm
- Tuesday 3rd & 10th** Fit for School Walk from the Forest for Pupils & Parents
- Tues 3rd & 10th Dec** After School P6-7 Football Coaching 3.15-4.15pm
- Thursday 5th Dec** Rev. Bobby Orr Whole School Assembly 11.15am
- Wed 11th Dec** Rev. Colin Mercer Whole School Assembly 11.15am
P6-7 performing at Seskinore Mug and Bean Senior Citizens Lunch 1.30pm
- Thursday 12th Dec** New P1 Open Morning at McClintock PS
P6-7 Singing at Kingdom Kids Club 11.15am
CEF Whole School Assembly 11.15am
- Friday 13th Dec** Last day of Pupil School Council Christmas Art Competition
New Brass Tuition Day – Stephen Crooks
Last P4-7 AR Date
- Monday 16th Dec** Christmas Production Full Dress Rehearsal
Brass Monies due £72
- Tuesday 17th Dec** **Straw and Order Christmas Show 10am and 1.30pm in Church Hall**
- Wed 18th Dec** Christmas Dinner and Non-Uniform Christmas Jumper Day/Non-Uniform/Treat Break
- Thursday 19th Dec** P1-7 Christmas Carousel £2 Treat Break & Non-Uniform
Rev. Bobby Orr Whole School Assembly 11.15am
Last day for Raffle Draw donations for Car Wash. To be left in School Office.
- Friday 20th Dec** **Last day of term, pupils collected at 12 noon. No EA buses available or School Dinners/Lunches**
Mathletics Deadline
- Tuesday 24th Dec** Barker's War Wash for McClintock PS 8.30-4.30pm
- 2025**
- Friday 3rd Jan** **Staff Development Day – SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Monday 6th Jan** **First day of the Spring Term**
- Tues 7,14,21 & 28th** P4-7 Choir Practice at Lunchtime 12.50-1.15pm – Miss Condy
- Wed, Thur & Fri 8-10th Jan** After School Guitar 3.15-4.15pm Resuming
- Wednesday 8th Jan** Rev. Colin Mercer Whole School Assembly 11.15am
- Thursday 9th Jan** CEF Whole School Assembly 11.15am
- Friday 10th Jan** **Children's Centre and P1 Applications for Pupil Admission in September 2025 Opens Today On-line 10am (Closes Friday 24th January at noon)**
<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>
- Highland Dancing Resumes 4.30-7.45pm
- Mon 13th, 20th & 27th** After School for pupils who have booked Multi-Sports P1-2 2.15-3.15pm,
After School Multi-Sports P3-5 for those that have booked 3.15-4.15pm
After School P6-7 Spanish 3.15-4.15pm – Miss Hutchins
- Tues 14th, 21st & 28th** After School P6-7 Multi-Sports for those that have booked 3.15-4.15pm
- Thursday 16th Jan** Rev. Bobby Orr Whole School Assembly 11.15am
- Tuesday 21st Jan** P6-7 Swimming begins (8-week block) 10.00-10.30am
- Wed 22nd Jan** P6-7 Trip to Armagh Planetarium
- Thursday 23rd Jan** Shared Ed P6-7 Drugs Awareness Workshop at Roscavey P.S. 10.00-11.30am
- Friday 24th January** **Children's Centre and P1 Applications for Pupil Admission in September 2025 Closes Today on-line at Noon.**
<https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>
- Saturday 25th Jan** P7 SEAG results published
- Wed 29th Jan** Made for More Resilience Workshops for P1-7 @ McClintock PS

In conclusion, on behalf of the staff in McClintock Primary School I would like to wish you and your families a Happy Christmas and New Year.

Admission Criteria for New P1 Intake for September 2025

McClintock Primary School
77 Letfern Road
Seskinore
Omagh
BT78 1UQ

Controlled Primary School

Enrolment No: 105

Admission No: 15

Tel No: 028 8284 1613

Fax No: 028 8284 0597

Email: sdennison687@mcclintockps.omagh.ni.sch.uk

PRINCIPAL: Mr S Dennison

BOARD OF GOVERNORS CHAIR:

Mr D Kyle-Ewing

RESPECTIVE FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND PRINCIPAL IN RELATION TO ADMISSIONS

The task of selecting pupils for admission will be undertaken by the Board of Governors subject to the directive of the Department of Education. It will not be delegated to an Admissions Sub-Committee.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The application procedure opens on 10 January 2025 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 24 January 2025 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 24 January 2025 and up to 4 pm on 29 January 2025 will be treated as a late application, this is also the last date and time for processing a change of preference in exceptional circumstances. After 4 pm on 29 January 2025 no applications will be processed until after the close of procedure on 9 April 2025.

COMPULSORY SCHOOL AGE

Any child who reaches their 4th Birthday on or before 1st July 2025 is of Compulsory School Age. Under the School Age (NI) Act which became Law in Northern Ireland in April 2022 'compulsory school age' also includes those children who deferred commencing Primary 1 in September 2024 as defined by the new School Age (NI) Act (both groups to be treated equally).

Parents/guardians considering sending their children to this school are invited to make a prior visit, to see the school in action and to talk to the Principal and teachers.

If the school's admission numbers has not been reached the school will enrol all the pupils whose parents/guardians wish them to attend. In any year when these numbers are exceeded the Governors will select pupils by applying the following criteria in the order set down.

Priority will be given to children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission to the those who are not so resident

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on or attached to the application form. Parents/guardians should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the application form.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA - YEAR 1

- 1 Children of compulsory school age who have or have had, a brother/sister, half-brother/half-sister enrolled at the school.

- 2 Children who attend McClintock Children's Centre or have unsuccessfully applied for admission to the Children's Centre.
- 3 Children whose father/mother/guardian is a past pupil of the school.
- 4 Children of compulsory school age whose father/mother/guardian is an employee (or about to join the school staff) or governor at the school.
- 5 Other children of compulsory school age wishing to attend McClintock PS, with priority given to those living closest to the school using Google Maps.

In the event of over-subscription in the last criterion which can be applied then selection for all places in this category will be on the basis of the initial letter of the surname as per the birth certificate, in the revised order set out below:-

A T W E C Mac I Q M Y F L J N Mc S G U H X D V K Z R O P B

The order was determined by a randomised selection of letters of the alphabet. In the event of surnames beginning with the same letter the subsequent letters of the surnames will be used in alphabetical order. In the event of two identical surnames the alphabetical order of the initials of the forenames as per the birth certificate will be used.

YEAR 1 ADMISSIONS - AFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

Children who apply to enter school during the academic year will be considered using the same criteria as for Year 1 provided that the school does not exceed its enrolment number.

DUTY TO VERIFY

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any applicant's Application.

If the requested evidence is not provided to the Board of Governors by the deadline given, this will result in the withdrawal of an offer of a place. Similarly, if information is supplied which appears to be false or misleading in any material way, the offer of a place will be withdrawn.

WAITING LIST POLICY

The school does not operate a Waiting List Policy.

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA - YEARS 2-7

Pupils will be considered for enrolment in Years 2-7 provided that:

- (i) The school does not exceed its enrolment number.

If at the time of the consideration of the applications there are more eligible applicants than places then the Admissions Criteria for Year 1 pupils will be applied.

Applications and Admissions to Primary 1		
Year	Total	Total Admissions
2022/2023	22	19
2023/2024	18	15
2023/2024	21	20