

October and November 2026 Newsletter

We are now witnessing nature's beautiful transition from summer to autumn and school life is getting busy.

Shannon Hollywood will be delivering a **Raising Emotionally Resistant Children Workshop for Parents** on **Thursday 15th October** and we look forward to hearing of her advice and tips.

Find attached a summary of the findings of our **Parents' Survey**. We thank parents for their kind comments commenting what we are doing well and areas for the school to address. As a result of the survey we have introduced online payments and we will be having two parent teacher interviews, in October and March.

We are fortunate that the world renowned **Ulster Orchestra** is coming to McClintock to do a workshop for our P1-7 pupils on **Wednesday 14th October**. Later this term P6/7 pupils will be attending a performance at the Strule Arts Theatre.

On **Tuesday 20th October** we will have a **Pupil Celebration Assembly** where pupils will have an opportunity to share with the whole school anything that they have achieved outside of school since the summer, for example sporting performance, dancing accolades or excelling in another area. If your child deserves to be mentioned let your teacher know by Google Classroom before **Friday 16th October**. It would be great if pupils can bring in artefacts to help them tell their story or wearing a kit/costume too!

The **Parents Support Group (PSG)** AGM was very well attended. **The Committee is as follows, Joint Chairs – Diane Wilson & Rachel Crawford, Vice-Chair – Rachel Allen, Treasurer – Amy Giles, Assistant Treasurer – Brenda Magee, Secretary – Sarah Thompson, Committee – Naomi Aiken, Jill Chittick, Stacy Clements, Jill Holmes, Diane McDonald, Audrey Rainey & Sharon Wilson.**

The **PSG** have already been very busy organising the **Half Term Fancy Dress Class Discos** and **Break the Rules Day** on **Thursday 22nd October** and the annual **Craft Fayre** on the **30th November**, 6.00-8.30pm.

The school greatly appreciates the work of **PSG member, Diane McDonald** who has been very successful in getting a number of grants which have enhanced the outdoor experiences for our pupils, including outdoor games, covered sand pits, colourful benches, a portable speaker and a gazebo. We are also grateful to her husband, Stephen for helping to build the items.

We use **Google Classroom** to communicate with P1-7 parents. If you are having any difficulty accessing Google Classroom please contact your child's class teacher. If you don't use this platform, you will miss out on important communication.



A Big Hello to our new P1 pupils!

Parents on the first day of their child's absence from school must notify the school. This can be done through the Google Form link below. Alternatively, sending a private message on Google Classroom or telephoning the school will suffice. Written notes are no longer required.

<https://forms.gle/YFGYBq1njDwXkRPD8>

The above link will be also available on the school's website www.mcclintockps.co.uk under the 'Parents' tab.

Teachers normally will be able to access Google Classroom and answer any queries between 8.45am and 5.00pm unless attending meetings or on morning/breaktime duty etc. Outside of these hours teaching staff like our parents are busy with home life so please do not expect a reply.

After school Guitar lessons have already commenced this month for P4-7 pupils, Wednesday and Thursdays, 3.15-4.15pm. Mark Carmichael is the tutor. **If the school is closed on either a Wednesday or Thursday there is no tuition that week.**

Parent Interviews – Parent interviews will be conducted **20th – 22nd October.**

Ms Devlin has begun **Learning Support** sessions in the school on Thursday mornings with pupils needing additional support.



Lili our P1-7 Mandarin Tutor

A Free Way to Fundraise for the School - Please type in the link www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/mcclintockps to register and support our school. It is easy to use, with the majority of retailers offering donations to the school, at absolutely no cost to you! There is an Easy Fundraising App on Android Google Play and Apple App Store that makes it very convenient for you to use. Please don't forget to tell your family and friends to support us too!

After school P2-7 Multi-Sports will continue until half term. Coach Mr Kyle Johnston, Classroom Assistant & Lisbellaw United Youth Coach will take the sessions.

Take care of school books - We are asking parents to ensure that reading books come back into school in the same condition as they were taken home. Books are also not coming back which impacts when giving out texts to other reading groups. **If books are not returned or come back in poor condition, we will have to ask that the school is reimbursed with the value of the text.**

Since last month P1-7 all pupils have been receiving Mandarin (Chinese) on Friday mornings. **Mandarin is the most common language spoken in the world and is becoming increasingly more important in business communication. Interestingly educationalists suggest that children learning a second language helps their brain development and function!**

The Purple '**Cash for Clobber**' **Clothing Bank**, is located at the front of the school, outside the kitchen to encourage the habit of recycling and helping those who are less fortunate than ourselves. We are kindly asking you to continue donating any unwanted or used clothes, pairs of shoes, handbags and belts to generate much-needed funds for us and also helping parts of Africa, Pakistan and Eastern Europe at the same time. Simply deposit your bin liner into the clothing bank. The commission from your 'clobber' bags will assist us to bridge the financial shortfall in funding for our school.



Well done to our October P1-7 Pupils of the Month pictured with Heather Watson from C.E.F.

On behalf of the school we extend best wishes to P1/2 Classroom Assistant, Kathryn Allen who will be getting married on the 30th October. Thank you to parents and staff who contributed to a wedding gift to her.

P6 Teacher, Mrs Jones will be on Maternity Leave from Monday 2nd November. Ms Devlin will assume the role of teaching Mrs Jones' class. We wish Mrs Jones a happy maternity leave.

Ulster-Scots Highland Dancing takes place on Friday evenings in the school. New starters are all very welcome 5.30-6.15pm! Only £3 per session.

We are fortunate to be selected as one of only a few **Development Rugby Schools**. As a result will receive professional extended coaching to improve our boys and girls Rugby skills. Between September to December P1-4 will receive **Hockey and Rugby** coaching from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. All McClintock teachers have received Hockey training and we have introduced this sport during PE lessons this term.

For the latest up-to-date information and photographs like and share our **Facebook Page 'Friends of McClintock Primary School'**.

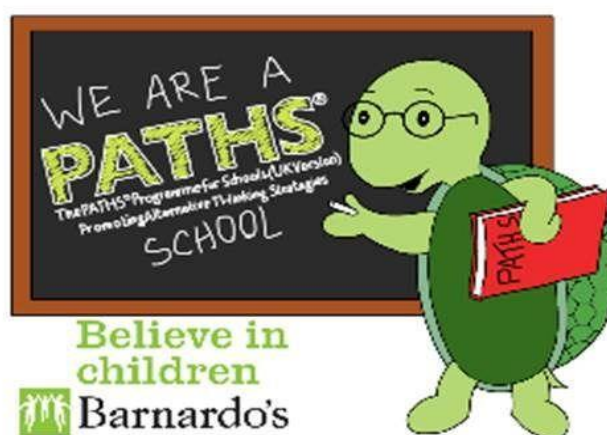
Lost Clothing & Footwear - Already this term there has been a number of new clothing items that had to be deposited in the lost property box, after no-one claimed them. **Please ensure that all items of school uniform and P.E. kit has your child's name clearly labelled. A reminder that we encourage pupils to wear black footwear to school, preferably black shoes.** We are very proud of our pupils' appearance and this was reflected in the Parents Survey.

Accelerated Reading – The last AR Quizzing Day is Friday 16th October. Pupils should have met their three targets by this date! Thanks to our P4-7 parents who turned up at our AR Information Session. We hope you found it useful.

McClintock Primary School is an important part of a 13 **Local Primary School Cluster** where we work together on mutually beneficial projects and make joint funding applications.

At McClintock PS we implement the **PATHS programme** (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies) to help empower all children to develop the key fundamental social and emotional learning skills which will enable them to make positive choices throughout life. All staff have been trained in the programme and it is taught on a regular basis in each classroom as part of the school's PDMU (Personal Development and Mutual Understanding) curriculum. See www.pathseducation.co.uk for more information.

Our **Shared Education** partnership with Roscavey and St Colmcille Primary Schools has resumed. We have a varied programme of interactions between the schools at pupil, teacher, co-ordinator and principal level for this academic year. Keep an eye on our Facebook Page for upcoming Shared Ed events.



P7 SEAG Pupils – We offer our best wishes to our P7 pupils who have all worked hard for this year's Transfer Test. Mrs Thompson will be taking an After School Club on Mondays during October and November, 3.15-4.00pm. **Please note No SEAG After School on Monday 19th October.**

Brass tuition for **P5-7** takes place every Friday morning in October and November. Mr Stephen Crooks is the tutor.

Keep free Wednesday 2nd December for a **Scottish Country Dancing Showcase** in Presbyterian Church Hall, 1.30-3.00pm. Last year P1-7 pupils have received lessons from Ruth Clarke and this has continued this term. On the 2nd

December pupils will perform for parents/carers and families. There will be no charge for attending this Showcase, but a donation bucket will be placed at the door for any voluntary contributions. We thank the Ulster-Scots Agency who have funded this tuition, after making a successful application.

McClintock Staff were very generous in September supporting Seskinore's Macmillan Coffee Morning contributing to this very worthy cause.

I was successful in obtaining a grant from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council. We will use this grant to help subsidise transport and admission for each class visiting the Ulster American Folk Park this term



McClintock



Hockey teams who played last month



Roots of Empathy baby, Jack and his mum, Catherine Fyffe with P7 pupils

Through the **Roots of Empathy** programme, P7 pupils will learn about empathy, kindness, and understanding emotions as they watch Harry grow and develop over the year. We can't wait to see all the learning and meaningful conversations this will inspire!

See 'Dates for your Diary' below which includes the dates we are closed for Half Term.

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 1 st October	P4/5 Trip to Ulster American Folk Park 10.15am-1.00pm
Thursday 2 nd October	Mandarin begins
Mon 5 th & 12 th October	P7 SEAG Club 3.15-4.00pm
Mon 5 th , 12 th & 19 th October	P2 After school Multi-Sports Coaching 2.15-3.15pm
	P3/4 After school Multi-Sports Coaching 3.15-4.15pm
Tues 6 th , 13 th , 20 th October	P5-7 After school Multi-Sports Coaching 3.15-4.15pm
Wednesday 7 th October	P7 Trip to Ulster American Folk Park 10.15am-1.00pm
Thursday 9 th October	Heather Watson CEF Whole School Assembly 11.15am
Wednesday 12 th October	Shirley Monteith Whole School Assembly 11.15am
Tuesday 13 th October	Mobile Library visit
	Fivemiletown Mini Soccer 7's Football Blitz
Wednesday 14 th October	Ulster Orchestra visit McClintock Primary School
Thursday 15 th October	Pastor Leonard Whole School Assembly 11.15am
	Raising Emotionally Resistant Children Workshop for Parents 3:15 – 5.15pm
Friday 16 th October	P4-7 Last Accelerated Reading Day before Mid-term (3 targets to be met by this date)
Monday 19 th October	No P7 SEAG After school Club
Tuesday 20 th October	P7 Shared Education at McClintock – Teambuilding Games
Tues 20th – Thur 22nd Oct	P1-7 Parent Interviews
Thursday 22 nd October	PSG Half Term Fancy Dress Discos and Break the Rules Day
Friday 23 rd October	Last day before Half Term
Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October (inclusive)	School Closed (Monday 26th & Tuesday 27th Oct – Staff Development Days)
Monday 2 nd November	School Re-Opens for Pupils
Tuesday 3 rd November	Mobile Library visit
Wednesday 4 th November	P6 Trip to Ulster American Folk Park 10.15am-1.00pm
	P7 NI Water Classroom Session 11.30 to 12.30
Mon 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd & 30 th Nov	P1/2 After school Multi-Sports Coaching 2.15-3.15pm
	P3/4 After school Multi-Sports Coaching 3.15-4.15pm
Mon 9 th & 16 th November	P7 SEAG Club 3.15-4.00pm
Tue 10 th , 17 th & 24 th November	P5-7 After school Multi-Sports Coaching 3.15-4.15pm
Monday 9 th November	P1-7 Flu Vaccines
Wednesday 11 th November	Rev Bobby Orr Whole School Assembly 11.15am
Thursday 12 th November	Heather Watson CEF Whole School Assembly 11.15am
Saturday 14 th & 21 st Nov	P7 SEAG Tests
Thursday 19 th November	P3/4 Trip to Ulster American Folk Park 10.15am-1.00pm
	Pastor Leonard Whole School Assembly 11.15am
Tuesday 24 th November	Mobile Library
	P1/2 Trip to Ulster American Folk Park 10.15am-1.00pm
Monday 30 th November	PSG Craft Fayre 6.00-8.30pm in the Presbyterian Church Hall
Wednesday 2 nd December	Scottish Country Dancing Showcase for Parents/Carers in Presbyterian Church 1.30-2.30pm
Tuesday 15th December	Christmas Production in Church Hall 10.00am & 1.30pm performances. PLEASE KEEP FREE
Friday 18th December	Last day of Autumn Term – Half Day. School Closes at 12 Noon