

October 2025 Newsletter



Ravenscroft
NURSERY SCHOOL

Dear Parents

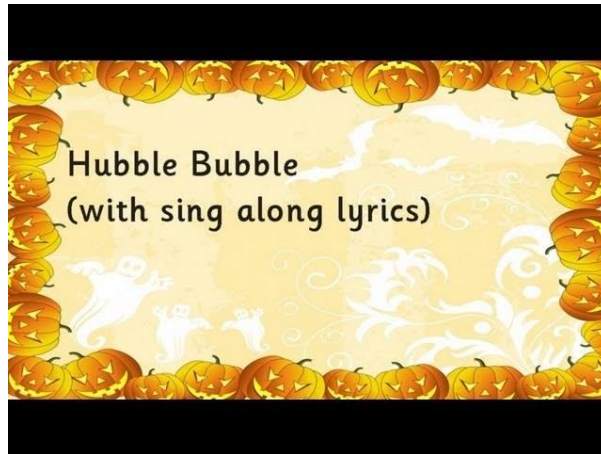


1 - This month we begin the theme of 'myself', getting to know each other and family members.

We will focus on the colours red, orange and black.







At Ravenscroft, we use Microsoft Sway to make a lot of our digital information resources. The benefit of this is that any updates are autosaved and viewable in real time so we can add or amend documents without re issuing you a link, the original one will automatically contain updates.

We usually use a horizontal read option, though depending on which device you read it on so just make sure that you've been able to access all of the information included. At the top right hand side of each sway is a cog symbol, you can use this to change the layout so for

example if your phone has defaulted to top to bottom layout, you may see more information by clicking on the cog icon and switching to the horizontal reading option.

Desktop/laptops and iPads generally stick to the layout we have composed the document.

We have tried to use a layout that reduces the need to click to read a pop up piece of text going forward.

We are happy to help you with any questions or queries about this.

We do encourage you to go back and take another look at the useful information sway we sent out on seesaw at the beginning of the school year, in case this helps you to pick up anything you may have missed first time around:



[25-26 Some helpful information to support and guide you through your child's Nursery Year](#) ***We would like to introduce you to Ronnie the Raven, the face of Ravenscroft Nursery School. [Go to this Sway](#)***

Staffing update:

In Nursery 1, Mrs Symington's class we have:

Mrs Symington/Miss Ball/Mr Mc Kee

Mrs Duncan is the teacher on Wednesdays

Miss Nicholl and Miss Bronka are SEN Assistants

In Nursery 2, Mrs Mc Gowan and Mrs Duncan's class we have:

Mrs Mc Gowan/Mrs Duncan/Marianne

Miss Mc Kee is an SEN Assistant and Mrs Calderwood is with us for a few more weeks to help with settling in.

Morning room will begin on Monday, the 20th of October. The voluntary donation cost will be £1 per day, and it will be from 8:30-8:55am. The voluntary donation helps to cover the cost of the staffing, the allocated funding from DE isn't enough alone to cover the costs so it's important that we receive enough in donations to keep the service running until the end of the school year.

Your child **MUST** be fully settled before using this service, it is manned by one staff member only.

Children **MUST** be brought down to the staff room and handed over into the care of the staff member, use the buzzer in the hall to gain access in the mornings when you arrive.

Also, it's essential to sign up in advance, even if you only plan to use the service occasionally, it helps us to know if our staffing ratio is adequate.

Please, if you arrive at 8.55am or later, go to the gate on Uniondale Street, staff won't be able to take children in between 8.55am and 9.00 am. Please do let anyone dropping your child into school know this as well, it saves any confusion.

Please comment on the seesaw thread created on seesaw to confirm you'd like to sign up.



[Mr Hullabaloo](#) will be joining us on Friday, the 24th of October. We all enjoy his performances!

We'll also have Mr Hullabaloo help us have a great Christmas with a trip to the Panto, see bottom of page.

The school is CLOSED from the 27th to the 31st of October . School will reopen at 9am on the 3rd of November (8.30am morning room).

We will be going to the [Walkway Centre](#) every Monday, starting the 10th of November and running until the end of June. We will walk the children over with their class groups and

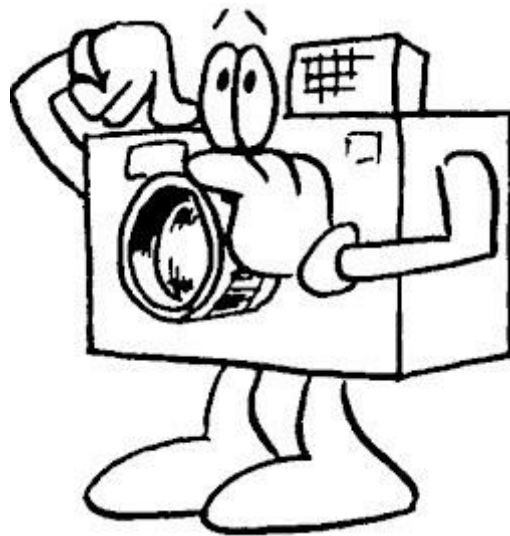
spend 45 minutes on physical movement and dance. We will need a signature from the parent(s) or guardian(s) of each child. The teachers will have those sheets at drop off and pickup.















Jumper Sale!

Monday, the 20th of October

Monday, the 10th of November



The school photographer will be in the school on Tuesday, the 18th of November.

- | | | | |
|---|---------------|---|-----------------|
|  | Mrs Symington |  | Mrs Calderwood |
|  | Mrs McGowan |  | Miss Nicholl |
|  | Mrs Duncan |  | Mrs McNeilly |
|  | Mrs Cavanagh |  | Miss McCullough |
|  | Miss Ball |  | Mr McKee |
|  | Mrs Bronka |  | Miss McKee |

Seesaw is a great way to contact us about general enquiries. This account is set up on Mrs Symington's name but all staff can use it- this means that seesaw will automatically attach only Mrs Symington's name to any messages you receive through the mailbox function.

All staff have an emoji/icon that they use when signing off, so you know who has sent out any messages you receive. We also use them when posting on your child's seesaw journal.



Miss Louise McCullough will be your point of contact for any money related queries so school fund, dinners, uniforms, photos or anything else.

lmccullough394@c2ken.net

When making any payments using bank transfer it's essential that you can add in your child's name and some reference to let us know what the money is for, otherwise it just a guess for us and we may not allocate the payment correctly which can lead to confusion.

We prefer it if no cash is sent to school but know it's not always possible. Staff won't be able to take cash from you - we'll ask you to place any cash you are giving to school into a blue RNS envelope. You will need to write clearly on this who it's from, what it's for and how much it is. We have a red, locked postbox in the hall for each class, the envelope must be placed into this box. It will be your responsibility to ensure that it goes in there clearly marked if you choose to use cash. Just ask if you need help with this.

We really do appreciate all of your efforts to support us in managing and accounting for payments and monies coming into the school, thank you.



Very important Christmas dates for your diary:

2nd December - Ellie the Elf

11th December - Santa Trail 5:30-7pm

12th December - Christmas Singalong 9:30am - 10.15 am, Nursery 1

10:45am - 11:30 am, Nursery 2

Parents or other family members are invited to come along and join us for the singalongs, a grown ups lap for each child ideally :)

15th December - Trip to Mr Hullaballo's Christmas Panto, Snow White. *We have booked some tickets for adults so please let us know if you'd like to accompany us for this outing.*

18th December - Mr Giggles the Magician, it's a Family Day at The Walkway Centre, 10.30am - 12.00 noon, family members welcome. Children go home after the show.

19th December - Christmas Party for the children, last chance for the grown ups to grab some Christmas shopping. **School ends at 11.30 am for the year.**

FARESHARE

If we have surplus food from our collections or our warehouse deliveries we'll share it with you, please take it if you can use it. Occasionally (but not always) we get birthday cakes and try to pass those on to families where we know a birthday is coming up.

We'd love to get some help with our Friday KFC collection from Ballyhackamore KFC if anyone would care to volunteer for that please? We provide the freezer bag, let us know.

TOGETHERNESS

Bringing the Solihull Approach to the world

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD
SOLIHULL APPROACH
inourplace

Dear Parents, Grandparents and Carers.
Welcome to East Belfast Sure Start!

Did you know a child's behaviour is how they communicate?

Want to know more about your child's development, their behaviour and how their brain works?

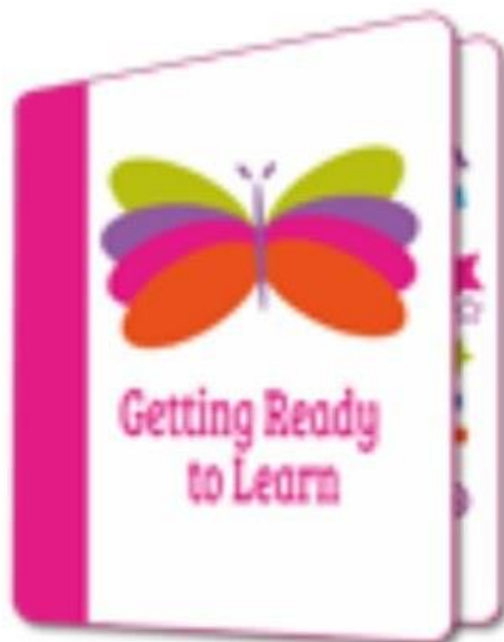
Just scan the QR code below and you will find information on reading your child's behaviour, processing feelings, emotions and how to nurture them from a toddler to a teenager!

All this is FREE for families that live in Northern Ireland. Just enter **NIFAMILIES** into the access checker. It is all there for you to watch at your own pace and in a wide range of languages.

Select Language Powered by Google Translate

Apply Access Code
NIFAMILIES
Apply Code

Our Sure Start team are also here to accompany you on your parenting journey. You can contact them on 02890735686 for more information on the Solihull Courses or Sure Start services.



Why don't you see what's new at [Getting Ready to Learn?](#)

October

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