



# ROWANDALE INTEGRATED PRIMARY SCHOOL



## Rowandale: The Big Build



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**Our new school is taking shape. We have walls and corridors and openings for windows! You can really get a sense of what the school will look like when it's finished. The next few months are going to be very exciting. We can't wait to move in!**



# Rowandale: The Big Build



# Rowandale Runners



On Sunday 22nd September, a team of eight runners took part in the Belfast Half Marathon.

Fiona Smith, Suzanne Mullan, Catherine Hamill, Lorraine Whiteway, Freddie Moore, Philly Bayston, Philip Wilson, Jack Evans and Lucy Hanna ran with the aim of raising £5k for equipment for our new school. To date, we have raised almost £3k and you can help us reach our target by [clicking here](#).



# Rowandale Runners



**BELFAST**  
CITY MARATHON



# Break the Rules Day

**Break the Rules Day** was a great success in September with the children wearing non-uniform, sporting crazy hair, deciding on the lessons and having unhealthy snack! All to raise over £600 for School Council projects. Well done, everyone!



# Principal for a Day



**Our Principal for the Day was Charlotte Cairns and what an amazing job she did! Miss Cairns visited classrooms, spoke with staff, ensured that everything was running efficiently and even managed to issue a pay rise to the teaching staff. Needless to say, she was very popular!! Thank you, Charlotte, for doing such an amazing job. Watch out, Mrs Hughes!**



## Anti-bullying Ambassadors



The Anti-Bullying Ambassadors met to begin their training. They discussed the definition of bullying and what to do if they see someone experiencing bullying behaviours.

## Fun, Free Saturday Clubs



**Spread the Word!**  
**Rowandale's Saturday stories, arts and crafts continue on 12 October!**

**Spread the word about these FREE fun sessions, aimed at pre-school age children and their families. Free tea and coffee**

**Sign up to our monthly newsletter for upcoming dates and characters (Bluey, Paw Patrol, Peppa etc).**

**Add your name to our mailing list**

## Yr 2 have had a great September



**September in Year 2 has been a lot of fun! We've been getting settled into our new classrooms and routines. We've been enjoying our playtime outside while the weather is still good.**



## Yr 1 settle into life at Rowandale



## Yr 1 settle into life at Rowandale



# Teacher in Focus: Mr McHenry

**How long have you taught in Rowandale?**

I am now entering my 14th year teaching in Rowandale IPS – where did the time go! I have loved watching the school grow and flourish over the years and have made many great friends along the way! Rowandale is a very special place and I feel privileged that my own children were able to attend the school for a number of years.

**What is your favourite memory of Year 7?**

Where do I start! I have so many fantastic memories with teaching in Year 7 in Rowandale. For me, it has to be our annual trip to Corrymeela each year. The fun, the laughter, and the connections which are made with the children in Corrymeela will stick with me for a very long time. Watching Miss McCarter dance during some of the Corrymeela discos is also a sight to behold and something that will stay long in the memory 😊!



**What do you enjoy most about teaching Year 7?**

I really love the daily interactions with the children and building a connection/relationship with each pupil in my care. I enjoy the independence which the children have in Year 7 and the responsibility which can be given to them. (I think the children really like this too!) As a teacher, there is nothing better than seeing a child grow in confidence and having that 'lightbulb moment' when something starts to click for them. I also love being able to banter with the children and allowing them to see that you are human too!

**What do you enjoy doing outside school?**

I love anything relating to sport. I am very involved with coaching in my local GAA and football clubs in Ballycastle, where both my children are involved. I spend every weekend travelling across the province to attend my children's matches. I am a HUGE Liverpool FC fan and love nothing more than sitting down to watch them play. I also love golf and play at my club in Ballycastle when the opportunity arises, although this is a rarity with two very active children at home. I am very fortunate to live on the North Coast and will take any opportunity to spend time on the beach with my family.

**What is your favourite food?**

Nothing beats a good steak with peppered sauce! Growing up on a farm, I was reared on spuds, meat and veg every single day. Not much has changed over the years.

**What is your favourite country?**

I have been fortunate to visit many countries throughout my life. For me, I would have to say my favourite would be Canada. We visit here at least once every two years as my wife is Canadian. The mountains, the wildlife, the whole scenery of British Columbia in Canada is simply breath-taking. I also love touring around Ireland and seeing what we have on our doorstep. I also will take any opportunity to spend time with family in Donegal each year.

**If you could do anything....what would that be?**

To wear the captain's armband and lead my beloved Liverpool onto Anfield in front of the Kop. You'll Never Walk Alone being belted out by 60,000 fans. I'll keep dreaming!

## Extra Curricular Activities & Achievements



**Aibhilin, Rían & Caoimhe achieved their Water Safety awards for safe sea swimming in Donegal during the summer holidays. Aibhilin achieved Level 8, Level 1 for Rían & Caoimhe. What a great achievement!**



**Rafa, Yr 7, has been involved in a short film about Boys Dance called 'Tough to be calm' and it has been shown at the QFT as part of the Cinemagic festival. He was asked to speak about the film to the audience beforehand.**

**The film is called 'Tough to be calm' and it features the DU Dance 'Belfast Boys' Company**

**.It was filmed in Belfast city and Belvoir Forest Park.**

**What an amazing project to be part of - congratulations, Rafa!**

## Extra Curricular Activities & Achievements



**Logan in Yr3W got a PB at Moira Junior Park Run this September - 2km in 9min 23sec.  
This is him running with his daddy Matthew.  
What a great achievement!**



**Rosie has enjoyed going for cycles around Lurgan Park with her dad and sister. Well done, Rosie.**



**Chloe Turkington was at The Meadows recently taking part in Schools Jumping and representing Rowandale. Congratulations, Chloe!**



**David in Yr2 has been practising riding his bike . Straight from balance bike to two wheels and is very proud! And so you should be!**

## Extra Curricular Activities & Achievements



**Gio played his first football game with Moira Football Club. Go Gio!**



**Jake Murtagh has recently joined a football team and loves it. He plays matches most weekends & he won Player of the Week. Well done, Jake!**



**Pippa in Yr 6 recently did her grade 1 Speech and Drama exam and passed with Distinction. Congratulations Pippa!**



**Ethan ran the Rock the Lough 5km race on 15th September and got a great time of 23 minutes 46 seconds. Ethan is pictured here after the race with his medal and Mrs Whiteway, who was running the 10km race. Amazing work, Ethan!**

**Sophie Coffey in year 6M has made an impressive start to the new football season where she plays as an attacking midfielder for Hillsborough Girls 2015 team.**

**The club are currently unbeaten after 4 games and Sophie has scored an impressive ten goals during these games which has included three hat-tricks.**

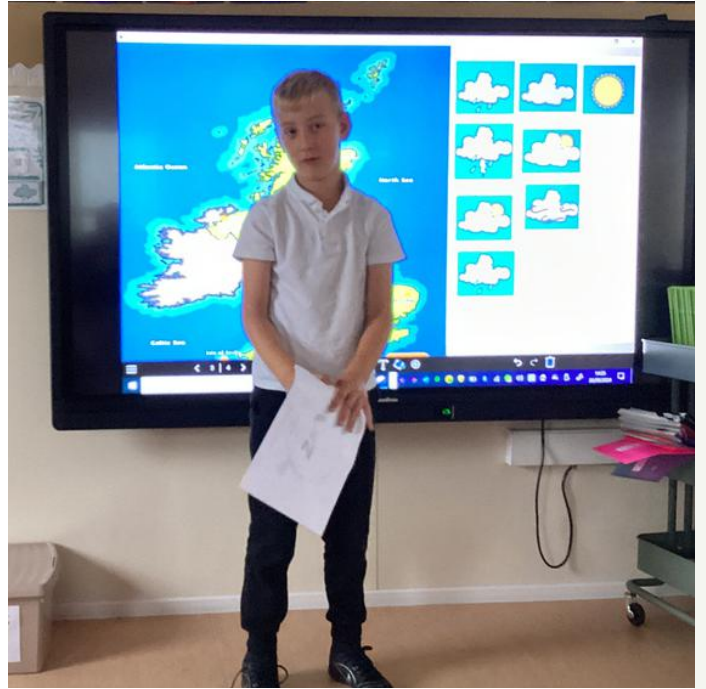
**Her dad is her coach at the club and he is greatly impressed at her improvement over the last number of months.**

**If there are any other girls at the school who are interested in taking up football at any age then get in touch with Adam on 07739522548.**

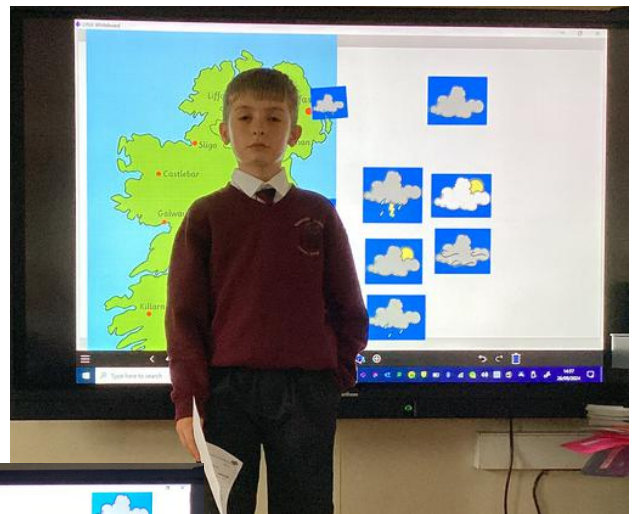
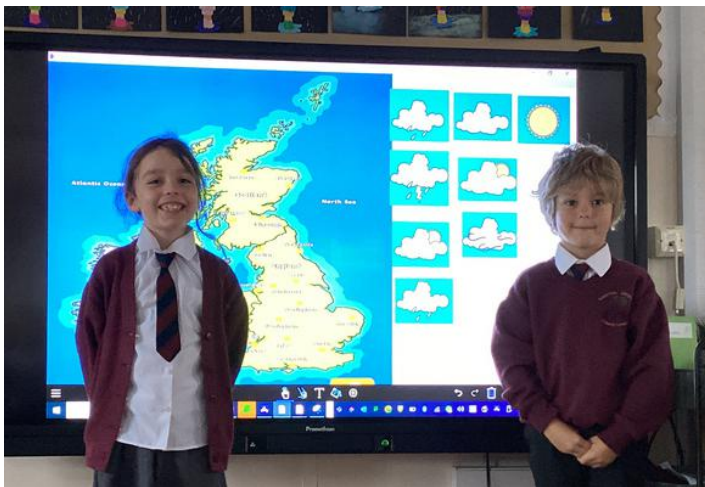
**Girls football is getting more and more popular and if any girls would like to become involved with Hillsborough Girls and give football a go then please get in touch.**



# Yr 4 Learn About The Weather



Year 4 have been studying all things weather and have been working very hard to create our own weather forecasts. We have used both UK and Ireland maps along with interactive symbols to record very own news reports. We have had great fun showing these to the class.



## Congratulations!

It was a summer of celebrations with not one, but two engagements and a birth!



Congratulations to Miss Killen and Craig who got engaged in July and to Mr

Evans and Emily who announced their engagement in August.

Also in August, we heard the great news that Mrs McAllister and her husband Mark had welcomed baby Cohan into the family.

Apparently, big brother Senán is smitten!



## Playgroup - a new year begins



**We are so delighted to see the youngest members of the Rowandale Community settling so well into playgroup. They are very happy and are enjoying making new friends and playing outside.**

## Playgroup - a new year begins





# Upcoming Dates

**Friday 18th October Harvest Assembly**  
**10am - 11am Yrs 4,5 & 6 only**  
**Moira Presbyterian Church**



**Thursday 24th October:**  
**Hallowe'en Disco - details to follow.**



**Friday 25th October - school finishes for Half Term break**



**Wednesday 6th & Thursday 7th**  
**November: Parent Teacher**  
**Meetings**

# Thank you

to our amazing Kiss & Go team who brave all  
 weathers to help keep the traffic flowing.

Aisling, Alison, Brenda, Bronagh, Caroline, Christina, Christine, Claire, Dana,  
 Deborah, Emma, Janette, Jodie, Julia, Kseniia, Laura C, Laura D, Laura G, Laura K,  
 Lorna, Maria, Michaela, Nicole, Ruth, Sian, Susanne, Ursula, Niall, Frances and Fiona.  
 We are all so grateful for your time.

**Open Morning  
Saturday 30th November  
10am – 12 noon**

**New school build complete Spring 2025**

**Nursery opening September 2025**

# **Rowandale Integrated Primary School**



**Visit our website: [www.rowandaleips.co.uk](http://www.rowandaleips.co.uk)  
Follow us on Facebook , Instagram & Twitter  
Find out what Rowandale has to offer !**

**Spread the word about our  
Open Morning.  
For all children starting Yr 1 in  
September 2025.  
Come and see what Rowandale has to  
offer.**

# Thank you

A big thank you to Lesley Anne, Lisa, Gerard, Dasa and Susan for helping to input almost 300 new books onto the Accelerated Reader system last week. We are so grateful to all the parents who give their time so freely in order to improve all aspects of school life.

Thank you, also, to all those who have donated books for or children to read. Keep them coming!!



**Oct** Half-term 28th – 1st inc

**Dec** Christmas Holidays  
20th Dec – Jan 6th 9am

**Feb** Half-Term 10th – 14th inc

**Mar** 17th St Patrick's Day

**Apr** Easter Holidays  
11th Apr – 29th Apr 9am

**May** Bank Holidays Mon 5th & Mon 26th

**June** 30th Summer Holidays

## PARENT/CARER VOLUNTEERS

**If you would like to volunteer for Kiss & Go, Reading Partnership or any aspect of school life, please send a WhatsApp to Fiona on 07725 355 899**



### CONTACT US

**Rowandale Integrated Primary School**

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