

ULSTER-SCOTS EDUCATION

March

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March is a jam packed month of international days, celebrating books, women, saints and much more!



## Ulster-Scots Stories

**World Book Day**

Thu 5 March

**World Storytelling Day**

Thu 20 March

March brings two days to celebrate our Ulster-Scots authors and stories. Whilst we have many written stories and poems we can read, the sounds, turns of phrase and musicality of Ulster-Scots comes alive when it is spoken aloud.

Share some of these Ulster-Scots stories, poems and **thochts o tha past\*** with your class this month. (\**thoughts of the past*)

[Fergie & Freens on tha Fairm](#)

[Nursery Rhymes for Weans](#)

[The Auld Meetin Hoose Green](#)

[Charlie Gillen Poems](#)

[The Words We Carry](#)

Please make sure that you listen to the stories or podcast at the links above before sharing with your pupils to ensure that they are suitable for their age group.

01/02



## Herstory

**International Women's Day**

Sun 8 March

Let's celebrate some of our Ulster-Scots women from the past, and the present.

**Jane Rea's Bloomin Wild** is an insight into her life on the Antrim Hills on the family farm nestled in the heart of Ulster-Scots culture. From foraging to feasting, traditions and crafts, Jane shares the joy she has found in these activities.



**Paula McIntyre** shares her love of cooking with an Ulster-Scots flavour in her series **Hamely Kitchen**, perfect for incorporating a bit o hame into Home Economics lessons.



For primary pupils, visit the **Learning Mole**, **Our Artists** and **Our Innovators** to find out more about Anne Acheson, Annie Maunder, Mercy Hunter, Amy Carmichael & Margaret Byers.

The **'Herstory' booklets** share the stories of 24 Ulster-Scots women who changed the world in the fields they lived and worked in.



# Border Reivers

## Hawick Reivers Festival

### 28 -30 March



The Border Reivers were the families who lived around the border between Scotland and England. For 300 years, from the 13th century, the border region was one of wars, battles and hardships. The border moved so often that the Border families showed only allegiance to themselves. Constant battles meant that farms, crops and livestock were often burned or stolen. Raids or reives over the border were encouraged. This became a way to survive for the Border Reivers and they soon became uncontrollable. After the Union of the Crown in 1603, lots of these families moved to Ulster, mainly to the border area in Fermanagh.

Are you a Border Reiver? If you have a surnames like Elliott, Graham, Johnston or Armstrong, you might find a connection in your family lineage. Find more surnames [here](#).

# St Patrick's Day

## Tue 17 March



Kidnapped from Scotland aged 16, and enslaved by a ferocious Ulster chieftain, Patrick's journey to Ulster in the late 4th century was unexpected and violent.

Spending many hours alone watching sheep, he turned to seek solace in the Great Shepherd Himself. He escaped after 6 years and returned to Scotland. As his faith grew he eventually became a missionary and returned to Ulster following God's call. Facing persecution and danger, he brought many to Christ over the next 30 years.

He became known as the Patron Saint of Ireland around the 7th Century.



Find out more about Patrick [here](#).

# On Tha Box

## TV Programmes & Interactive Stories



Ballynarnock shares everyday stories about school, living on a farm, at the water and even being an Eco-school.

These stories are read aloud in Ulster-Scots and have a glossary to help with meanings.



In Oor Ain Folk, Mike Gaston talks to Helen Mark MBE about her 38 year career in radio and television. Famous for presenting the BBC programme 'Open Country' and the Ulster-Scots programme 'Kintra', Helen's career in broadcasting was not planned but her interest in people and their stories has led her down a remarkable path as one of the most popular broadcasters working today.