

Intergenerational Project Confirmed

Following our successful project bid for funding to Ards and North Down Borough Council through their #myvoicemyAND project, our Intergenerational Workshop for our Reception, Primary 1 and Primary 2 class will now proceed. Working together with the excellent staff at the Peninsula Healthy Living Centre in Kircubbin, our children will, along with members of the local Knit and Knatter group, take part in planting and nurturing sessions. The sessions will commence on Wednesday 22 January 2020 with a total of eight sessions planned.





Second Whole-School Book Published

Following the successful launch of our first whole-school book (Luna, The Pyschic Cat and Other Short Stories) in 2018, we are delighted to announce the publication of our second whole school book, Secret Invasion and other short stories. Weighing in at a massive 348 pages, every child in school can published authornow call themselves a a spectacular feat. Both books are available to purchase from Amazon and would make a great birthday or Christmas present. Don't forget to leave us a review if you make a purchase- we've received reviews from as far away as America! Well done to all the boys and girls for their hard work on their stories.



Purchase 'Secret Invasion and other short stories' by clicking on the link below:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Secret-Invasion-other-short-stories/dp/1712570854/ref=sr 1 2?keywords=kirkistown+primary+school&qid=1575727906&sr=8-2

Purchase **'Luna, the psychic cat and other short stories'** by clicking on the link below: https://www.amazon.co.uk/Luna-Psychic-Cat-other-stories/dp/1729782639/ref=sr 1 1?keywords=kirkistown+primary+school&qid=1575727649&sr=8-1

Panto Visit

The children had a great time on recent visit to the Grand Opera House. As is our custom, children enjoyed a treat from McDonald's before heading onto the show. Behaviour from all children was exemplary throughout the day. Well done to everyone.



Online safety Guides

This month's advice leaflet is another look at YouTube Kids, which continues to be under-utilised by many families. The guide is found at the back of this newsletter after the calendar dates.

More of these great guides are available via our school website: http://www.kirkistownprimaryschool.com/staying-safe-online.html

Class Assemblies

Dates for our Spring Term class assemblies have been arranged as follows:

Date	Class
Friday 06 March	P3 & P4
Friday 13 March	Reception P1 / P2
Friday 20 March	P6 & P7
Friday 27 March	P5

Our Friday assemblies begin at **9:10am** and continue to be open to families who wish to celebrate the success of our children with us. If you would like to join us, please make your way to the assembly hall and help yourself to one of the seats available at the back of the hall. Assemblies should last approximately 15 minutes, with class assemblies taking a little bit longer.

Golden Raffle Winners

Congratulations to our second Golden Raffle Winners! Children who manage their choices consistently well in school are automatically entered into our half termly golden raffle with a winner being drawn from Foundation & Key Stage 1 and a separate winner being drawn from Key Stage 2. Our latest winners were recipients of IMC Cinema vouchers. Well done to all the children who had their name in the hat for managing to follow our 6 Golden Rules.





Winning House Team

Congratulations to Ardkeen House who were, once again, the winners of the half termly free non-uniform day prior to Christmas! Children compete for house points by making good choices, working hard and showing fantastic manners. The idea of a free non-uniform day was proposed by our School Council last year. Children took their non-uniform day on Thursday 19 December 2019. Our next free non-uniform day will be shortly before half term.

New School Website

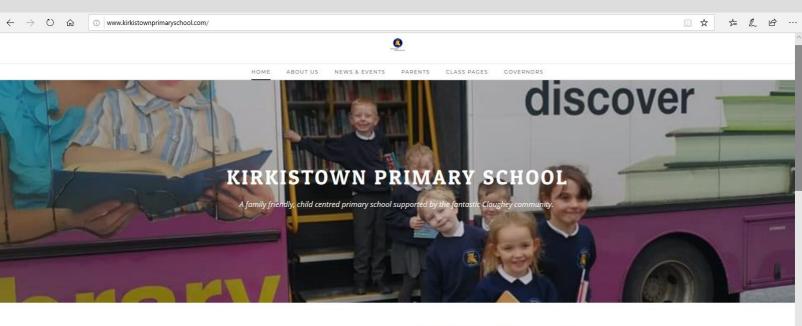
I'm thrilled to inform parents and children that our new School Website is now almost complete. As promised, the new website will provide more detailed information on school including policies, parent surveys and information regarding the governing board. The website will also provide parents with invaluable and reliable sources of information about **keeping their children safe online**, **calendar dates** and **homework help**. I would be delighted to receive your feedback on its new look.

To stay up to date with school life, I warmly recommend subscribing to our school **YouTube page**:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCk2P4BsM0Ti7umhkr8Cw1pA

And following us on Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/KirkistownPrimarySchool/



WELCOME TO
KIRKISTOWN PRIMARY
SCHOOL

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK



Hope 2 Others (H2o) Project

In April 2020, children will take part in the H2O (Hope to others) Project, helping to raise funds to provide clean drinking water for children and adults in parts of Africa. The project will be launched by a visit from Missionary, Gary Armstrong, alongside Reverend Neil Stewart at our assembly on Monday 02 March 2020.

On Wednesday 22 April 2020, the Kirkistown Primary School community will receive a very special visit from the Hope & Glory Choir from Eswatini (Swaziland). The visiting choir will perform a number of songs for our children before the Kirkistown Choir perform a number of songs of their own. On the evening of Wednesday 22 April 2020, the Kirkistown Primary School choir (alongside choirs from other local schools) will participate in a special fundraising concert alongside the Hope & Glory Choir at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Cloughey.

To kickstart the project, we were sent a lovely Christmas message from the Hope & Glory Choir which can viewed via our school website: http://www.kirkistownprimaryschool.com/whole-school-charity-events.html



Christmas Donations

Thank you kindly to the wider school community for your kind donations to the Simon Community & Cancer Fund For Children over the Christmas period. The final total will be confirmed to families shortly.

Looking Further Ahead...

Parent Interviews

Our next round of parent meetings will take place on the week commencing Monday 10 February 2020.

Cloughey Cross Country Cup

Plans are underway to host our Shared Education Cross Country Races at Calhame pitch once more this year with a provisional date of Wednesday 25 March 2020 pencilled in. The inaugural event last year was a great success with almost every eligible child from each school taking part.

As last year, school would be very grateful for volunteers willing to help set up / dismantle the course, marshal or be a finish line official. Please contact Mr Graham if you would be willing to assist.



Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons will begin on Monday 20 April 2020 for children in **P4-P7** continuing weekly on Mondays thereafter. Lessons and transport must be **paid for up front via our SchoolMoney** online payments system.

As last year, we will avail of the excellent new facilities at Ards Blair Mayne Wellbeing & Leisure Complex where children can learn to swim in the knowledge that they can stand up immediately, placing their feet on the pool floor, if they feel uncomfortable. Children will enjoy a swimming session and an additional sports hall session during their weekly visit.

Diary dates Red font denotes new dates added since last newsletter

Date	Details
Mon 06 Jan	School Reopens
Thu 09 Jan	P6 & P7 to visit St Patrick's, Ballygalget to participate in Football Coaching led by IFA coaches
Thu 16 Jan	P6 & P7 to be joined by children from St Patrick's, Ballygalget to participate in Football Coaching led by IFA coaches
Thu 23 Jan	1pm P6&P7 to Ballgalget (IFA)
Mon 27 Jan	P6 & P7 Hive Hackers Coding Programme commences
Thu 30 Jan	P6 & P7 to be joined by children from St Patrick's, Ballygalget to participate in Football Coaching led by IFA coaches
Mon 03 Feb	AutismNI Superhero Week-
Thu 06 Feb	P6 & P7 to visit St Patrick's, Ballygalget to participate in Football Coaching led by IFA coaches
Mon 10 Feb – Thu 13 Feb	Parent Interviews 1:15pm onwards School Closes at 12:45pm
Fri 14 Feb	School Finishes at 1pm for Half Term Non-Uniform day with £1 donation to school fund
Mon 24 Feb	School reopens
Thu 27 Feb	P6 & P7 to be joined by children from St Patrick's, Ballygalget to participate in Football Coaching led by IFA coaches
Thu 05 Mar	World Book Day
Fri 06 Mar	P3 and P4 Class Assembly
Fri 13 Mar	Reception / P1 and P2 Class Assembly
Fri 20 Mar	P6 & P7 Class Assembly
Fri 27 Mar	P5 Class Assembly P6 & P7 Children to attend Hive Hackers Award Ceremony in Belfast (Time TBC)
Fri 03 Apr	School Closes for Easter

Diary dates Red font denotes new dates added since last newsletter

Date	Details
Mon 20 Apr	School Reopens First Day of Swimming for P4-P7
Tue 21 Apr	Susan Falkingham Quiz- Selected children to attend
Wed 22 Apr	Visit from Swaziland Choir Kirkistown School Choir to perform at Trinity Presbyterian Church (7:30pm) with Swaziland Choir.

Although children of all ages often watch YouTube content directly via the website or main YouTube app, YouTube itself states that the only place children should be watching its videos is in the YouTube Kids app.

8 things parents need to know about











USING THE APP

Based on how you have set it up your child can then use the app to explore a safe set of videos. It's worth noting that YouTube Kids uses algorithms to ensure safe videos rather than a personal check, so it's possible personal check, so it's possible for videos to slip through. If an inappropriate video does appear you can select the men in the top right to block and report it. This not only helps your child but also improves the YouTube Kids app as a whole.



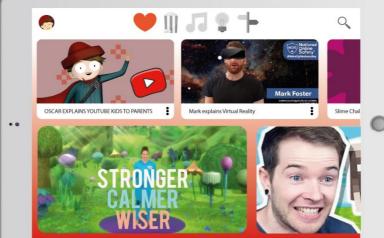
SETTING UP

To set up the YouTube Kids app you need to

- do the following:

 1 Download the YouTube Kids app and connect your YouTube account.

 2 Specify your child's Name, Age and Birth Month.
- Select the types of videos to include in the app based on their age or select them
- yourself.
 4 If you choose to Approve Content
 yourself, you will be presented with some
 sample videos to accept or reject. You can
 select collections, shows, music or learning.
 5 Once chosen you are ready to use the app.



ADVERTISEMENTS

orth remembering that even in YouTube Kids, children will still see adverts. These are marked as "Ad" and preceded by an ad intro. The types of advertisements and products are checked to follow 'ube's advertising policies which exclude things like food and beverages. However, there can be toys or other items included in videos directly by creators themselves to advertise them. a You can remove erts in YouTube, by OuTube, by subscribing to YouTube Premium. This also has the added benefit that you can download videos for offline viewing, you can also watch videos in the ground while using other apps. This can be really useful if you have a long journey to take children on.

As with television adverts or bus stop posters, it's a good idea to talk to children about how adverts work and help them to recognise them. In my family, I remember pointing out the grinning children, added sound and light effects and exciting narration in TV ads. It's important to do this for other forms of advertising as well. It's important to understand how YouTube Kids collects information about your child's viewing and how this relates to advertising and video content. When they watch a video, the device, language, which videos they watch and searches they make are recorded. This is used to help suggest personalized content. It can also be used to serve contextual advertising, although the app does not allow interest-based advertising or remarketing.

SELECTING GREAT CONTENT

The YouTube Kids app also enables you to disable the Search feature to avoid young children stumbling upon content designed for older viewers. The app also avoids videos from inappropriate channels being suggested to watch next. If you have selected content for your child only those will come up. If you have set an age limit, only videos deemed appropriate for that age will be



VIEWING TIME



RESTRICTIONS

As well as using the YouTube Kids app, you can also set up restrictions on other ways your family watches YouTube. Ensure you are logged in when using YouTube and turn on Restricted Mode in your User Profile. You can also set this at the bottom of the video page by clicking Restricted Mode: On. Ensure that you also click the Lock Restricted Mode on this browser to ensure so that other users can't turn it off.



WATCHING TOGETHER

Another good way to keep YouTube viewing positive is to spend time finding channels and content that your child will enjoy and benefit from. In my family, we each get together once a month and show each other our favourite videos from the last four weeks. This not only sparks conversations about what we've watched but enables us to share the things we've enjoyed watching.



RECOMMENDATIONS

For younger children, you can use the YouTube Kids app to keep tabs on what they have been watching. Tap on the Recommended icon on the top of the home screen and then swipe right. You will see videos with the play button on them and a red bar at the bottom. These are the videos your child has watched. Anywhere the bar at the bottom is mostly black is a video your child has skipped.



Meet our expert

Andy Robertson is a parent of three children and journalist who writes for national newspapers and broadcast television. His Taming Gaming book helps parents guide children to healthy play.











