

Kirkistown Primary School Newsletter

January 2019



Learning together,
building for the future

Television Appearance

Hot on the heels of our mini 'Tour of the peninsula', our choir finished their repertoire of public performances at Christmas with a visit from the UTV television cameras. We performed our Christmas Single, "Together for Christmas" and the more traditional "Once in Royal David's City" with the latter being aired on Friday 21 December 2018.

I would like to congratulate the choir on their high levels of professionalism throughout this period and thank them for helping to extend a very positive image of our school. We were complimented on each leg of our travels on our high performance levels and excellent conduct. My thanks as ever are extended to our school families for your support and to the wonderful Mr Irwin for preparing the school to perform to such a high standard.



Simon Community

The donations made by our school community at the recent Nativity performances, Carol Services and the proceeds of sales from our Christmas single has raised a magnificent total of £413.71 for the Simon Community, a charity which tackles homelessness. On behalf of the school, I express my sincere thanks for your generosity.

In total our Christmas single has been streamed 379 times to date with 600 visitors having visited the site. The single can be streamed online and is still available as a free download from: <https://kirkistownprimaryschool.bandcamp.com/>



simon 
community
Northern Ireland



Christmas Nativity and Carol Services

We hope you enjoyed our Christmas performances of 'The Inn-Spectors' and our Key Stage Two Carol Services.

My thanks are extended to all of the children who performed superbly and to our wonderful staff who prepared them for the occasion.



Healthy Break Reminder

The Public Health Agency recommend water and milk as the most suitable drinks for young children. Fruit juices, smoothies, sparkling water and drinks labelled 'no added sugar' or 'zero' are not recommended and are discouraged as part of our mid morning break.

Foods containing a lot of sugar and /or salt eg- cereal bars, pancakes, scones (plain and fruit), fruit bread, malt loaf, brioche, croissants and Danish pastries- are not recommended.

We want all our children to be healthy and well. We therefore encourage children to have a healthy morning break consisting of fruit, a vegetable snack or crackers.



School Money Online Payments System

We are delighted to inform you that we have recently signed up to the online payment system SchoolMoney. This means that from Monday 04 February you will now have the facility to make payments for school expenses, such as school meals, trips and Kids Club online with your debit or credit card.

A letter containing further information has recently been sent home. **Please make sure that school has your current mobile phone number as this it will be used to send you your unique password to use the service.**



Clubs



Our clubs have been finalised for the coming term and are as follows. Please return your permission slips as soon as possible to ensure you secure your space.

Club	Day	Time	Classes	Teacher	When the club commences
Tennis	Monday	2:00pm – 3:00pm (KS1) 3:00pm – 4:00pm (KS2)	P3 and P4 P5 – P7	Tennis coach	W/C 14 January 2019
Football	Tuesday	3:00pm – 3:45pm	P4 – P7s	Miss Taggart	W/C 21 January 2019
AQE	Wednesday	3:00pm – 4:00pm	P6s only	Mr Irwin	W/C 25 February 2019
Construction	Wednesday	3:00pm – 3:45pm	P4 – P7s	Mrs Harbinson	W/C 21 January 2019
Art in Kids Club	Wednesday	3:00pm – 4:00pm	P5 – P7	Mrs Jones & K/C	W/C 14 January 2019 (4 weeks)
Cross Country	Thursday	3:00pm – 3:45pm	P4 – P7s	Mr Graham	W/C 21 January 2019
Netball	Thursday	2:50pm – 3:45pm	P4 – P7s	Netball Coach & Miss Taggart	W/C 07 January 2019

School YouTube Channel



We have a growing presence on YouTube with over two hours of maths tuition freely available to help with homeworks, pre and post learning. The video content is primarily for key stage 2 learners but more content will be added over time. Visit www.youtube.com and search for Kirkistown Primary School to find out more.

Mental Health Awareness

On Friday 25 January 2019, all our classes will be discussing the importance of having a positive self image. As appropriate to their age, children will think about what is great about themselves and how they make a positive impact on the lives of others. Our older pupils will be challenged to reflect on both the advantages and difficulties of being a young person in 2019 and will consider the challenges of being a parent in the current climate.



Text Messaging Service

We have recently sent out several text messages to parents, testing that our text messaging system is functioning well. We wish to be able to use the service to keep the community informed of developments at school. If you didn't receive these messages, please inform us as soon as possible so that we can update your contact details.



Class Assembly Dates

Each class will once again host an assembly this term where they showcase their learning in their new topic. As ever, we extend an open door to the school community to be part of the occasion. The assemblies will start at approximately 9:10am and last for about 15-20 minutes.

Date	Class
Friday 01 March 2019	Primary 7
Friday 08 March 2019	Primary 3 and 4
Friday 15 March 2019	Primary 5 and 6
Friday 22 March 2019	Reception, Primary 1 and 2

Applications for P1 and Reception

Applications are being received for admissions to P1 and Reception via the link below:
<https://www.eani.org.uk/admissions-guides/primary-schools-admission-guide/start-your-application>

The online admissions process is open until January 31st and places are **not** allocated on a first come first served basis. If you need any assistance or would like to arrange a tour of the school please feel free to message us or contact the office on 42 771 455.

Diary Dates

Red font denotes new dates added since last newsletter

Date	Details
Wed 02 January 2019	Applications open for Reception / Primary 1 places in September 2019
Thu 17 January 2019	Visit from Mrs Harris (Glastry) to talk to P7
Fri 18 January 2019	Visit from Mrs Dornan (Strangford College) to talk to P7
Thu 31 January 2019	Applications close for Reception / Primary 1 places in September 2019
Mon 11 – Thu 14 Feb 2019	Parent Interviews 1:15pm onwards School Closes at 12:45pm
Fri 15 Feb 2019	School Finishes at 1pm for Half Term Non-Uniform day with £1 donation to school fund
Mon 18 – Fri 22 Feb 2019	School closed for half term
Mon 25 Feb 2019	School Reopens
Fri 01 March 2019	P7 Class Assembly
Fri 08 March 2019	P3 and P4 Class Assembly
Wed 13 March 2019	Cross Country race with St Patrick's, Ballygalget
Fri 15 March 2019	P5 & P6 Class Assembly
Wed 20 March 2019	Library Visit to Reception, P1 & P2
Fri 22 March 2019	Reception, P1 & P2 Class Assembly