



## **GILNAHIRK PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY UPDATE**





### *'Today's Learning for Tomorrow's World'...*

Dear parent,

We have come to our first update in December and life in school carries on at the usual frenetic Christmas pace. Our P1-3 children are primed and ready to go for their nativities on **Tuesday 10 and Wednesday 11 December (hope to see many of you there)**, our school is looking really well after the recent painting week and there are noticeboards across the school packed with the children's beautiful art work and other activities, as seen in the images below...

























## PARENTS WELCOME AT CHOIR DATE AT TULLYCARNET LIBRARY



Our senior choir have been working hard in their preparations for the Carol Service but as part of the Christmas season, they also sing in a few different locations in the community. On **Wednesday 11th December at 10.00am**, they will be singing at Tullycarnet Library. The librarians have asked me to communicate that **parents are very welcome at the event**, so if you are free, why not make it down to hear the choir sing.



## CHRISTMAS CHARITY AT OUR CHRISTMAS EVENTS...



At our nativities next week and our Carol service the following week (details below), there will be an opportunity for you to donate to our chosen Christmas charity, Hosford House. This is an outreach of the East Belfast Mission and provides accommodation and food for those who are experiencing homelessness. More details can be found at this link <https://ebm.org.uk/hosford-homelessness/>

Let's see how much we can raise for this vital local work.

## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR 'EMERGENCY CLOTHES' IN P1!

**DONATIONS  
NEEDED**  
Can you help??

As you might imagine, from time to time, some of our younger children will experience a little 'toilet accident' and so we keep a supply of spare clothes for them to change in to. Our

supplies are running a little low right now so if you could supply any of the following items, it would be much appreciated by the Foundation Stage staff (P1 and P2). Thank you

- Grey tights
- Grey pinafores
- Grey skirts
- Grey trousers
- Socks

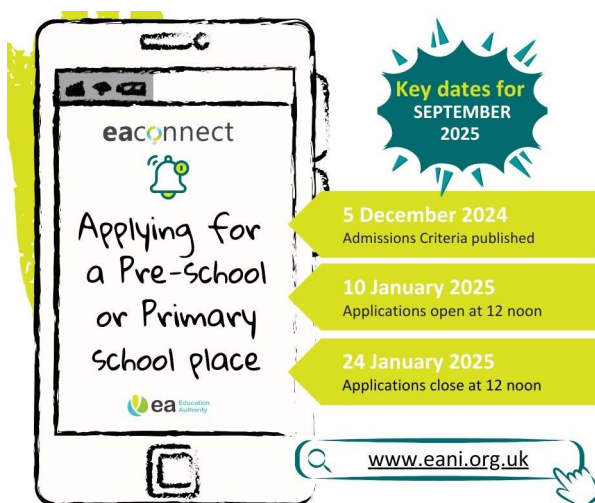
## LOST PROPERTY...



You'd be amazed how much lost property we have collected in the first term of the school year alone! If you think you might be missing an item or two, all items will be left outside in boxes at the staffroom window at the front of the school. Feel free to have a rummage and see if the jumper that was worn about three times has miraculously turned up!!

## OPEN MORNING FOR PROSPECTIVE P1 PARENTS - FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER...

Tours of the school still available for any who missed the Open Morning - details below...



It was great to see so many parents out at our Open Morning this morning - our P7 children did an amazing job (as usual) of showcasing our school.

If you or someone you know was unable to attend the open morning but would like to come and see around the school, please phone the school office on 02890 401697 or email [dcorbett546@c2kni.net](mailto:dcorbett546@c2kni.net)









## EXTERNAL AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS - TERM 2

### Monday

**CLAYFUL KIDS INFO TBC**

### Tuesday

**LASER TAG** current block runs until February half term - no new sign up needed.

**GALAXY SPORTS INFO TBC**

### Wednesday

**DRAMARAMA INFO TBC**



Thursday



**GILNAHIRK PS  
AFTERSCHOOLS**

**£20 FOR 5 WEEKS**  
COMMENCING 9TH JAN 2025

**THURSDAY 5 WEEKS**  
P1-P2 Sports Club @ 2pm-3pm  
P3-P7 Hockey @ 3pm-4pm

**BOOK VIA HEALTHY-KIDZ.COM**

**SCAN TO BOOK**

**M<sup>ove</sup>ore**  
Afterschool Programme

**healthy  
kidz**



1 - HealthyKidz Sports Club/Hockey - Booking link: <https://activities.bookpebble.co.uk/activity/healthy-kidz-gilnahirk-term-2-block-1-belfast-d58f514e-1eae-489d-9d59-1348d3ad9a4f>

SEW READY

## AFTER SCHOOL SEWING CLUB

THURSDAY 3-4PM

£71.50  
(PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE)

STITCH, SEW AND WATCH YOUR CREATIVITY GROW

CLUB DATES

16th Jan	•	23rd Jan	•	30th Jan
6th Feb	•	20th Feb	•	27th Feb
6th Mar	•	20th Mar	•	27th Mar
3rd Apr	•	10th Apr		

sign up here!



OR EMAIL [HELLO@SEWREADY.ORG](mailto:HELLO@SEWREADY.ORG)

2 - Sew Ready for P5-7

### GALACTICO SOCCER INFO TBC

Friday

MAX CODING



There's a new bot in town...

[www.bookwhen.com/Maxcoding](http://www.bookwhen.com/Maxcoding)



3 - Max Coding - Booking link [www.bookwhen.com/MaxCoding](http://www.bookwhen.com/MaxCoding)

## CHRISTMAS ARRANGEMENTS...



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*Here is a reminder of the Christmas arrangements this year at GPS...*

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### P1-3 NATIVITIES DATES AND TIMES...



Please see below for a reminder of the dates for our P1-P3 nativities. We will run these in the same way as the last few years, with each year group putting on 2 performances, one for each set of parents/grandparents etc.

#### **Tuesday 10th December:**

9.15am - P1 nativity for **P1Hodgen** parents and grandparents

10.20am - P2 nativity for **P2Boyd/Nadder** parents and grandparents

11.15am - P3 nativity for **P3McCaffrey/Pitts** parents and grandparents

#### **Wednesday 11th December:**

9.15am - P1 nativity for **P1Gordon parents and grandparents**

10.20am - P2 nativity for **P2Collins/Pitts parents and grandparents**

11.15am - P3 nativity for **P3Johnston/Wallace parents and grandparents**

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*Please note, a contribution of £2 per person will be payable at the door, to assist with production costs (costumes, licenses etc.) Thank you.*

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### SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE...



As you may have seen in the dates for the diary section, we will hold our annual Carol Service in the College Hall at Our Lady and St Pat's College on the evening of **Wednesday 18th December at 7pm**. This is always a very well received service, with many parents in the past remarking positively about the respectful re-telling of the Christmas story through readings, songs and musical performance. It would be great to see a large turnout for one of the highlights of our school year.

### SANTA VISIT/CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY...







On **Friday 13th December**, the big man himself will visit GPS, with a small gift for every child. Children can also come in to school that day in a Christmas jumper (over normal uniform).

## SCHOOL LIFE THIS WEEK...

*Another busy week at GPS..!*

### P1 PRACTISING THEIR SOUNDS ON WHITEBOARDS...







## P2 LITERACY...











### P3 NATIVITY REHEARSALS...













## P5 CHRISTMAS BAUBLES...











## P6 VIKING LONGHOUSES...





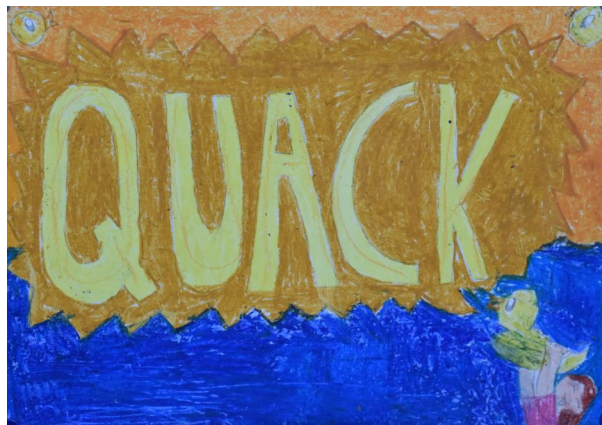








P7 ONOMATOPAEIA...





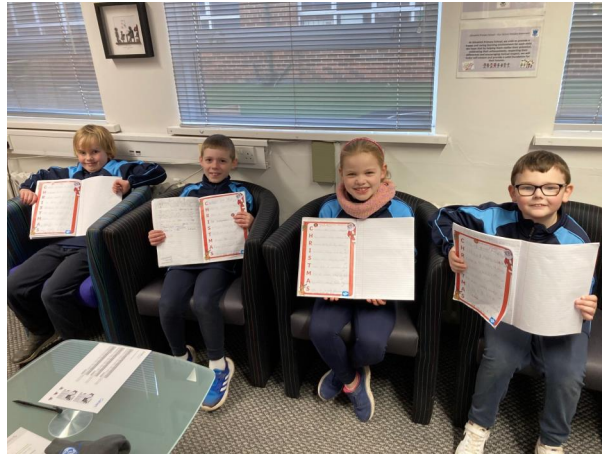






THE GILNAHIRK GALLERY OF GREATNESS...





4 - Some super Christmas acrostics in P4 from Theo, Jamie, Evie and Ryan.



5 - Scary Chinese dragons from P3! Great work, Seb, Sorcha, Nona, Ezra, Emilia, Alvy and Abigail!



6 - Ivy, Emily and Eva in P5 have achieved their Bronze V certificates in Mathletics - great work, girls!



## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS...

# Community Connections

*If you are involved in any community linked activities and would like to promote them through our weekly update, please feel free to send to me via email*

[dcorbett546@c2kni.net](mailto:dcorbett546@c2kni.net)

Gilnahirk Baptist Church

THE ULTIMATE  
Christmas Gift

"For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given..." Isaiah 9:6

Join us as we enjoy the great message that  
Jesus Christ was born for us

Every Sunday at 11am | 2 Middle Braniel Road, BT5 7TU

Sat 7th Dec, 5-7pm: Christmas Family Fun Event Please register via church website

Sunday 22nd Dec: 11am - Family Service 5pm - Carol Service

\*more info for all events at [www.gilnahirkbaptist.org.uk](http://www.gilnahirkbaptist.org.uk)\*

Image by Getty Images from unsplash.com

7 - Gilnahirk Baptist Christmas events...

Gilnahirk Baptist Church

CELEBRATE THE JOY OF  
CHRISTMAS TOGETHER

CHRISTMAS  
FAMILY FUN

DECEMBER | 7 | 5-7 PM

2 MIDDLE BRANIEL ROAD | BT5 7TU

CHECK THE WEBSITE OR SCAN THE  
CODE TO REGISTER

[gilnahirkbaptist.org.uk](http://gilnahirkbaptist.org.uk)

# Christmas Tree FESTIVAL

TUESDAY 3RD - SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER

*8 - Come and walk around the forest of trees at Willowfield Parish Church. Each tree has been decorated by a group from the community or a local business. Enjoy the festive lights and stop at the Christmas market to pick up some gifts. Santa will be in residence for the week and you can bring your Christmas letter and post it in our special post box to ensure it reaches Santa in time! You can also enjoy hot chocolate with marshmallows and some Christmas treats at our café. With live music each evening, this is a wonderful way to start the Christmas season! We hope to see you there!*



**JOIN US IN WILLOWFIELD CHURCH AND EXPLORE OUR  
FOREST OF 60 TREES, LIVE MUSIC EACH EVENING,  
CHRISTMAS MARKET, CAFÉ, AND SANTA IN RESIDENCE.**

**NEW FOR 2024: BRING YOUR LETTERS FOR SANTA'S POST BOX!**

## **LIVE MUSIC BY**

**TUESDAY: NETTLEFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL CHOIR  
WEDNESDAY: STEPHEN DAVIDSON  
THURSDAY: CREGAGH PRESBYTERIAN HANDBELL CHOIR  
FRIDAY: FESTIVAL BRASS  
SATURDAY: GARY SIMPSON**

**TUESDAY - FRIDAY  
4PM - 8PM**

**SATURDAY  
1PM - 5PM**



9 - St Dorothea's nativity panto

**SANTA'S WOODLAND**  
**FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER 6PM-9PM**  
**SATURDAY 7TH DECEMBER 10AM-4PM**

**MARKET PLACE! HOT FOOD! TEA & COFFEE!**  
**SANTA'S GROTTO! TREATS & TRAYBAKES!**

**BOOK YOUR SANTA SLOT (£5.00 per child)**  
**02890761676 / glenmachanchurch@outlook.com**

**GLENMACHAN CHURCH OF GOD**  
**13 GLENMACHAN ROAD**  
**BELFAST, BT4 2NL**

**TULLYCARNET CHURCH**

**KIDS' CLUB**  
**TULLYCARNET BOWLING CLUB PAVILION**  
**Every Friday 6:30-7:30pm - FREE**



*10 - Tullycarnet kids' club - every Friday evening*



## REMAINING DATES FOR TERM 1



- **Fri 13 December** - Christmas jumper day/Santa Visit
- **Tues 10 and Wed 11 December** - P1-3 Nativities - details above
- **Wed 18 December** - School Carol Service - 7pm in the College Hall at Our Lady and St Patrick's
- **Fri 20 December** - Last day of term 1 - School ends at 12.00pm for P1-4 and 12.05pm for P5-7
- **Mon 23 December - Fri 3rd January 2025** - Christmas Holidays
- **Mon 6 January 2025** - term 2 commences.

## AND A LOOK AHEAD TO SOME KEY DATES IN TERM 2...

- **Mon 6 Jan** - School resumes for term 2
- **Sat 25 Jan** - SEAG results issued to P7 pupils
- **w/c Mon 27 Jan** - P7 parent teacher transfer interviews

- **Friday 7 Feb** - School closes for half term
- **Mon 10 Feb - Fri 14 Feb** - half term break
- **w/c Mon 17 Feb** - Scholastic book fair
- **w/c Mon 10 March** - P1-P6 parent teacher interviews
- **Tues 8 and Wed 9 April** - P6-7 show (detail will be provided after Christmas)
- **Fri 11 Apr** - School closes for Easter break
- **Mon 14 Apr - Fri 25 Apr** - Easter break
- **Mon 28 Apr** - school resumes for term 3

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*The above term 2 dates are the main whole school dates but there will be plenty of other events added as the term progresses.*

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With kind regards

**D Corbett**

Principal.

