

GILNAHIRK PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY UPDATE



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

Our School Mission Statement...

At Gilnahirk Primary School, we seek to provide a happy and caring learning environment for each child. We hope that by helping them realise their potential, celebrating their achievements, respecting their differences and encouraging mutual respect, we will foster self esteem and provide a solid foundation for their future.

Dear parent,

I hope you have had a good week, enjoying another week of glorious weather.

A couple of important pieces of information to draw your particular attention to in this week's update:

- **Arrangements for purchasing school uniform for the new school year**
- **Provisional bookings for Astoria wraparound care**

REMINDER...



School is closed on Monday 26th May for the late May bank holiday.

UNIFORM PURCHASING FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR...

School uniform for next year can be ordered and paid for through the SchoolMoney app. Please take note of the following points in relation to this:

- If you place an order for uniform between now and the end of the summer term, the order will be sent home with your child when it is ready.
- If you place an order for uniform **after 30th June**, you will be contacted by phone when it is available and it will be placed in the front entrance in a labelled bag for your collection.
- Please aim to have all uniform orders for next year placed **before Friday 25 July**.

PLEASE NOTE, ORDERS PLACED AFTER FRIDAY 25 JULY WILL NOT BE PROCESSED IN TIME FOR THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR AS THE OFFICE WILL NOT BE MANNED DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST.

WRAPAROUND CARE UPDATE...

I am pleased to announce that Astoria are now in the position to begin provisional scheduling for wraparound care requirements for the new school year.

Unfortunately, Sleepy Hollow are unable to share details of any existing users and their schedules, so this will be a good opportunity for you to detail your needs to the Astoria team.

You can do so [here](#)

Please note, as has been mentioned previously, existing users of the Sleepy Hollow provision (including siblings starting P1 in September) will be given priority in the new set up.

If your child is not an existing user but you have expressed an interest in using the Astoria wraparound, please consider having a contingency plan in place in the event of not securing a place - demand for the places is very high.

Any queries can be directed to the Astoria team at astoriawraparound@outlook.com

SPORTS DAY INFORMATION...



Sports Day is scheduled for **Tuesday 3rd June** and will follow the same format of the last few years, with each year group running a few races at the times listed below. Hopefully as many mums, dads, grannies, grandas (and whoever else!) can make it to cheer the children on in their races.

P1 - 9.00 - 9.30

P2 - 9.30 - 10.00

P3 - 10.00-10.30

P4 - 11.00-11.30

P5 - 11.30-12.00

P6 - 12.00-12.30

Please note in the event of poor weather, we will run a contingency sports day on Thursday 5th June at the times noted above. If the weather is also poor on the Thursday, year group races will be run in the hall. In the unlikely event of this happening, unfortunately space would not allow parents to attend.

ATTENTION P6 PARENTS...

REGISTRATION TO SIT SEAG TESTS...



Registration for the 2025 SEAG Entrance Assessment opened this week. Further information, including information on special access arrangements can be found at this link:

<https://seagni.co.uk/>

If your child plans to sit the SEAG tests, it is advisable to complete the registration sooner rather than later so that you secure your preferred examination centre for your child.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch either with myself or your child's current P6 teacher if you require any assistance or guidance with the registration process.

If you would like some information on SEAG from a post primary school's perspective, please see details below of a meeting to be held at Sullivan Upper School.

A poster for a SEAG Information Meeting at Sullivan Upper School. The poster has a light blue and green background with a circular graphic on the left. The text is as follows:


Sullivan Upper School
SEAG Entrance Assessment

SEAG Information Meeting
on
Wednesday
4 June 2025
at
5.00 pm

Sullivan Upper School
All Welcome

Sullivan Upper is pleased to invite P6 parents/guardians to an information meeting to explain how the entrance assessment process will be conducted in Autumn 2025. The session will be held in the Drama Theatre and will include information on:

- Registration for the SEAG Entrance Assessment
- Required documentation
- Payment
- The assessment format (including Access Arrangements)
- Results
- Questions – please submit questions in advance to: agraham813@c2ken.net



PARENTS' ASSOCIATION EVENTS...



QUIZ NIGHT - FRIDAY 30 MAY...

This year sees the return of our very popular Table Quiz night. Tickets are £8 per person with tables of up to 10 people. It would be great to see many of you there for what is always a good night's craic.

Tickets can be bought on SchoolMoney.



OTHER PARENTS' ASSOCIATION EVENTS IN THE SUMMER TERM...



Fri 6 June - School Fair - details to follow

Fri 13 June - Colour Run - details to follow

JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN SCHOOL KITCHENS...



A number of temporary posts are available in the school kitchens, listed below:

- Gilnahirk Primary - 17 hours per week
- Dundonald High School - 10 hours per week
- Tor Bank School - 10.5 hours per week.

Date	Details
Thursday 28 th August 2025	School resumes for all children. Early finish
Friday 29 th August 2025	Second day of term. Early finish
Monday 1 st September 2025	First full day of school
Friday 26 th September 2025	School closed for staff development
Friday 24 th October 2025	School closes for half term break
Monday 27 th October 2025 to Friday 31 st October 2025 (inclusive)	Autumn half term break.
Monday 3 rd November 2025	School resumes for all children
Friday 19 th December 2025	School closes for Christmas holidays
Monday 22 nd December 2025 – Friday 2 nd January 2026 (inclusive)	Christmas holidays
Monday 5 th January 2026	School resumes for the spring term
Friday 6 th February 2026	School closes for half term break
Monday 9 th February 2026 – Friday 13 th February 2026 (inclusive)	February half term break
Monday 16 th February 2025	School resumes for all children
Friday 27 th March 2026	School closes for Easter holidays
Monday 30 th March 2026 – Friday 10 th April 2026 (inclusive)	Easter holidays
Monday 13 th April 2026	School resumes for the summer term
Monday 4 th May 2026	School closed for early May bank holiday
Tuesday 5 th May 2026	School closed for Staff Development Day
Monday 25 th May 2026	School closed for late May bank holiday
Tuesday 30 th June 2026	School closes for summer holidays. Early finish

SCHOOL LIFE THIS WEEK...

Here are a few of the highlights from another busy week in school...

P7 TRIP TO EDINBURGH...

Our P7 children enjoyed a fantastic week in Edinburgh this week, with an action packed itinerary and some beautiful weather.

As always, the children's behaviour was impeccable and they were excellent ambassadors for our school.

Huge thanks to Mr. Halliday for all of his hard work and organisation to make the week possible and to the team who accompanied and ably assisted him - Mr. Knight, Mrs. Dimond, Mrs. Gray and Mrs. Robinson.















P6 WORLD AROUND US - VOLCANOES...











ENJOYING OUR NEW GARDEN SPACES...

Some of our classroom assistants have been leading the children in developing some eco friendly garden spaces around the school and the beautiful weather this week allowed the

children to get out in to the garden to add some finishing touches and to tend to some of the plants etc.























GILLY'S GILNAHIRK VALUES...

Our Gilly's Gilnahirk Value for the month of May is RESPECT

Why not look for opportunities at home to talk about respect with your child and encourage them to show RESPECT.

RESPECT



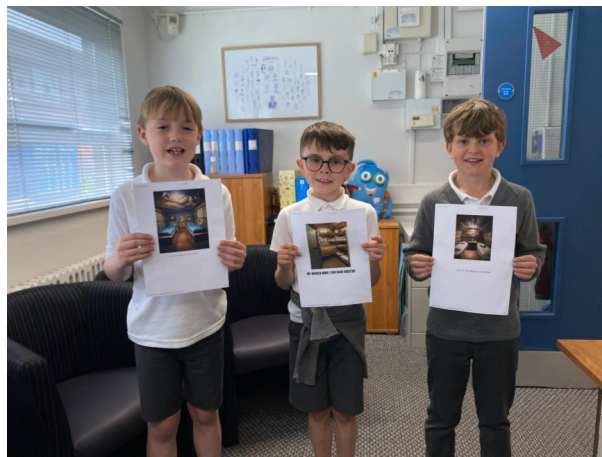
THE GILNAHIRK GALLERY OF GREATNESS...



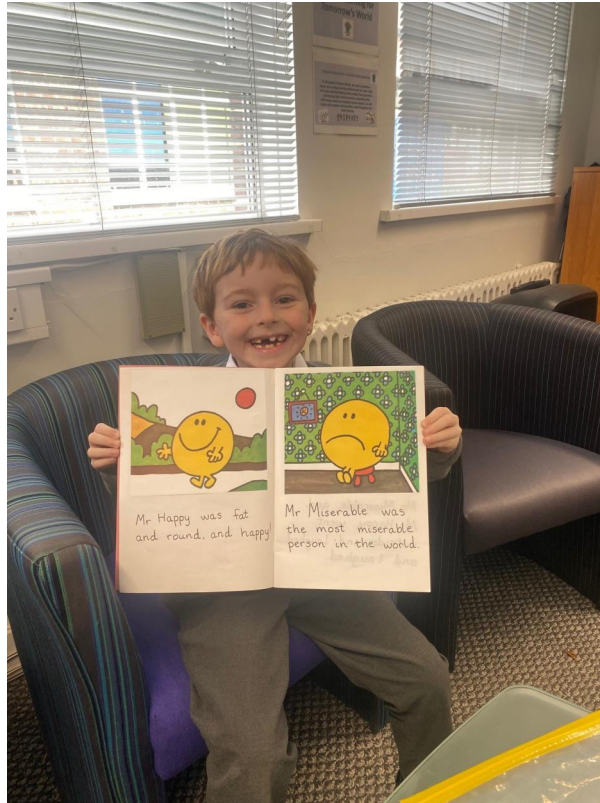
1 - Super writing in P1 from Oscar, Renzo, Grace, Sienna, Connie and Mara (just off the edge of the picture - sorry Mara!)



2 - Brilliant writing in P2 from Dalelyn, Olivia, Sienna, Sophia, Oliver and Henry



3 - Harry, Charlie and Luke in P4 used AI to generate these brilliant pictures of WW2 air raid shelters.



4 - Tommy in P4 has been working so hard in his reading and high frequency words recently. Super work, Tommy!

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

MAXGO Summer Camp

www.Max-Go.co.uk/Summer-Camps

Sports, Robots, Games, Minecraft, VR, Lego, Gel Blasters, Nerf, Dodgeball, Challenges and PRIZES!

To find out dates and to make a booking scan the QR code.






Booking link for coding summer camp: www.bookwhen.com/MaxCoding

CLAYFUL MINDS CREATIVE LEARNING

SUMMER CAMP FOR CHILDREN

BLOOMFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DATE: 11TH-15TH AUGUST 2025

9AM-3PM DAILY

COST: £185 PER WEEK
£39.50 PER DAY
*CONTACT FOR SIBLING DISCOUNT

- CLAY MODELLING
- YOGA
- MEDITATION
- BAKING
- OUTDOOR GAMES
- AND MORE!


AGE 4-12 YEARS

BOOK NOW!
07919371505



Dyslexia and Literacy Resources



Nessy **Dyslexia Explained**
Find out more about dyslexia here, where you will find expert articles and videos.
nessylearning.com



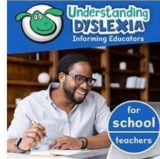
FREE! How To Help Dyslexia
Once you have found out the basics about dyslexia, the next step is to learn how to help a child with dyslexia.

Age 3-4 How To Help a Child 3-4
Age 5-6 How To Help a Child 5-6
Age 7-12 How To Help a Child 7-12

FREE! DYSLEXIA PRE-SCREENER
5-7 years




Free 8-Week Program Trial and Understanding Dyslexia Course for School Staff
Stuart@Nessy.com
Subject: Literacy Leaders



FREE! **WHAT I NEED**

FREE! **DYSLEXIA EXPLAINED**

FREE! **HOW TO HELP**

Did you know that children can lose up to 3-months of learning over the Summer break?

The 'Summer Slide' is the umbrella term used for the loss of knowledge gained during the school year over their Summer break. Many people do not know that loss caused by the 'Summer Slide' is cumulative. This means that a child could lose a whole 2-years' worth of learning over their educational journey!



Get 30% OFF the Summer Pack, offering 3 months access to Nesy Reading and Spelling, Nesy Fingers, and Writing Beach!

🔥 Sale now includes Home Education Pack and Dyslexia Home Education Pack!

LEARN MORE!



Use the code **STOPSLIDE30** at checkout for 30% off

Access
Communication
Embracing Neurodiversity



Parent
LineNI
0808 8020 400

Hear me, See me, Know me

A workshop for parents of children who are being assessed or are diagnosed as autistic-delivered by Elaine McGreevy- Speech & Language Therapist

- Support communication preferences
- Understand sensory experiences & attention
- Communicate with a child/young person in distress

Wednesday 28th May
7pm-8.30pm on Zoom

Call NOW to book your place

• • • • 0808 8020 400





CALM THE CHAOS: SUMMER SERIES



A series of online workshops aimed at supporting your child or teen through their big emotions.

Tuesday 22nd July @ 6.30pm:
Supporting your child's anxiety

Tuesday 5th August @ 6.30pm:
When emotions get too big!

Tuesday 19th August @ 6.30pm:
Back to school anxiety

Message to secure your space before tickets go live!

£15 per workshop or £35 for access to all 3
(recording will be made available so you can still have access if you can no longer attend live!)

OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN AGED 4-12

Dramarama
Performing Arts Academy

SUMMER SCHEME 2025

📍 BELMONT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
94 SYDENHAM AVENUE,
BELFAST BT4 2DT

📅 ONE WEEK ONLY
FOR OUR SPECTACULAR
10TH ANNIVERSARY
21ST - 25TH JULY 2025

🕒 MON - THURS: 9AM-2:30PM
FRI: 9AM-3:20PM

TO BOOK A SPACE OR FIND OUT MORE CONTACT US

📞 Sarah Steen-Calderwood: 07885243386
💻 dramaramaperformingarts@gmail.com
📘 [facebook.com/dramaramaperformingarts](https://www.facebook.com/dramaramaperformingarts)

5 - Dramarama Summer School

★ JOIN US FOR A FUN-FILLED SUMMER OF PERFORMANCE TO CELEBRATE OUR 10TH YEAR OF DRAMARAMA SUMMER SCHEME! ★

- CONFIDENCE BUILDING
- PERFORMANCE SKILLS
- IMPROVISATION
- SCRIPT DEVSING
- DRAMA GAMES
- DANCING
- ARTS & CRAFTS



THIS YEAR MARKS OUR 10th YEAR OF DRAMARAMA SUMMER SCHEME! We strive to make each year at Dramarama summer scheme our best yet! We take so much pride in spreading joy and helping our young people build their confidence and enjoy performing. Our week-long program is open to all children aged 4-12, and will culminate in a showcase for parents & loved ones on the Friday afternoon. Our talented coaches are passionate about making sure all our pupils have a wonderful week and get the chance to shine and grow their talent in a supportive and safe environment. From the movie stars of tomorrow, to those who want to build a bit of confidence and have a lot of fun - everyone is welcome at Dramarama!

PLACES ARE LIMITED! BOOK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO ENSURE YOU ARE NOT DISAPPOINTED!

TO BOOK, SIMPLY GET IN TOUCH VIA PHONE, TEXT, WHATSAPP, EMAIL OR FACEBOOK!

PRICE:
 £135 PER CHILD PER WEEK
 £125 PER SIBLING PER WEEK



6 - Dramarama Summer School

BEST WISHES...

...to our very own Mrs. Nelson, one of our P6 teachers, who will run the Edinburgh marathon on Sunday. We're sure you'll knock it out of the park, Mrs Nelson! Who knows, you might even end up in the Gallery of Greatness next week!



AND FINALLY...WITH DEEPEST SYMPATHIES.



We were deeply saddened to learn of the recent passing of Mrs. Allison Heyburn. Allison was such a familiar face in the Gilnahirk PS community, having had two daughters (Faith and Anna) come through the school and through her childminding business, where she provided outstanding care for so many of the Gilnahirk children. She will be sorely missed by many children and parents in the Gilnahirk community.

We send our deepest condolences and sympathies to Allison's husband, Jim and to Faith and Anna, praying for peace and strength in the weeks and months that lie ahead. **Psalm 34 v 18.**

TERM 3 DATES...





Mon 26 May - school closed for late May bank holiday

Fri 30 May - Parents' Association Table Quiz night (see details above)

Tues 3 June - Sports Day (see details above)

Thurs 5 June - contingency day for Sports Day if weather is poor on Tues 3 June

Fri 6 June - School Fair - details to follow

Fri 13 June - Colour Run - details to follow

Wed 18 June - Board of Governors' meeting

Wed 25 June - end of year reports issued to parents

Wed 25 June - P7 leavers' party (pm)

Thurs 26 June - P7 leavers' service - 7pm at Gilnahirk Presbyterian Church

Mon 30 June - last day of school year - early finish

