

# GILNAHIRK PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY UPDATE



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

### *Our School Mission Statement...*

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*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.*

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Dear parent,

I hope you have had a good week.

Here is our latest update...

### **ASTORIA WRAPAROUND CARE UPDATE**

After having taken the views of parents on board regarding the intention to adopt a 'first come, first served' approach to allocation of places for the new wraparound care, Sinead and Cathy have made the decision not to put the link for booking out as planned. They are in consultation with the Belfast Trust about how they can make this work for existing users, with a meeting scheduled for Wednesday of next week to see what can be done (if anything) about the maximum number.

An email will be sent with further information. Please check inboxes for this in the next hour.

We accept that this has been a stressful process for some parents and we are keen to do our very best to alleviate any unnecessary concern.

Email address: [astoriawraparound@outlook.com](mailto:astoriawraparound@outlook.com)

### **E-SCOOTERS...**

Recently, a small number of children have been travelling to school on e-scooters.

Unfortunately we have had one or two near misses and an actual collision on the path on the Gilnahirk Road. You will know that these scooters can reach significant speeds and I am worried that someone is going to get seriously hurt. If your child travels by e-scooter, please consider having them use a different mode of transport. Or, at the very least, please ask your child not to ride their scooter in the school grounds and when outside school grounds, to take extreme care not to cause a nasty accident. Thank you.

## PE KIT FOR NEXT YEAR...

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*Please see below for some important information regarding school PE kit:*

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- Children currently in P3 will need to purchase the kit for the beginning of P4
- Any children currently in P4-6 who might have outgrown the kit, can also purchase a new one for the new school year
- Stephen from Crawfords, who supplies the kit will be in school each morning from **8.30 - 9.15 from Monday 23rd June - Friday 27 June**. Please aim to call in on any of those morning for **sizing and details on ordering**
- If your child is in P7 or has outgrown their current kit, please consider donating it as a pre-loved kit to be used by another child
- If finance/affordability is a barrier to purchasing the kit, please speak to me in confidence and we can sort something out.
- Price last year was £35 for the T-shirt and Quarter zip, which represents very good value for what are extremely hardwearing pieces of kit. This year's price has yet to be confirmed.

## LATEST ASTORIA WRAPAROUND CARE UPDATE...

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*Latest message from Sinead and Cathy...*

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We are finalising the current user provision, and from Monday 9th June, we should be in a position to provisionally confirm these places.

Following this process, we will be opening up the remaining places to new users from Monday 16th June. Any queries can be directed to [astoriawraparound@outlook.com](mailto:astoriawraparound@outlook.com)

Thank you for your patience in this process of change

## 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**.
- ***DUE TO AN INCREASE IN SUPPLIER COSTS, WE HAVE HAD TO ADD A SMALL INCREASE TO UNIFORM ITEMS. PLEASE NOTE, WE DO NOT SELL UNIFORMS AS A PROFIT MAKING ENTERPRISE - WE JUST ABOUT BREAK EVEN WITH EACH SALE.***

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***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.***

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## **HOLIDAY LIST FOR NEXT YEAR...**



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***Please see below for the list of holiday dates for the 2025-2026 academic year.***

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

## SCHOOL LIFE THIS WEEK...

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*Just a few bits and pieces in this week*

*Look out for Colour Run photos in next week's update*

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### P4 WALK TO THE JAMES MAGENNIS MURAL...

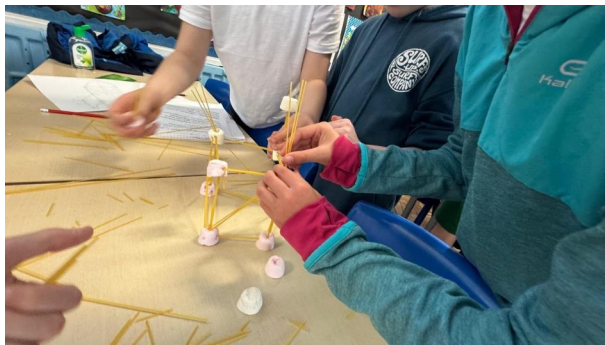
P4 walked down to the King's Road to see the mural dedicated to James Magennis who won the Victoria Cross in WW2. James's story can be found here

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James\\_Joseph\\_Magennis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Joseph_Magennis) - a fascinating story of the extreme courage of a normal man in the most trying of circumstances.



## P6 SCIENCE - BUILDING EARTHQUAKE PROOF TOWERS!





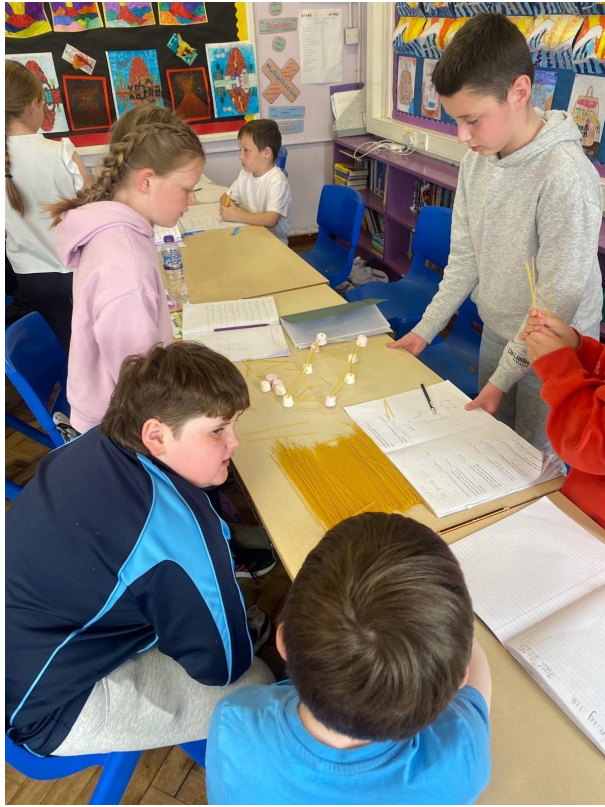
















### **'KWIK' CRICKET TOURNAMENT...**

Mr Halliday took a 'Kwik' cricket squad to Stormont to compete in the local Primary Schools' Kwik cricket festival.



*1 - Back row l-r: James, Calvin, Micah, Marnie*

*Front row l-r: Asher, Lexi, Jacob, Rebekah*

## GILLY'S GILNAHIRK VALUES...

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

*Why not look for opportunities at home to talk about resilience with your child and encourage them to show RESILIENCE*

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THE GILNAHIRK GALLERY OF GREATNESS...

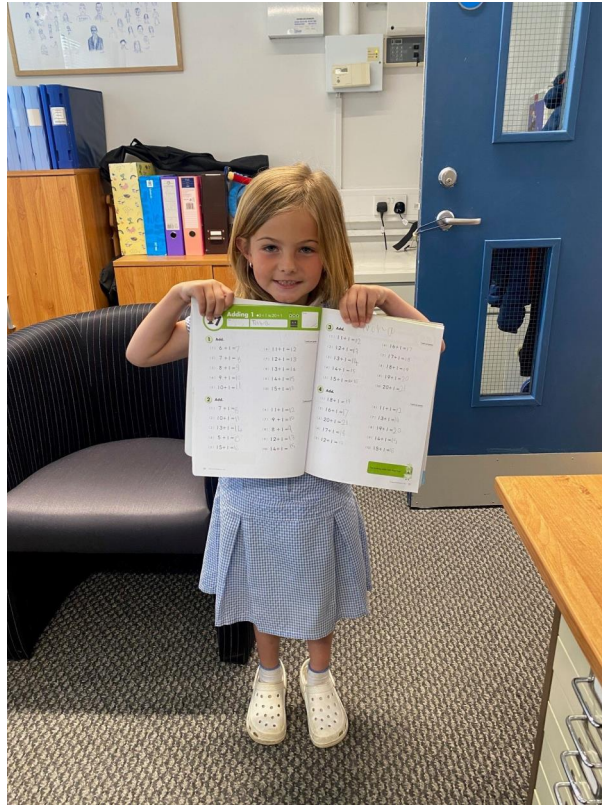




2 - Lennox has had a very successful season with Clonduff FC, with his team winning their SBYL division. Great work, Lennox!



3 - Dalelyn won this trophy recently at football. Well done, Dalelyn.



4 - Marnie has been producing some brilliant work in Maths recently - great work, Marnie

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS...

Community  
Connections

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*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)**

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Saturday 14 June 2025

# World Blood Donor Day

Together we save lives



**GIVE BLOOD  
Save Lives**  
[www.nibts.org](http://www.nibts.org)

## GIVE BLOOD Save Lives

Book now for your local  
community blood donation  
session!

**VENUE**

St Mary's Church Hall  
Dundonald

**DATE & TIME**

Friday 27 June 2025  
12:30 - 19:00

Northern Ireland needs 1200  
blood donations per week.

That's 1 every 8 minutes.



Scan to book your  
appointment.

 [www.NIBTS.org](http://www.NIBTS.org)

Northern Ireland  
Blood Transfusion Service 



## IN THIS TOGETHER (ITT)

### SUMMER SCHEME

CONNECTING NEURODIVERGENT  
YOUNG PEOPLE PRIMARY P5-P7



- ✓ Feel more confident
- ✓ Meet new friends from different schools
- ✓ Learn interesting topics through workshops



11<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> AUGUST  
9.30AM-12.30PM

The Skainos Centre,  
239 Newtownards Rd, Belfast BT4 1AF

**I.T.T.**  
In This Together  
I.T.T. is supported by PEACEPLUS, a  
programme managed by the Special EU  
Programmes Body (SEUPB)

**PEACEPLUS**  
Northern Ireland - Ireland  
Co-funded by the  
European Union | UK Government  
Minister for Children  
and Young People  
Northern Ireland  
Executive

## Fun & Engaging

### ACTIVITIES

- Learn about being neurodivergent
- Over 100 board games
- Lego
- Arts and crafts
- Gaming
- Learn about the environment and conservation
- Learn how to regulate your emotions

And many more!



REGISTER YOUR INTEREST  
EMAIL US AT

[maggie.lockhart@specialisterne.com](mailto:maggie.lockhart@specialisterne.com)

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Executive

**NEWTOWNABBEY SUMMER CAMP**  
ULSTER UNIVERSITY JORDANSTOWN, SHORE RD, NEWTOWNABBEY BT37 0QB  
MONDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY, TUESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY AND WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY  
10:00AM-1:00PM

**BELFAST SUMMER CAMP**  
STRATHEARN SCHOOL, 188 BELMONT RD, BELFAST BT4 2AU  
WEDNESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JULY, THURSDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JULY AND FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY  
10:00AM-1:00PM

**NEWTOWNARDS SUMMER CAMP**  
REGENT HOUSE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, CIRCULAR RD, NEWTOWNARDS BT23 4QA  
MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY, TUESDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JULY AND WEDNESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> JULY  
10:00AM-1:00PM

**BALLYCLARE SUMMER CAMP**  
BALLYCLARE HIGH SCHOOL, 31 RASHEE RD, BALLYCLARE BT39 9HJ  
TUESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY, WEDNESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY AND THURSDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> JULY  
9:30AM-12:30PM

**NEWTOWNABBEY SUMMER CAMP**  
ULSTER UNIVERSITY JORDANSTOWN, SHORE RD, NEWTOWNABBEY BT37 0QB  
MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST AND WEDNESDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST  
10:00AM-1:00PM

**BELFAST SUMMER CAMP**  
STRATHEARN SCHOOL, 188 BELMONT RD, BELFAST BT4 2AU  
MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, TUESDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST AND WEDNESDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST  
10:00AM-1:00PM

FOR AGES: 7-15 YEAR OLDS      COST: £40 PER CAMP



**MAXGO**  
Summer Camp  
[www.Max-Go.co.uk/Summer-Camps](http://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.

NERF      LEGO      MINECRAFT

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Booking link for coding summer camp: [www.bookwhen.com/MaxCoding](http://www.bookwhen.com/MaxCoding)




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# DIGITAL ARTS ACADEMY


## SUMMER 2025

FREE GOOD RELATIONS DIGITAL ARTS PROGRAMMES FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGED 9-12

REGISTRATIONS OPEN VIA THE QR CODE BELOW OR VISIT [WWW.DIGITAL-ARTS-ACADEMY.COM](http://WWW.DIGITAL-ARTS-ACADEMY.COM)

**SCAN ME**



The Belfast Local Community Action Plan is supported by PEACEPLUS, a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB).

# BEAM CREATIVE NETWORK

## DRAMA & ART

### SUMMER CLUBS 2025

FREE GOOD RELATIONS ART & DRAMA PROGRAMMES FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGED 9-12

REGISTRATIONS OPEN VIA THE QR CODE BELOW OR VISIT [WWW.DIGITAL-ARTS-ACADEMY.COM](http://WWW.DIGITAL-ARTS-ACADEMY.COM)





**SCAN ME**



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CLAYFUL MINDS  
CREATIVE LEARNING

**SUMMER  
CAMP FOR  
CHILDREN**

BLOOMFIELD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DATE :  
11<sup>TH</sup>-15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2025

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

9AM-3PM  
DAILY

AGE  
4-12  
YEARS

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

CAMP

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

**FREE!**

**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.

<b>Age 5-7</b> How to help a child 5-7 with dyslexia Download this resource to help you understand how to help a child with dyslexia.	<b>Age 8-11</b> How to help a child 8-11 with dyslexia Download this resource to help you understand how to help a child with dyslexia.	<b>Age 12-18</b> How to help a child 12-18 with dyslexia Download this resource to help you understand how to help a child with dyslexia.
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**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!**

**NESSY SMELLIES**

**Understanding DYSLEXIA**  
for school teachers

### 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



## CALM THE CHAOS: SUMMER SERIES



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

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July @ 6.30pm:  
Supporting your child's anxiety

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August @ 6.30pm:  
When emotions get too big!

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:dramaramaperformingarts@gmail.com)  
 [facebook.com/dramaramaperformingarts](https://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 DEVISING  
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

## TERM 3 DATES...



**Wed 18 June** - Board of Governors' meeting

**Wed 25 June** - end of year reports issued to parents

**Tues 24 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 (12.00 for P1-4, 12.05 for P5-6)

