

# GILNAHIRK PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY UPDATE



## Our School Motto:

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

## Our School Vision 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,

We've reached the end of our first week back and it's been another busy week in school.

Please take some time over the weekend to read through this week's update so that you're up to speed with everything.

## CAR PARK SITUATION - THANK YOU...



designed by  freepik.com

On behalf of the governors, I want to thank you for your cooperation with the new regulations around access to the school car park. We acknowledge that this decision has required some of you to amend pick up arrangements, but the school grounds are now much safer for all of our children, which is the driving force behind this decision.

Mr. Campbell will continue to be a visible presence at the gate - please respect the fact that he is simply carrying out the wishes of the Board of Governors.

## P1-6 PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS.



*Please see below for information on our second round of P1-6 Parent-Teacher interviews:*

- Date: **Monday 9th March - Thursday 12th March.**
- P1-6 children will **finish at 1.15pm** each of those days to accommodate the interviews.
- **As I write, almost 90% of parents have booked a slot. The portal will close on Friday 27th February at 12pm, so if you are one of the remaining few who still need to book, please make that a priority in the coming days.**
- If you are having difficulty getting on to the portal to book, please contact the school office.

## LEARNING SUPPORT PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS...



If your child is in P4, 5 or 6 and is currently receiving learning support from Mrs Newnes, please check your child's school bag on Monday for a letter offering you an interview time

with Mrs Newnes during the week of the P1-6 parent teacher interviews (information above). Please return the reply slip to Mrs Newnes as soon as possible.

***Please note, if your child received learning support before Christmas and had an interview with Mrs Newnes then, you will not be offered an interview this time around.***

## REMINDER - EXTRA STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS...



The Department of Education has allocated two additional staff development days to schools to train staff in TransformEd, the DE project to reform the NI Curriculum.

I am now in a position to confirm that these two dates will be:

- **Tuesday 17th March** (St Patrick's day)
- **Tuesday 26th May** - to tie in with the late May bank holiday.

School will be closed to children on both of the above dates.

## MESSAGE FROM ASTORIA ARAPAROUND CARE...



### Join our wraparound team...

Are you passionate about working with children? Do you want to make a difference before and after the school day? Come and join our dedicated Wraparound Care team!

#### **Positions Available:**

- Breakfast club staff (8.00-8.40)
- After school club staff (1.30/2 - 5.00/5.30)

#### **What we offer:**

- Flexible hours to fit your schedule
- A friendly and supportive team environment
- Opportunities for professional development
- Rewarding work, making a real difference for children and families

#### **Who we're looking for:**

- Enthusiastic and reliable individuals

If you think this is for you, speak directly to Sinead or Cathy or email [astoriawraparound@outlook.com](mailto:astoriawraparound@outlook.com)

## SCHOOL LIFE THIS WEEK...

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*LOTS of photos this week, reflecting a very busy week back after the half term break...*

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### P1 ARTISTS AT WORK...









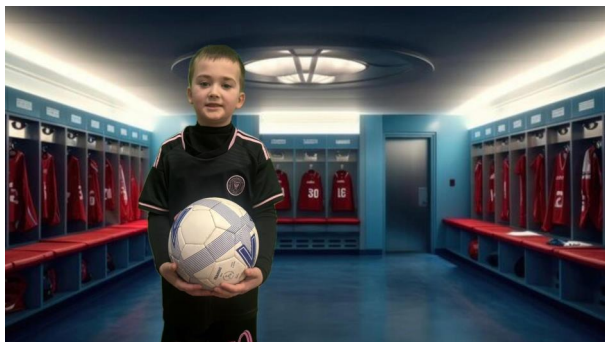
P2 CAREERS DAY...

















**P2 PANCAKE TUESDAY...**









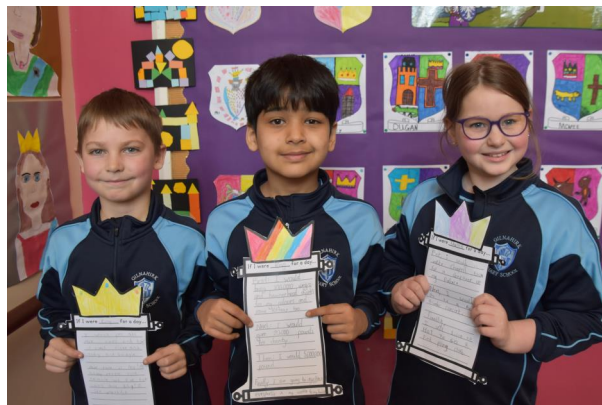
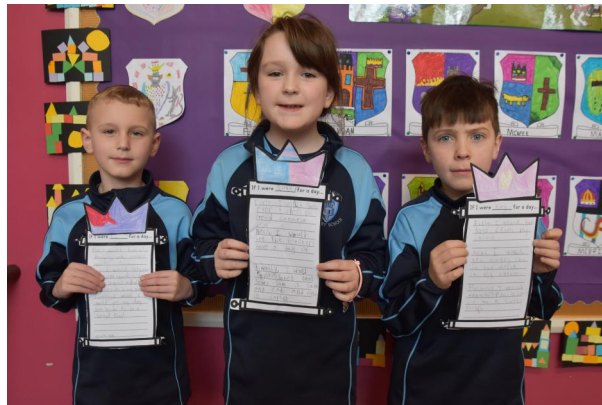
**P3 COLD WATER EXPERIMENTS...**







P4 'IF I WERE KING FOR A DAY'...





P4 TRIP TO CARRICKFERGUS CASTLE...

















**P5 NUMERACY - MIXED NUMBERS...**







**P5 NUMERACY - HULA HOOPS FRACTIONS...**













## P6 BLOOKET QUIZZING...







P7 PANCAKE CHEFS...









### P7 TRAPPED WATER EXPERIMENT...









### **P7 FAMOUS PEOPLE LETTERS...**

To provide a real world context for their work on letter writing, P7 wrote letters to famous people of their choosing. Some of them have received replies!

**Ellie** received a reply from **Marti Pellow** (those of us of a certain vintage have memories of Marti from WAY back in the day!)

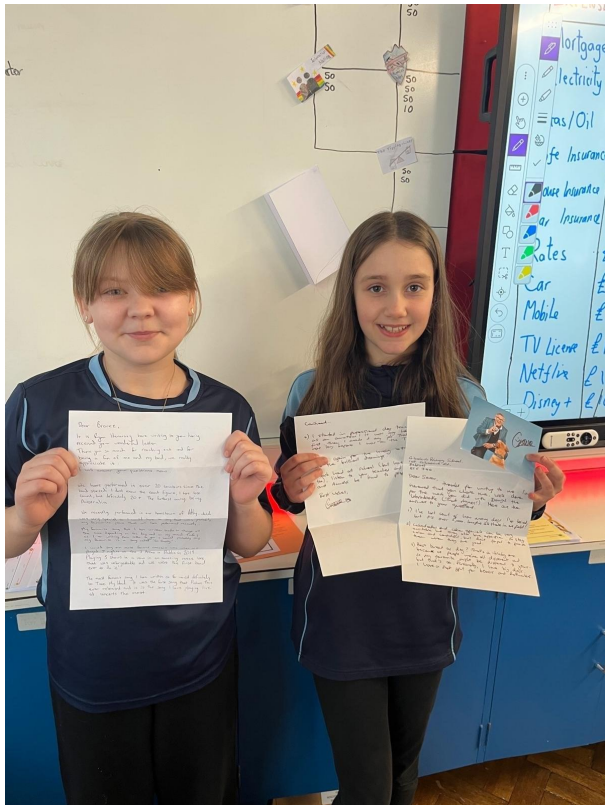
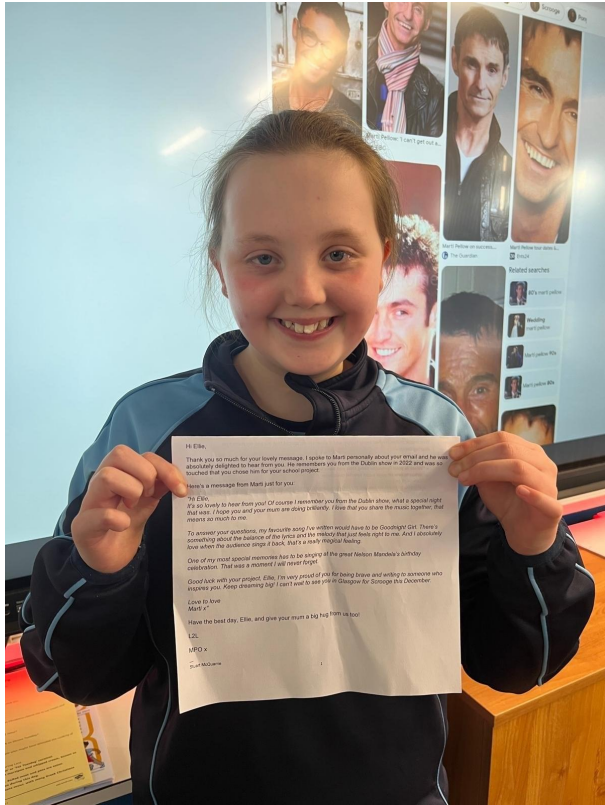
**Brooke** received a reply from **Ryan Hennessy** of the brilliant Irish band **Picture This**.

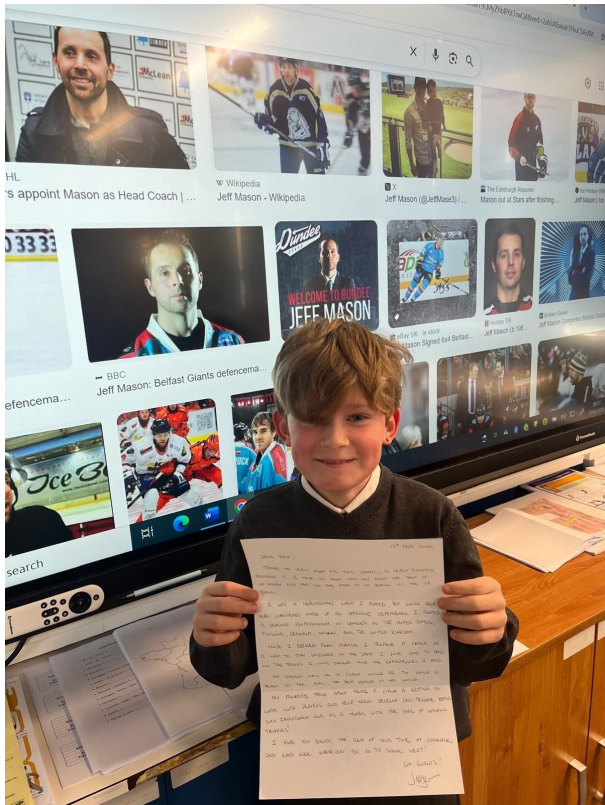
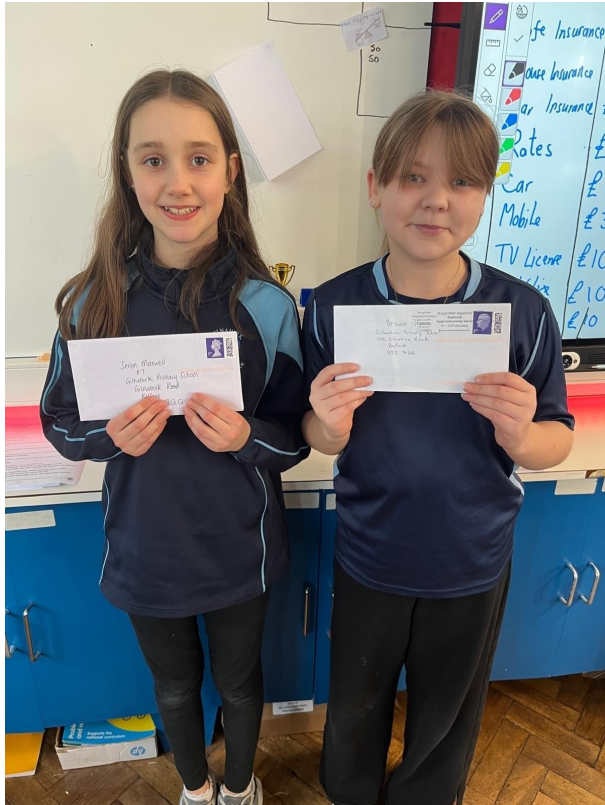
**Seren** received a reply from **Graham Hall** of the TV show 'Dogs Behaving Very Badly'.

**Theo** received a reply from **Jeff Mason**, a coach with the **Belfast Giants** and former professional ice hockey player.

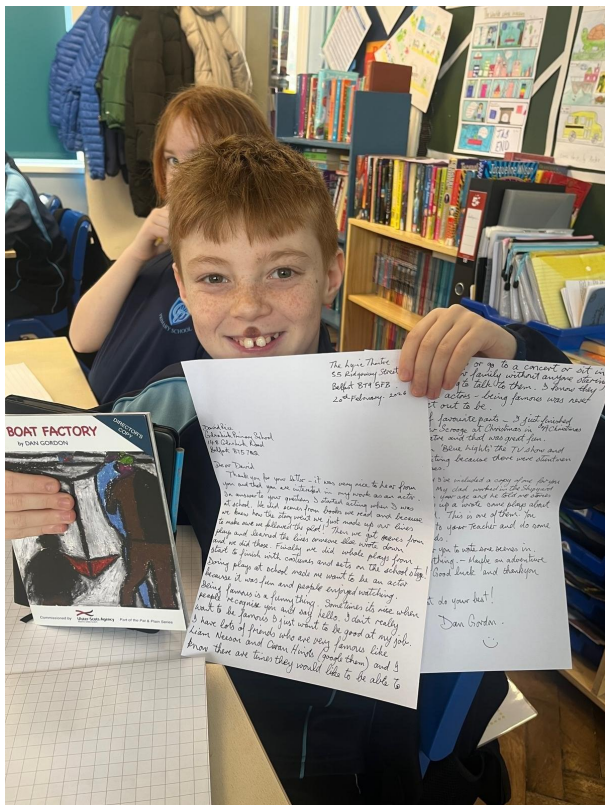
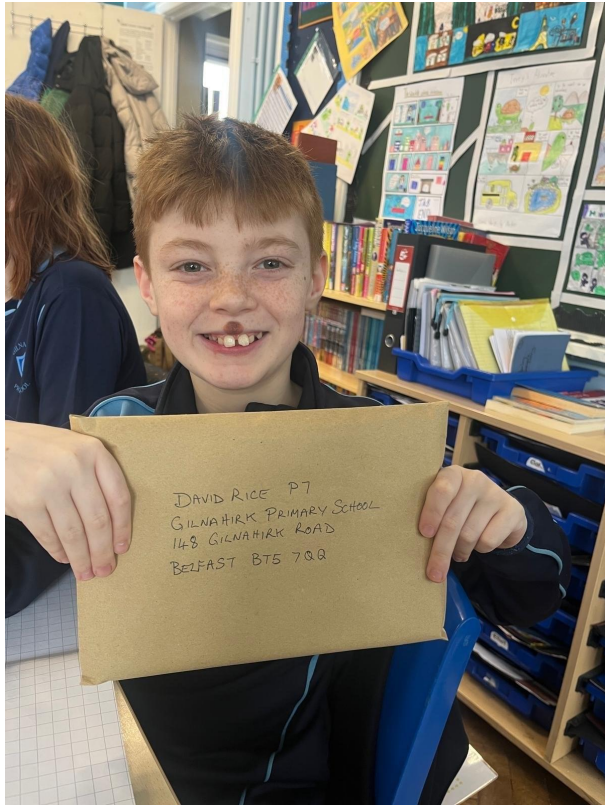
**Clara** received a reply from **Steve Backshall** from **Deadly 60**, with a signed photo.

**David** received a reply from **Dan Gordon**, the Northern Irish actor and playwright









## FOOTBALL UPDATE...

Our Under-10 P6 squad played St Theresa's PS in the Edco U-10 Cup this week. A fantastic performance with Gilnahirk coming out 4-1 winners! 2 goals from Robyn, a worldie from Jack and an own goal all led to a convincing victory.

Special shout out to Oliver who came on at half time and was awarded player of the match for an amazing second half performance. Great result!



*1 - Back row: Otis, David, Jack, Jake, Harry, Bobby, Ellie*

*Front row: Carter, Oliver, Robyn, Flynn, Hudson, Lucas*



### **HOCKEY UPDATE...**

Our boys and girls hockey squads both travelled to their respective blitzes today at Campbell College and Strathearn School. Bot squads performed admirably in their competitions but didn't quite do enough to progress to the next stage.

However, as always, the children gave their very best and represented our school so well.

Well done, all of you!



### **BENJI HENDRON FROM SALT FACTORY SPORTS ASSEMBLY VISIT...**

Great to have Benji from Salt Factory Sports, a first time Assembly visitor this week, who spoke about conquering our fears through the story of Joshua and the walls of Jericho. Mrs. Gordon had to conquer her fear of having water poured over her head!





## GILLY'S GILNAHIRK VALUES...



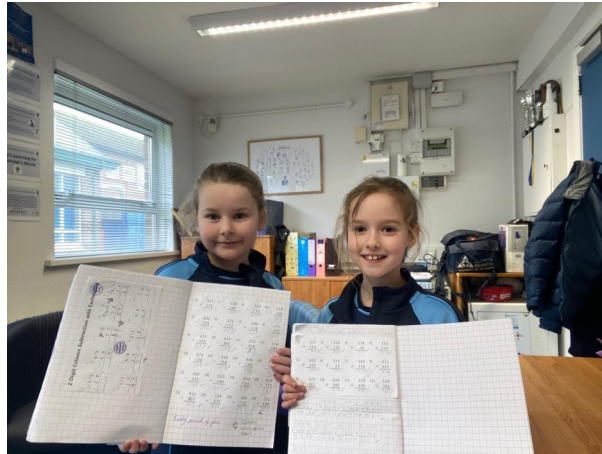
This week, we thought about our new Gilly's Gilnahirk Value - DETERMINATION!



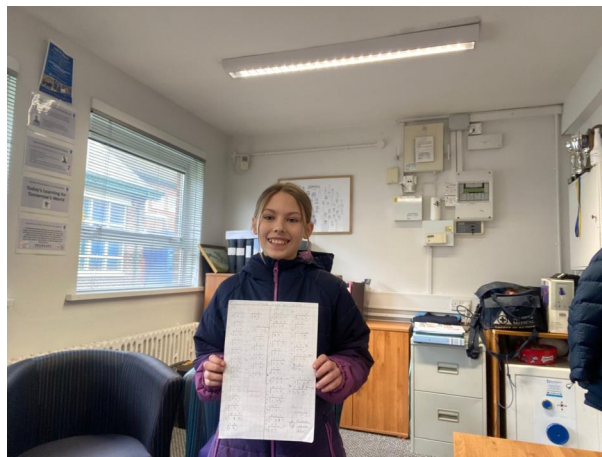
2 - David from P7 picked up his kindness certificate which he missed before half term.

## THE GILNAHIRK GALLERY OF GREATNESS...

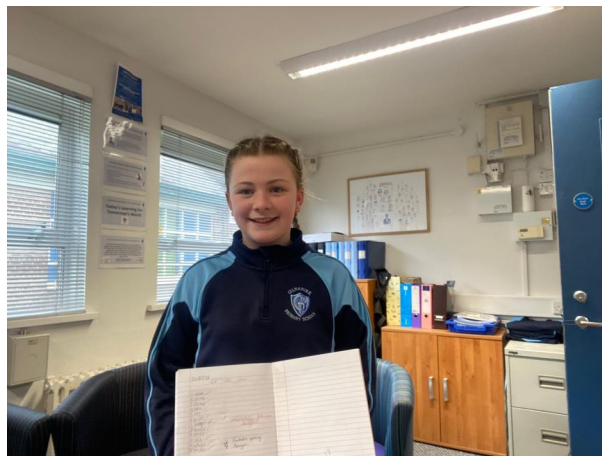




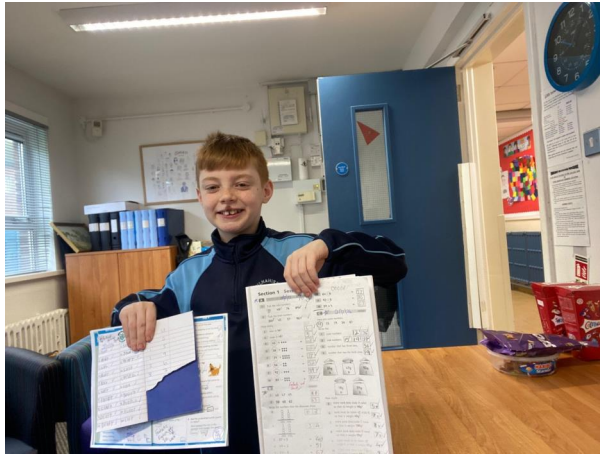
**3 - Super column addition from Eden and Aria in P4. Great work, girls!**



**4 - Ailsa in P7 nailed her work on division this week - super work, Ailsa!**



**5 - Aaliyah in P7 is working so hard right across the curriculum, especially on her spellings. Keep up the super work, Aaliyah!**



*6 - David in P7 has been so focused this week, producing some outstanding work in Literacy and Numeracy. Well done, David!*



## 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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## KEY DATES IN TERM 2...



- **Monday 2/Tuesday 3 March** - P1-6 SEN annual reviews.
- **Thursday 5th March** - World Book Day/Reading Buddies session 4.
- **Monday 9th March - Thursday 12th March** - P1-P6 parent teacher interviews.
- **Wednesday 18th March** - Board of Governors' meeting.
- **Friday 27th March** - last day of term 2, early finish.
- **Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April** - Easter Holidays.
- **Monday 13th April** - school resumes for term 3.

With kind regards

**D Corbett**

Principal.

