

GILNAHIRK PRIMARY SCHOOL WEEKLY UPDATE



Our School Motto:

'Today's Learning for Tomorrow's World'

Our School Vision 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.

At the start of this week's update, let me remind you of the **Staff Development Day planned for Tuesday 17th March - school is closed to pupils that day.**

UPCOMING PARENTS ASSOCIATION EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR...

SMARTIES TUBES...



On **Monday 16th March**, children will receive a tube of smarties (alternatives will be provided children with dairy intolerance/allergy).

After eating the Smarties, please try and fill the tubes with coins and return by Friday 27th March - remember, every little helps!

CASH FOR CLOBBER...

CASH FOR CLOBBER

Clothing Recycling.
The easy way to
generate **cash**
for your School.

we weigh. we pay.



ACCEPTED ITEMS	UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS
CLOTHING – Menswear, <u>ladieswear</u> , <u>childrenswear</u> . Paired shoes (tie laces to keep them paired) Bags Hats & Scarves Ties Belts Curtains Bed Linen (sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)	No BRIC 'a' BRAC No Dirty/Wet Clothing No single shoes No Bedding/cushions No Mats/Carpets



Cash for Clobber collections can be donated on **Friday 17th April** - first week back after the Easter break. This is a chance to have that long awaited Spring clean, whilst raising funds for the school. See image above for accepted items and items that are not accepted.

MARATHON RELAY TEAM...



As with previous years, a team of volunteers will run legs in the Belfast Marathon relay on Sunday 3rd May to raise funds for the school. If you would like to contribute you can do so at <https://gofundme.com/f/gilnahirk-primary-belfast-marathon-2026>

A huge thank you to all of the parents and friends of the school taking part.

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.

SCHOOL LIFE THIS WEEK...



CROSS COUNTRY SUCCESS!

Mrs Nelson took a P6 boys' team and girls' team to the local Primary Schools' Cross Country event at a wet and muddy Orangefield. Both teams performed amazingly with all four girls securing top ten finishes and James and Jack securing top ten finishes in the boys' race. Both teams also won their respective team events and have qualified for the Belfast finals - a fantastic achievement!

Huge thank you to Jane Allen and Stephanie Johnston for providing lifts, holding coats and cheering the team on in terrible conditions!



1 - Charley, Maisie, Ellie, Robyn



2 - Mateo, Jack, Ben, James









P1 ON THE FARM...







P2 COUNTING IN TENS...





P3 SPECIAL PERSON SURPRISE!







P4 ALL ABOUT CROISSANTS...

One of our Gilnahirk dads, Ed Proffitt, paid a visit to P4 to talk about his job as a croissant manufacturer and supply chain manager. Thank you Ed for a fun and informative session.







3 - Alivia won the doughnut creation competition!

P5 STUDY THE SEAS...



P6 COMIC STRIPS...







P7 SCIENCE...

Air pressure, floating oranges and tornadoes in a jar!

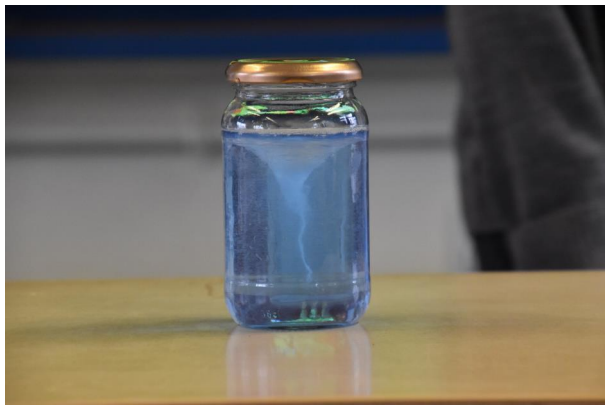








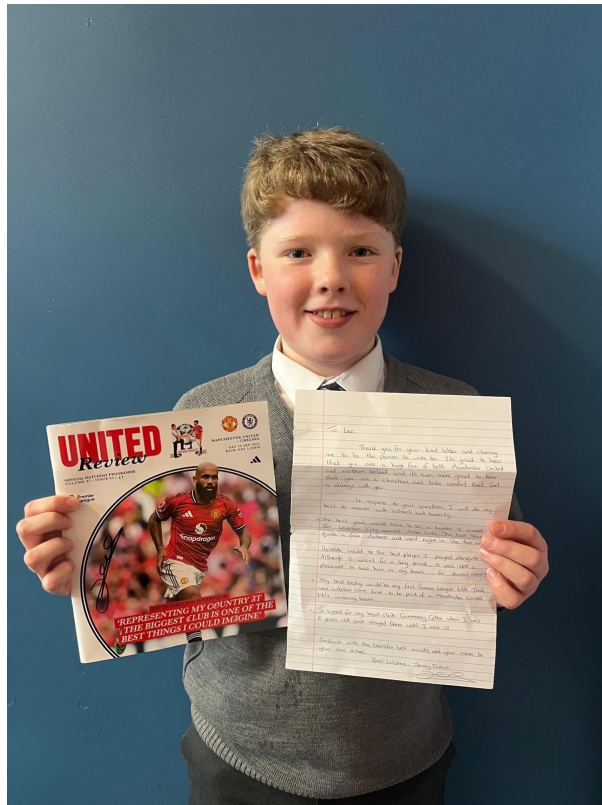






P7 FAMOUS PEOPLE REPLIES...

Jax received a reply and some small gifts from Ellie Rayer of the GB women's hockey team and Leo got a lovely handwritten reply from Jonny Evans, the former Manchester United and Northern Ireland centre half.



To Leo,

Thank you for your kind letter and choosing me to be the person to write to. It's great to hear that you are a huge fan of both Manchester United and Northern Ireland, and it's even more great to hear that you are a Christian and take comfort that God is always with you.

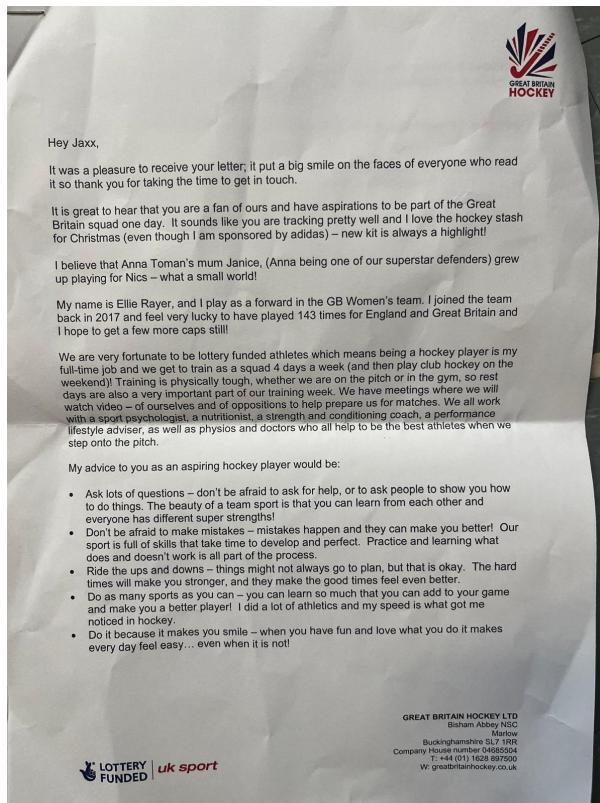
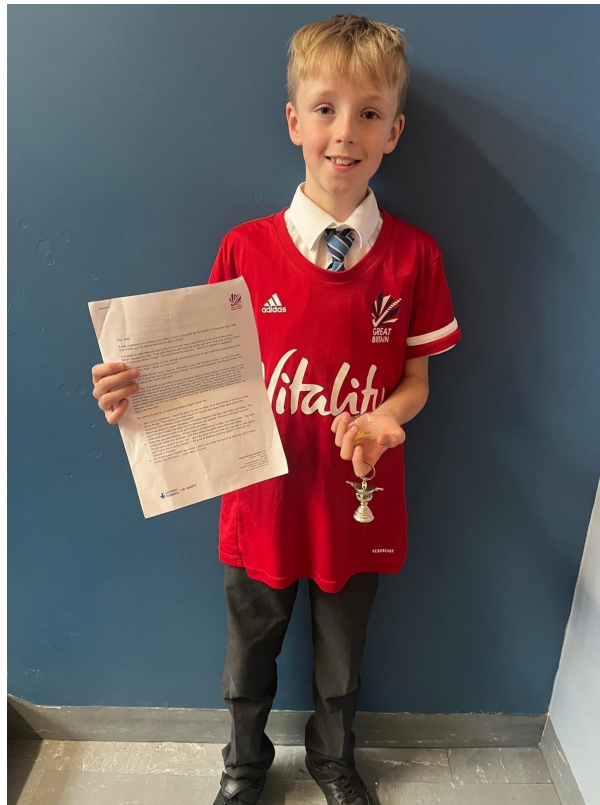
In response to your questions, I will do my best to answer with instinct and honesty.

- The best goal would have to be a header I scored for Leicester City against Aston Villa. The ball travelled quite a fair distance and went right in the top corner.
- Ronaldo would be the best player I played alongside. Although it wasn't for a long period, it was still a pleasure to have him in my team... for obvious reasons.
- My best trophy would be my first Premier League title. That was a dream come true to be part of a Manchester United title winning team.
- I signed for my local club Cammrose Colts when I was 8 years old and stayed there until I was 12.

Goodluck with the transfer test results and your move to your new school.

Best Wishes, Jonny Evans

JE



Playing for Great Britain is incredibly special! I have been able to fulfil dreams of becoming an Olympic medalist and travelled the world playing sport. I have been able to do something I love every day and make those around me proud!

It has not always been an easy journey but with brilliant teammates and friends it is a pretty cool place to be!

I want to wish you all the best of luck with your hockey and look forward to maybe one day seeing you pull on the GB shirt and making the 10-year-old you very proud!

With very best wishes

Elle Rayer #13

Elle Rayer

PS. Some little goodies enclosed too!



ASTORIA WRAPAROUND KEEPING OUR SCHOOL TIDY!

On Monday Evie, Amirah, Isla worked hard during their outdoor play to collect rubbish from the playground and forest areas. Great work, girls!



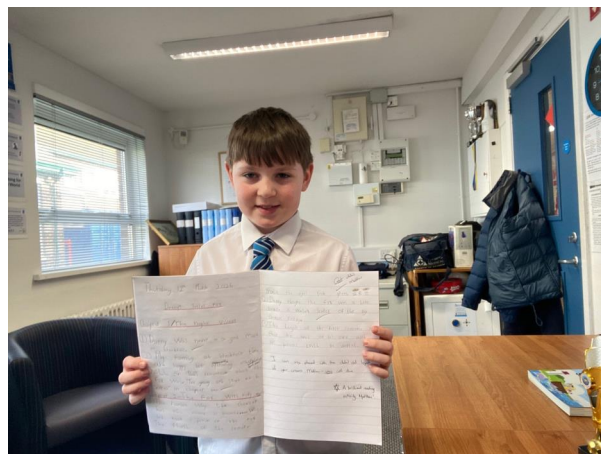


GILLY'S GILNAHIRK VALUES...

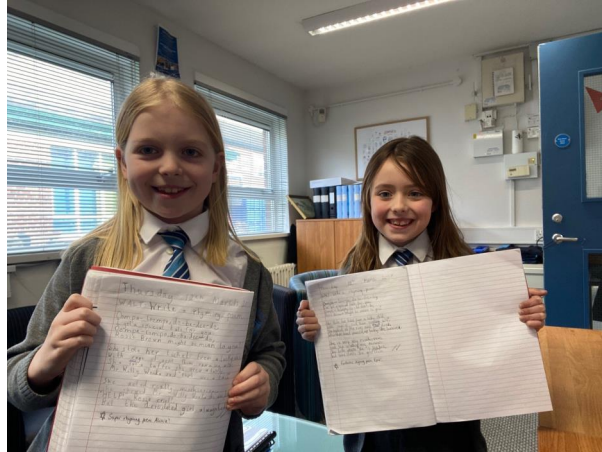
Our Gilly's Gilnahirk Value for March is **ASPIRATION...**



THE GILNAHIRK GALLERY OF GREATNESS...



4 - Matthew produced his best reading activity of the year so far! Great work, Matthew!



5 - Alivia and Rosa wrote super rhyming poems based on 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'.



6 - Super independent writing using their sounds from Bailey, Max, Mabel, Nina, Alice, Elsie, Laurel, Reuben and Ellie (P1).

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



Fostering comes to Belfast

Evening Information Session

There are local children and young people in your area right now in need of safe and loving foster homes.

Come along to our information session to learn about fostering opportunities that work with your life, and discover how you can make a difference.

Foster carers receive training and development, 24/7 support, and financial allowances.



Knockbreda Primary School

Tuesday 24th March
5.30pm-7pm
(Information Session)

Any parents, carers or staff members are welcome to attend to hear more about flexible Short Breaks and Emergency Foster Care opportunities.



0800 0720 137
adoptionandfostercare.hscni.net

GIVE BLOOD Save Lives

Book now for your local community blood donation session!

VENUE
Presbyterian Church Hall
Dundonald

DATE & TIME
Tuesday 24 March
12:30 - 19:30

Northern Ireland needs 1200 blood donations per week.
That's 1 every 8 minutes.



New Date

Parent Workshop



Are you a parent fed-up fighting fires every day?
Do you feel caught in negative cycles with your partner and children?

You can **Bounce Back**!

Join our 3 week, practical parenting programme to support you to build calmer, more connected family relationships.

Online via Zoom, for three consecutive Mondays starting 9th March, 7-8:30pm.

Call 0808 8020 400 to book your place.

GALAXY Easter Sports Camps

Strathearn School, Belfast, BT4 2AU

Hockey Camp	Ages 8-14 yrs	Week 1 & Week 2
Sports Camp	Ages 4-12 yrs	Week 1 & Week 2
Netball Camp	Ages 8-14 yrs	Week 2 only

Week 1: Tuesday 31st March - Thursday 2nd April
Week 2: Wednesday 8th April - Friday 10th April

Hillsborough Village Centre, BT26 6AR

Sports Camp	Ages 4-12 yrs	
Football Camp	Ages 4-12 yrs	

Week 1: Monday 30th March - Thursday 2nd April

Time: 9AM-2PM
Early Drop from 8am

£35 per day *
Multiple Day & Sibling Discounts Apply

www.galaxycoaching.com

KEY DATES IN TERM 2...



- **Tuesday 17 March** - school closed (staff development day)
- **Wednesday 25th 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.

