



## January's Monthly Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year and apologies for the delay in this welcome back. I had hoped to have it out with you last week.

We trust you all enjoyed some family fun over the festive break and that the children are ready for the exciting learning opportunities the teachers have planned in this term's topic, 'Growing Green'. Thank you to everyone who sent in packaging for our STEM challenge week. Pupils amazed us with their creativity and skills. We look forward to displaying their work once it is completed.

We will once again be running a family challenge day in March as part of British Science week and the second of our Pupil Progress meetings will be held this term. Please look out for information coming home soon.

*Mrs McCaffery*

### Dates for January

<b>Friday 4th</b>	School Closed (Staff Development Day)	<b>Wednesday 16th</b>	PTA Meeting @ 7.30pm
<b>Monday 7th</b>	First Day of Term	<b>Friday 18th</b>	P7 In-O-V8 at Cullybackey College
<b>Monday 7th</b>	P5-7 Swimming starts again	<b>Wednesday 23rd</b>	Road Safety Quiz Team @ Adair Arms
<b>Tues 8th/ Wed 9th</b>	P1 Nurse	<b>Saturday 26th</b>	AQE and GL Assessment Results
<b>Wednesday 9th</b>	Board of Governors meeting	<b>Thursday 31st</b>	<b>P1 Applications Deadline</b>

## Last Term's News

### Welcome to our new staff members.

We would like to take this opportunity to formally welcome our two newest members of staff.

Mrs Scott and Mrs Gaston joined the Classroom Assistant Team last term. They are both already valued members of our school community and I would like to thank everyone for already making them feel welcome in our Kirkinriola Family.

We have also been blessed with the arrival of Miss Adams, who is currently training as a Classroom Assistant and are excited to welcome a number of work experience students towards the end of this month.

The whole team works relentlessly to provide an enjoyable and successful educational experience for all our pupils and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them all for their dedication.

### School council and Eco School Update

In the first term, our school council decided to focus on improving friendship in the playground. Using School Council funds, they designed and purchased a Playground Rules Sign which will be put up in the Playground for all to see.

Our Eco school focus this year relates to water and reducing the amount of water we waste, School council will meet to discuss their plans to introduce reusable water bottle for all later this week.



### First PTA Meeting of 2019

Our first PTA meeting of 2019 is this week, on Wednesday 23rd January at 7.30pm. Please come along and support the ongoing work to raise funds. PTA funding is so important to ensuring our pupils have access to additional learning opportunities and we are so grateful for all the work that the group does.

It is the school's 90th anniversary in October and we are planning a variety of ways to mark the occasion. It would be great to have as many families represented at this group as possible. Come along and have your say.

### AQE/ GL Result Day

We would like to wish pupils who are getting their transfer test in January results all the best. As you already know, all of our P7 pupils are stars.



### Time to Shine Term 2 March/ April

Thank you to Mrs Ferguson and Mrs Dowds who gave up their time to run Time to Shine Art and Craft sessions on Fridays, last term. The children really enjoyed the extra opportunities on offer. If any other parents would like to support in this way, especially those with green fingers, please get in touch.

### December 2018

Well what a busy month December was. A huge thank you to Grassmen for organising a Dynamo Day fundraising event on 15th December. Despite the weather, this event was well attended and a significant amount of money was raised for the school. There was also a similar amount raised by the PTA at the Christmas Market held in Cloughwater Church Hall on Tuesday 18th December. All monies will go to enhance the education of all pupils in our wee school and we could not be more grateful for all that has been achieved.

Huge congratulations also to all the boys and girls and staff for putting on a fantastic Carol Concert again and a special thank you to Mrs Mckelvey for leading the planning of this event this year.



On the last day of term, we enjoyed our annual visit from Santa and pupils were amazed to see him arrive on a tractor this year. Rumour has it that the reindeer were in having their hooves polished so this was his alternative transport for the day.



Everyone is now looking forward to even more fun at KPS in 2019.  
Another exciting year of education and celebration ahead!

### Lunches, Tickets, Trips and Refund Policy

In order to secure bookings we have to confirm places prior to attendance at any shows, concerts or on trips. This means that once confirmed and paid, bookings are non refundable. Unfortunately with the growing pressures on school budgets, a refund can only be given if we receive a discount or refund for your child's place.

However, we are able to cancel lunches and any monies paid can be transferred to cover lunches the following week.

### Cold, Flu and Winter Bugs

This time of year always sees a significant increase in the numbers of children with coughs, colds and flu like symptoms. In order to protect other children from these winter viruses, we would ask you to keep your child at home if they are unwell. It would also be really helpful if each child could bring in a box of tissues for use in their classroom.

The Public Health Agency also recommend that any children suffering with vomiting or diarrhoea do not attend school for 48 hours after the last bought of sickness.



## A Look Ahead

### Dates for February

Friday 1st	P7 Robotics Roadshow
Tuesday 5th	P7 Transfer Interviews
Tuesday 5th	Safer Internet Day
Wednesday 6th	<b>P7 Transfer Form Deadline</b>
18th –22nd inclusive	SCHOOL CLOSED-Half term

Remember for any updates on events throughout the month or to view event photos you should visit our school website, [kirkinriolaps.co.uk](http://kirkinriolaps.co.uk)