



Newsletter

JANUARY 10, 2020

EA's Online Admissions Portal for children starting Nursery and Primary 1 in September 2020 is now open.

Closing date for all applications is 12 noon (GMT) Thursday 30 January 2020

Dear Parents

Happy New Year to everyone across the school community. We trust that the Christmas holiday period was a lovely time for the children and the staff have enjoyed hearing all about the fantastic presents the children received. As we begin a new year and decade, the school considers how we want the children to be prepared and ready for positively contributing to their community both locally and further afield.

The children have settled back into the routine of school life very smoothly. Most of the school day is centred around helping the children achieve their potential in 'reading, writing and counting' and we, as a staff, are always looking to develop additional methods of delivering key skills in a fun, practical, relevant and interactive way. We aim to do this through our School Development Plan with the focus on Global Citizenship across the curriculum with exciting plans for this term which will be shared with you in due course.

- Already this week the Primary 6 Year group has had a great day in school exploring and learning about 'The Vikings' which was delivered by the Active Learning Company.
- Mr Morgan's Girls' Football team took part in the first round of the Girls' League on Thursday at the Football Factory. After a slow start the girls picked up a draw with Academy PS and then two great wins against Harmony Hill PS (2-0) and Ballymacash PS (3-0). The goal scorers were Lauryn, Paige and Hannah. Well done to all the girls who played.
- We also want to wish both the boys' and girls' hockey teams all the best for next week as they begin their League programmes at Laurehill Sportszone.

After School Activities Term 2

Teacher staffed After School Clubs will recommence week beginning **Monday January 20th**. Your child will be reminded by their class teacher which club they will be attending. These clubs will not operate during Parent/Teacher interview week and February half term. Teachers will notify you in advance if there are any other changes to clubs.

Parent/Teacher interviews

Interviews will take place during the week beginning Monday February 10th. School will **close at 1pm each day that week for all children P1-7.**

P7 Transfer interviews will take place week beginning Monday January 27th following the announcement of AQE and GL results. These will be full interviews for all P7 children conducted by Mrs Douglas & Mr Mulligan.

Dates for your diary

Saturday January 25, 2020	AQE/GL results out
Week beg Mon Jan 27	Transfer interviews for P7 children
Mon Feb 10 – Friday 14	Parent teacher interviews
	School closes at 1pm for all pupils P1 – P7
Friday February 14	PTA Disco Day in school – dress for dancing!!
Mon Feb 17 – Fri Feb 21	Half Term holiday
Mon Feb 24	School re-opens
Tuesday March 17	SCHOOL CLOSED - St. Patrick's Day
Fri April 3	School closes 12noon
Mon April 6 – Fri 20	Easter Holidays
Mon April 20	School re-opens for Term 3
Tuesday May 12 - morning	Sports' Day P 1 – P3
Wednesday May 13 - morning	Sports' Day P4 – P7

'MISS SCHOOL, MISS OUT'

Please take time to read the school's **'Pupil attendance and lateness policy'** which you can find on the school's website. Our Education Welfare Officer (EWO) carries out regular attendance audits; this also includes reviewing lateness which is an area for concern at school.

Parents are reminded that: Our school opens its doors at 8.45am and children can proceed to their classrooms from that time when their class teacher is available for supervision. **School starts at 8.55am.**

We continue to ask for considerate parking in and around the school gates, road and car parking areas. Please remember these are your children accessing the area and need to be kept safe.

Unplanned closures to school

An unplanned closure is due to unforeseen circumstances such as **adverse weather conditions**, power failure, heating failure or situations which affect the safety of pupils and staff.

In times of extreme weather, such as a heavy snowfall, the Principal and Vice Principal will consider and carryout a risk assessment based on the following issues:

- o **Health and Safety**
- o **Pupil / Teacher Ratio**
- o **Weather Forecast**

Contact will be made with parents at the earliest possible opportunity using the following methods:

- **Text message service** – please keep the school office up to date with your mobile numbers
- **BBC** - Radio Ulster and BBC NI website
- **School phone** - a message will be put on the school phone, if possible.
- **Killowen Twitter feed:** @killowentweets Make sure you follow school.

Website: www.killowenps.co.uk

Twitter: @killowentweets

