



Some say that January drags.

Some say that nothing exciting happens in January.

Torchie says that Killowen *explores, excites & excels* in January.

On a daily basis it is hard to keep up with it all so we always hope that children will go home and tell you all about that day's event. But here is a flavour of the last few weeks.

### TORCHIE'S LEARNING

- ❖ P4-7 began their Global Citizenship programme this month led by Ms Chan who along with her team of helpers, introduced and taught the children how to speak in Chinese with some everyday greetings, numbers 1-10 and the names of colours. The children have gone on to practise Chinese Calligraphy and various activities to celebrate the Chinese New Year.
- ❖ All Primary 7 pupils attended the 'Bee Safe' event which helps raise awareness of how to stay safe in a range of situations. P7L have continued their Shared Education Partnership when they visited HEPS and experienced, explored and enjoyed new dances, music and culture from across the nations. P7M are beginning a pilot project with Urban Villages called 'Knowing Me, Knowing You' which will initially be classroom based at KPS.
- ❖ Primary 6 continue to learn about The Vikings following on from a hands-on, practical day at the start of term whilst Primary 5 children have been working practically as part of their topic 'Sound and Water'. They also have been buddied-up with Primary 1 to work alongside them in making Bird Feeders.



- ❖ Primary 4 are learning about World War 2 with Primary 3 using ICT and Beebots to navigate their way through 'Fairy Tale Land'.
- ❖ Primary 2 are investigating and focussing on craft activities with their 'Feathers, Fluff and Fur' topic. *If you go down to the Primary 1 classrooms you're sure of a big surprise*, as the sound of lots of nursery rhymes will greet your ears with old favourites such as 'Incy Wincy Spider' and 'Humpty Dumpty'. The children use these rhymes to look at creatures and animals through quality play.
- ❖ Not to be outdone, our wee Nursery folk are also involved in Global Citizenship and have been finding about 101 ways to use rice and noodles in their exploratory play.

### TEAM KILLOWEN SPORT

- ⚡ P7 Football team played Wallace Prep in Under 11 Cup and they also participated in Lisnagarvey High School's 5-a-side competition.
- ⚡ Girls' Football Team have played 10 matches winning 5 and drawing 1.
- ⚡ Girls' Hockey Team, having missed a week due to bad weather conditions, played this week and won 2 matches with Lucie from P5 catching the eye on her debut against older more experienced players.
- ⚡ A very young and inexperienced Boys' Hockey Team also missed a week due to an unplayable pitch but got their season underway with 4 hard-fought matches.
- ⚡ Netball Team participated in Lisnagarvey High School's Annual Competition.
- ⚡ Our swimming programme continues with P7 attending lessons every week at Lisburn Leisureplex.
- ⚡ IFA Football Coaching each Tuesday for classes P5-7.
- ⚡ Phoenix Basketball Club, in association with Lisburn Council, are delivering a programme of basketball coaching on Fridays for P5-7.

### **PRIMARY 7 TRANSFER PROCESS**

This week we were delighted to have time to spend with our P7 parents who began the process of selecting High Schools for their children to progress on to, at the end of their time here at Killowen. Some families have been part of the community for 15+ years and we have valued their support and contributions to enhancing the life of the school. It is also an opportunity for them to share their thoughts on the work of the school and in particular the care and support from staff and the teachers in particular. We are very proud of all of the children in P7 and are pleased that those of them that chose to sit the AQE and/or GL tests, gave it their all.

### **CHRISTMAS CHARITY STAMP APPEAL**

At assembly on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, we were pleased to be able to hand over a cheque for £170 to the Cedar Foundation, as a result of the Christmas Card Postal Service. Well done boys and girls....and the special elves!

### **HOUSE COMPETITION**

House Captains Emily & Bayley of Croob House lifted the PTA Cup for Term 1. It's game on again for Term 2!

### **PUPIL HEALTH**

Sickness, bugs and infections continue to strike and it can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school or nursery when they're unwell. The NHS website gives good advice and guidelines.

We would advise you to keep children at home if they have been vomiting in the evening, overnight or in the morning before school and to always consult your doctor if you are at all unsure. In school we continue to reinforce good hygiene practices.

### **ATTENDANCE & LATENESS**

Remember that the school doors open in the morning at **8:45am** and that school starts at **8:55am**. During that 10-minute period, children should enter school through the **playground doors**. By 8:55am children should be in their classroom ready to start work.

After 8:55am your child is arriving late and needs to enter through the front door of school. As at all other times adults, including parents, should not enter the school building. A member of staff will take your child to class if they are not able to manage that themselves. This is part of our Child Protection policy and its intention is to keep all children safe.

### **SLEEPY HOLLOW CHILDCARE**

Uptake from you, as parents, continues to be high and we are delighted that the service is so well-utilised. With N-P6 Parent Teacher week coming up Monday 10th February, Sleepy Hollow will operate from the ICT Suite and will share arrangements with parents regarding pick-ups.

### **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 carry out 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** – keep your mobile numbers up to date, please.
- **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.

### **Dates for your diary**

Mon Feb 10 – Friday 14

Parent teacher interviews

**School closes at 1pm for all pupils P1 – P7**

**NURSERY CLOSED ALL DAY**

Friday February 14

PTA Disco Day in school – dress for dancing!!

Friday February 14

Mon Feb 17 – Fri Feb 21

Half Term holiday

Mon Feb 24

School re-opens

Sun Mar 1

School Choir- PEACE PROMS, SSE ARENA, BELFAST

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

Friday May 8

SCHOOL CLOSED – Victory in Europe Day(Bank Holiday)

Tuesday May 12 - morning

Sports' Day P 1 – P3

Wednesday May 13 - morning

Sports' Day P4 – P7

