



Dear Boys and Girls, Mums and Dads,

We hope that everyone was able to enjoy the extended half term holiday and get plenty of fresh air, exercise and quality family time. Once again we were delighted at the high levels of attendance on return this week and also the positive attitude that the children continue to display during the teaching and learning in class.

At this time of year, we usually are preparing to welcome distinguished guests into school to take part in our Annual Remembrance Service. This is always a lovely service which is led by the children. Unfortunately, this important event in the life of our school has also had to be cancelled due to COVID restrictions. However, within each classroom we will be taking time out to stop, think and remember those that have served and continue to serve in our nation's frontline such as the Army, Navy and Air Force along with Emergency First Responders.

Killowen Primary School has had a long, close and historic connection to Thiepval Barracks, with many of our families having been stationed there over the years and those that are currently attached there today. So it is very important to us as a school community that, in the words of a song that the children sing each year – 'always remember never to forget'.



TORCHIE'S COVID UPDATE

- ✚ As a school we have maintained our protocols and strict measures according to the guidance directed by PHA and DE to ensure the safety of pupils, staff, parents and the wider community here in Lisburn. To all the adults, whether it be a parent, grandparent or childminder, we are grateful for those that are wearing a mask and to those that are helping keep everyone safe by social distancing.
- ✚ We must ask that all adults leave the area around the school gates as soon as they drop children off as the next of group of parents and children will be arriving as part of our staggered start and finish times.
- ✚ We must also ask that whilst waiting in the morning, outside the school gates and in the afternoons for pick-ups, that all adults remember to **keep at least 2m apart** and give space to the year groups in order of collection times. Please continue to be sensible, responsible and to play your part in mitigating risk by **INCREASING SEGREGATION and DECREASING INTERACTION.**



TORCHIE'S CARE & WELFARE INFORMATION

- ✚ **NUT FREE ZONE.** Please continue to respect this request and we trust that you will give it your co-operation.
- ✚ **IMAGINE IF Counselling Service.** Parents are able to make a referral through the following link: <https://imagineif.org.uk/primary-schools> and the helpline number is 02891820341.
- ✚ **DOG OWNERS.** Thank you to all the responsible dog owners for not bringing their dogs in through the school gates and for maintaining children's safety.



TORCHIE'S ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

During the week beginning Monday 16th November, Killowen will be participating in NI Anti-Bullying Week. This annual event across NI and in the past Mr McComb's P4 class won an award for the best video message. During this week, teachers will be using specially prepared lessons from the NI Anti-Bullying Forum around the theme of '**United Against Bullying**'.

- ✚ To start the week off we are asking the children to take part in '**Odd Socks Monday**'. They should come to school wearing their uniform but with two odd socks on. This is to show that we are all different and unique.
- ✚ On Friday 20th November, we are also going to have our Non Uniform and Fun Day which had been put on hold from October. The PTA will be providing goodies and the aim of the day is to show class unity as they 'learn and play together' or as we like to say in Killowen, '**to explore, excite and excel**'.
- ✚ There will be more details and information to follow closer to the time.



TORCHIE'S TECH ZONE

With even more of a need to minimise contact and maximise social distancing we have laid out a number of scenarios below and the best ways for parents to communicate with school:

- ✚ If it's about a sick child contact the office using 028 662111 or info@killowenps.lisburn.ni.sch.uk. Do not send these emails to class teachers. Parents may get a call back from the office to get more details to help us track the incidence of Covid.
- ✚ Please send an absence note to explain your child's absence on return to school by using the Google absence form on the school website. This will go directly to the school office. <https://www.killowenps.co.uk/parents/online-absence-note>
- ✚ If it is about school dinners, dinner money or the School money app – contact the school office using 028 662111 or info@killowenps.lisburn.ni.sch.uk. ***A number of parents may have received a text message to state that you are in arrears. Most of these are at £2.60 which individually equates to 1 school dinner. However, when this is added up across the school, a sizeable debt is quickly built up, so we ask that all arrears are speedily rectified to reduce the outstanding money.*
- ✚ If it is homework or schoolwork related – contact the class teacher who will reply outside of teaching hours but within working hours.
- ✚ If it is about **safeguarding**, contact the school office for the attention of the **Designated Teacher Mr Mulligan** or if he is not available, the Deputy Designated Teachers – Mrs Douglas, Mrs Brown and Miss Bittle.
- ✚ **NUMBERS & EMAIL ADDRESSES** - Please make sure to keep the office updated of any change of mobile numbers or e-mail addresses as these are essential for the smooth running of maintaining contact and for School Money.
- ✚ **PHOTOGRAPH & FOOTAGE PERMISSION** – Many thanks to the large number of parents who have completed this Google Form already. We do need every parent to complete this form, please.
The Photograph & Footage Permission form can be accessed by clicking the link below https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1DXly_F_lbj0V09iveHrJ89yjeWy2qqQwnXI4jo7K7bM/edit?usp=sharing



TORCHIE'S OCTOBER CHALLENGE

- ✚ We were delighted with so many entries for this challenge and the level of creativity that was sent in was fantastic. Well done to everyone for their efforts.
- ✚ The House Captains have now had the opportunity to view all the entries and have awarded house points. An entry from each House is displayed below.
The points for each House are:-
- ❖ **Bernagh – 225 points**
- ❖ **Commendagh – 195 points**
- ❖ **Croob – 70 points**
- ❖ **Donard – 220 points**



BERNAGH



CROOB



COMMEDAGH



DONARD



TORCHIE'S SCHOOL MEALS – EA CATERING SERVICE

Menu for week beginning Monday 9th November

- Mon...Chicken Nuggets & Diced Potato
- Tues...Cheese Roll
- Wed...Roast Chicken Dinner
- Thurs...Tuna Sandwich
- Fri...Sausage, Beans & Mashed Potato

