

**Parent Information Sheet**  
Friday 1st February 2019

**House Points for LISTENING, RESPECT & MANNERS for this week are...**

Eagles - 69 points

Hawks - 71 points

Owls - 68 points

**Falcons - 73 points**

Well done Falcons! You have stepped into the lead this week.

**Assembly - Resilience**

This week Mrs Brown led our assembly and she returned to one of the words we often talk to the children about - RESILIENCE. The ability to bounce back from something not going well or not going your way. She illustrated this essential personal quality with the story of Betty Robinson. Betty was an American female athlete - a pioneer for women's sport who just so happens to be related to Mrs Brown. Betty ran her first official race on March 30, 1928, at the age of 16, an indoor meet where she finished second and at her next race, she equalled the world record. Betty won the first ever female 100 yard dash gold medal in the 1928 Olympics in Amsterdam. However this was not her greatest achievement. In 1931 Betty was involved in a plane crash, and was severely injured. A man who discovered her in a coma in the wreckage wrongly thought she was dead, put her in the boot of his car and drove her to an undertaker, where his mistake was discovered. She awoke from the coma seven months later, although it was another six months before she could get out of a wheelchair, and two years before she could walk normally again. Yet despite all of this Betty's courage and resilience saw her come back from the brink of disaster to compete for her country in the 1936 Olympics. Still unable to kneel for a normal 100m start, Betty was a part of the US relay team winning her second Olympic gold medal. Retiring after the Berlin Olympics, Betty remained involved in athletics as an official. She died in 1999 aged 87.

What an amazing story and what an amazing example of a female role model, ambassador for sport and resilient and courageous human being.

**Welcome back Joe**

On Wednesday our Key Stage 2 children welcomed back Joe McKeown whose assemblies always bring an air of calm and quiet contemplation. I know from some of the Parent Survey contributions that many of you are increasingly concerned about young people's well-being and mental health. Joe's assemblies which focus on being mindful, still and present, have proved extremely effective in introducing the children to some simple strategies to help them take time to de-stress, clear their minds and appreciate the moment. We have seen how effective Joe's approach is and how responsive the children have been and are keen to explore how we can support our pupils more with this type of work in an age appropriate and measured way.

**Shared Education - P3s return to Holywood PS!**

*"On Tuesday we met some friends from Holywood Primary School when we went to their school. We had met them before the first time we went. It was nice to see them again. Some of us made paper aeroplanes because we were learning about gliding and gravity. Then we got to play lots of drums and the man played guitar. We had our packed lunch together and we got to chat more to our friends from Holywood. At the end we sat in our friendship circle and sang "Count on me" by Bruno Mars. It was a great day and we're looking forward to Holywood coming to our school next time."*

By Ralph, Eloise & Olivia P3

**Healthy Bodies**

*On Thursday, Riona's mum came into our class to tell us lots of information about our bodies. Mrs McKinney is a nurse who is doing some teaching and research at Queen's University and she brought in lots of stethoscopes so that we could listen to each other's heart beats. She also brought in a model of the human body which had organs which could be taken out and taken apart. We got to choose the name for the model - we called him Jeffrey...so now he will be known as Jeffrey in Queen's University where he lives! We also got to see what germs look like on our hands with a special powder and an ultraviolet light.*

By P5

**Development Proposal**

On Monday you should have received home a letter with information about the the Education Authority's proposal to establish a nursery unit in place of the current playgroup at Glencraig. As part of the transformation process the Education Authority wish to consult with the parents, staff and management board of both the primary school and the playgroup. A letter explaining this and also where the various documents can be accessed was also sent home. We have also saved a link to the consultation response document on our website. Paper copies can also be picked up from the school office.

Even the briefest of responses will be counted. You can respond by a quick email to [Stephen.Martin2@eani.org.uk](mailto:Stephen.Martin2@eani.org.uk) or use the consultation response and post it to Stephen.

The Governors would ask that you please submit a response in favour of the proposal. The establishment of a nursery will ensure the future of preschool provision on this site for as long as the school is here. It allows us to have more connection and input and importantly promote our integrated ethos from as early an age as possible. The proposal has no impact on any of our neighbouring establishments as we are not increasing the number of children coming in to the nursery. We will be serving the same community but in a more consistent and connected way - our Glencraig family is simply being extended to the preschool years.

### **Sacrament Dates**

For families of those children taking part in the various sacraments this year these are the key dates that you might like to pop in your diary.

**First Confession (P3):** 12th March at 12.30pm

**First Holy Communion:** 8th June at 11am

**Service of Light (P7):** 9th May at 7pm

**Confirmation (P7):** 17th May at 6pm

*There will be a Sacramental Preparation information evening for parents on **Tuesday 5th February at 7pm** at St Patrick's School Hall in Holywood.*

### **PTA Valentine Cake Sale**

Building on the success of the first term the PTA have their next event on **Friday 15th February** when they will be running a **Valentine Cake Sale and coffee afternoon**. This was a very successful event last year and much enjoyed by parents who were able to browse the cakes and have a coffee before pick up time. The PTA will be setting up in the hall after lunch and will be selling tea & coffee as well as cakes and tray bakes from 1.00 - 2.00pm. (All the children finish at 2.00pm that Friday for half term). **Cake boxes and further information will be going home in school bags at the start of February, the PTA plan to have some spot prizes for the day so it promises to be a lot of fun, the children love to see their creations for sale!**

### **PTA Meeting**

The PTA are having their next meeting this coming **Monday 4th February** just after morning drop off in school.

Everyone is welcome to come along and it would be lovely to see both familiar and new faces. Some of our new P1 parents may now feel more at home in Glencraig and would like to get involved - so please come along. It also doesn't have to be a mum or dad - grandparents are more than welcome!

### **Dates to put in your diary...**

**Fri. 15th February**

**Mon 18<sup>th</sup> – Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb**

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

**Week Beg, 4<sup>th</sup> March**

**Wed. 13<sup>th</sup> & Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> Mar**

**Friday 15th March**

**Monday 18th March**

**Wed. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Fri. 5th April**

**Week Beg. 8th April**

**Week. Beg. 8th April**

**Friday 12th April**

**PTA Valentine Cake Sale**

**Half Term Holiday**

**Family Culture Event**

**Integrated Education Week**

**KS2 Production of "OINK!"**

**Red Nose Day**

**St. Patrick's Day holiday (SCHOOL CLOSED)**

**P6 Trip to Ganaway**

**Parent Teacher Interviews**

**Book Week**

**SCHOOL FINISHES AT NOON FOR THE EASTER HOLIDAYS**