



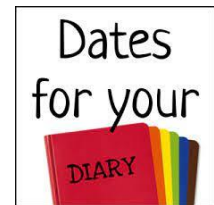
# Newsletter

April 2024

It's only been two and a half weeks since we returned from the Easter break, but the Prep classes have been exceptionally busy. We have classes enjoying World War 2 workshops, girls celebrating World Earth Day, classes planting seeds and bulbs in our new grow beds, strange classroom visitors from the Amazon jungle, and some amazing artwork. We have also enjoyed a number of sports successes in hockey, netball, cross country and swimming. You will definitely find this an interesting and inspiring read.

Mrs K Hrabovsky

## Dates for your diary...



- **Monday 6 May:** **May Day Bank Holiday, school closed**
- **Tuesday 7 May:** Pupils change to wearing summer uniform
- **Mon 13 – Wed 15 May:** Prep 7 Residential trip to York
- **Friday 17 May:** Pre-School Sports Day, Prep grounds @ 10am
- **Saturday 18 May:** **FoP Holistic Kidz Fundraiser, 1-4pm @ Barnett's Demesne**
- **Wednesday 22 May:** Prep 1-7 Sports Day in Inchmarlo @ 10am
- **Monday 27 May:** **School Development Day, pupils do not need to attend**

**Friends of Prep Forest Fundraiser!**

Kindly Supported By **Holistic Kidz** ready! Steady! Explore!

**Barnett's Demesne**  
**SATURDAY 18th MAY**  
**1pm-4pm**

- Wilderness Warrior Trekking
- MEGA MUDSLIDE ASSAULT Course
- Nature Ninja Bushcraft
- Eco Artists Workshop
- The Floor is LAVA Scavenger Hunt

**£20.00 per child**  
 All ticket sales will be donated to Friends of Prep

**Book online**  
[www.holistickidz.com](http://www.holistickidz.com)

Children receive a Jewel Garden by Lucy Friendship Bracelet!

**Outdoor Adventure & Fundraising FUN!**  
 Limited Places Available - Please Book Early to Avoid Missing Out!

## Individual Excellence



Congratulations to Prep 6 pupil, Olivia Johnston who finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the P6 Girls Belfast Cross-Country Finals – what an amazing achievement! Also huge congratulations to Olivia Falls in Prep 7 who received one silver and two bronze medals at the Ulster senior schools swimming competition. There must be something in the name!



# Newsletter

April 2024

## Pre-School



Pre-School had a great time celebrating Earth Day on Monday 22 April. Our girls know all about conserving water, putting litter in the bin and recycling. We made some lovely Earth paintings and added a heart and cut-outs of our hands to show that we know how to take care of the planet. We will be planting flowers in our garden during our next Forest School session, and we are very excited for our caterpillars to arrive. We hope to release some beautiful butterflies later this term. We have had great success with our tadpoles, and they have all grown legs now and are eagerly swimming around the container building their strength for their next adventure. We should have frogs very soon! Spring has been a lot of fun in Pre-School and we look forward to the summer adventures ahead.

## Prep 1



P1 have been enjoying dodging the showers and looking for signs of Spring in our school grounds. We have been working at our People who help us topic, finding out about what doctors, paramedics and nurses do as part of their jobs, and we are looking forward to having Nurse Fiona visiting us. We also have enjoyed planting seeds and trying out growing plants from cuttings.







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## Prep 2

We have had a very busy two weeks in P2. We started our farm topic and have enjoyed learning about the different animals and writing about our favourite farm animal. We have enjoyed playing with all the new farm related play activities including the farm shop, farm small world, farm puzzles and farm themed Beebot mat. We have continued learning more about money and can now recognise the 1p, 2p, 5p, 10p and 20p. We can use these coins to make amounts.



## Prep 3

In Prep. 3 we have begun our new topic 'School is Cool' and are currently learning about our own school. We have been looking back at our schools' history and finding out about how it came to be, and, in the present day, thinking about the important people who help us daily throughout the school day and week. Through our Activity Based Learning we have had lots of fun already in our 'school canteen' role play area! In Art the girls have observed and created their own flower painting inspired by the work of the famous artist Georgia O'Keeffe. The girls had fun mixing colours using either warm or cold colours on their petals.





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## Prep 4



Prep 4 rounded off their World War Two topic with a very special day. We had the Active Learning Company visit our class to deliver a fun and educational workshop about life during World War Two. The workshop involved dressing up, learning about weapons, designing medals, and playing with traditional toys. We learned how to march like real soldiers and had a competition to see who would have made the best drill sergeant. In Numeracy, we have been using grid references and compass points to give directions and find information on a map. We had great fun coding the Beebots to turn and move specific directions and rotate them 90 and 180 degrees clockwise and anticlockwise.

## Prep 5

We have had a busy start to our new term in Prep 5. As part of our whole school "Growing for Sustainability" project, we have planted spring onion seeds in our special class planter, and we look forward to a good crop in the next couple of months. We have been delighted to work alongside our Indian partner school, Garden High School, Kolkata in a collaborative project highlighting the surrounding Climate Change. Our girls worked in small groups to create eye catching posters which focused on how we can work towards taking greater care of our environment. The pupils of Garden High School have also created their own similar artwork, and everyone was delighted to observe how "great minds think alike!" at home and further afield, in many of the designs! We were interested to hear how high temperatures have resulted in our peers from India having to revert to online learning from home. We do not have the same problem with a lack of rainfall in Northern Ireland! We look forward to learning more and developing our cultural awareness about how climate change has affected our partner school.







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April 2024

## Prep 6

They say a picture paints a thousand words and these images certainly tell an interesting tale! The Prep 6 girls had an interesting start to their new World Around Us topic when the Amazon Jungle came to class. Catherine brought a variety of lizards, spiders, frogs, snakes, a tortoise and a chameleon to ensure the girls could see the wonderful and unique animals that call the rainforest home. This was a fabulous start to our new Rainforests topic.



## Prep 7

In Prep 7 we have been enjoying more practical learning and the introduction of new subjects in preparation for Year 8. We have been transported to the world of Latin Literature and know how to introduce ourselves, say our name and differentiate between masculine and feminine word endings. We also love learning about Roman myths, gods and goddesses. Our Literacy and Numeracy lessons have been of a more practical nature, and we are participating in the Forest Schools, Young Enterprise and Celebrating Our Sports programmes. The hockey team have been busy becoming Northern Ireland champions and the Netball squad finished top of the Belfast league, qualifying for the Northern Ireland finals on 6<sup>th</sup> June.

We have lots of exciting opportunities coming up this term, including our York residential, cycling proficiency training, Love for Life and HiP Psychology workshops... Lot's still to look forward to, ladies!





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## KV Hockey Achievements



Mrs Henderson and the Prep hockey team were out in full force on Friday 19 April as they competed in the NI Finals at Stormont. The team played fantastically finishing first place and taking home the McCloy Plate. Obviously, the early morning practice sessions were worth it!

The Under 11s KV Hockey girls played in the Ulster Finals at Stormont during the Easter break. They topped their group and made it through to the quarter finals where they were narrowly beaten in the final seconds by Bangor. Well done to all our VCB Prep girls Lily, Willow, Sophia, Megan, Frankie and Olivia who were part of the squad. Club KV Hockey are always keen to recruit new players and develop the girls' hockey skills with their qualified coaches. They train on Saturday mornings on the VCB pitches. If you would like to find out more about their training sessions, please visit the Club KV Facebook page.

## Green Flag Success!

Congratulations to Mrs Graham and the Prep ECO girls for all the work they have done around Prep promoting sustainability, building, and preparing our class platers, and promoting 'zero-waste' lunches this term. We have received our ECO Schools Green Flag renewal with much praise from the assessing committee. Well done!



**Don't forget, pupils change to wearing their summer dresses from Tuesday 7 May**