



# Birches Primary School BIRCHES PRIMARY SCHOOL



## NEWS LETTER

**January / February / March / April 2019**

### **Killicomaine play – Monday 7 January**

On Monday 7 January children from P6 and P7 will be going to watch 'Time After Time' at Killicomaine Junior High School.

### **Swimming Programme**

The final swimming day for P6 children is on Tuesday 8 January.

The swimming programme for P5 children will begin on Tuesday 15 January until Tuesday 12 February.

The swimming programme for P4 children will commence on Tuesday 26 February until Tuesday 2 April.

Children are to bring their swimming kit along with a contribution of £1.75 each week for the swimming lesson and the school will cover the cost of the bus. Children are not to bring any valuables with them to the pool.

### **Killicomaine Junior High School Talk to P6 and P7 children – Wednesday 9 January**

Members of staff and pupils from Killicomaine Junior High School will come and talk to children in P6 and P7 about their school and give them an opportunity to ask questions about life at Killicomaine JH.

### **After School Activities**

**ICT Club:** Children will be using iPads to explore the apps Book Creator / Scratch / iMovie

**Netball:** P6/P7 girls will continue to train towards Tri County tournaments

**Rugby:** P6/P7 boys will continue Mini Rugby with coach Jordan Robinson

**Soccer Stars:** Healthy Kidz coaches will coach football skills

**Sports Club:** Healthy Kidz coaches will coach 2 sports each week, eg: hockey, basketball, dodgeball, martial arts

**Music Drama Club:** Robyn Keegan (KCP) and Mrs Morrow will work towards a Musical Theatre show

<b>Monday</b>	ICT	P4/P5	Mrs Boyd	2.35pm – 3.30pm
	Netball	P6/P7	Miss Burton	2.35pm – 3.30pm
	Rugby	P6/P7 boys		2.35pm – 3.30pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	Soccer Stars	P2/P3	£9.00 for the half term	1.30pm – 2.30pm
	Soccer Stars	P4-P7	£9.00 for the half term	2.35pm – 3.30pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	Sports Club	P2/P3	£9.00 for the half term	1.30pm – 2.30pm
	Sports Club	P4-P7	£9.00 for the half term	2.35pm – 3.30pm
<b>Thursday</b>	Music/Drama Club	P4-P7	£1.00 per week KCP Drama Coach / Mrs Morrow	2.35pm – 3.30pm

### **WWII trip – Monday 21 January**

Children from P4 have been learning about World War II in World Around Us. They will be given the opportunity to visit the Palace Stables, Armagh on Monday 21 January and through various interactive activities they will explore 'Life during the War' focusing on the Blitz, Evacuees and Rationing.

### **Eco Team – Cash for Clobber – Week beginning Monday 28 January**

Notes regarding our cash for clobber collection have been sent home. If you wish to send in items please leave them in collection bags at reception on Monday 28, Tuesday 29 and Wednesday 30 January

### **Tri County Netball – Friday 1 February**

On Friday 1 February children from the girls' netball team will be taking part in the tournament at Dungannon Leisure Centre. They will leave school around 9.10am and return in time for school dinners. They can bring a bottle of water and a snack for break time.



### **School Photographer – Wednesday 6 February**

The photographer will come to school on Wednesday 6 February to take individual and family group photographs. Further details will be sent home with the children.

### **Eco Team – Swap Shop – Week beginning Monday 11 February**

Our Eco Team have organised a 'Swap Shop' week aimed at re-using unwanted items such as books, board games, children's DVDs, old items of school uniform etc... Further information will follow.

### **Charities – British Heart Foundation - Love Your Heart Day – Thursday 14 February – NON UNIFORM DAY**

On Thursday 14 February Mrs Neill will be organising a special menu to focus on healthy foods which are important to maintain a healthy heart. This will be a non-uniform day and the children will be encouraged to wear something red. There will be a charge of £1.00 and the money will go to the British Heart Foundation.

### **Tri County Netball Blitz Day - Friday 5 April**

On Friday 5 April the girls netball team will be taking part in the Netball Blitz Day when they will be leaving school at 9.10am and returning in time for the school bus. They can bring a bottle of water and a snack for break time and they will also need to bring a packed lunch.

### **Friends Of Birches**

We are delighted to announce that we made £715 at the school disco held in November. It was a great night and was enjoyed by all pupils, staff and parents.

I would like to thank everyone who donated a prize for our prize draw. The draw took place before Christmas and we raised £525.

I would like to thank the committee and everyone who helped at the school disco and helped to organise the prize draw. This money will go towards resources for the children.

**Your help and support was very much appreciated by all of the staff.**

### **Dinner money**

School meals cost £2.60 per day - £13.00 per week. Please consult the monthly menu and send the correct money on a **Monday** morning for the whole week. We are unable to lodge cheques and can only accept cash. Thank you.

### **Medical Information**

Please keep the school informed of any recently diagnosed allergies or other medical conditions.

### **Allergies - Reminder**

We have several children in school who have severe allergies. Therefore, it is extremely important that **NO NUTS or KIWI**s or foods containing nuts are to be brought to school by the children. Thank you.

### **Contact Details**

Please ensure that school has an up to date phone number on which to contact you. If you have moved house recently make sure that you have notified school of your child's new address.

If you have not been receiving text messages from school, please contact Mrs Watson.

### **School Uniform**

Please ensure children's names are on all coats, sweatshirts and on clothes that are removed to change for P.E and swimming. If possible, use name tabs as names written in ink can wear off during the year.

The only piece of jewellery to be worn in school is a watch.

For health and safety reasons **earrings, rings and necklaces are not to be worn.**

### **Contacting School**

If you are concerned or unsure of anything relating to your child please do not worry at home, pick up the phone and speak to either Mrs Watson or your child's teacher. We will be only too willing to talk to you after school at a mutually convenient time.

### **Money Wallets**

Money wallets are still available to buy from school. These come in packs of 40 at a cost of £2.50.

These can be purchased from your child's class teacher.

**Dates for your Diary  
Term Two 2018/2019**

**Killicomaine Junior High School Play 'Time After Time' - for P6 and P7 children**  
Monday 7 January

**P5 Swimming Programme**  
Tuesday 15 January to Tuesday 12 February

**WWII trip to Armagh Palace Stables - for P4 children**  
Monday 21 January

**Eco Team – Cash for Clobber**  
Drop off dates: - Monday 28 – Wednesday 30 January

**Tri County Netball - Netball Team**  
Friday 1 February

**School Photographer**  
Wednesday 6 February

**Eco Team – 'Swap Shop' Week**  
Monday 11 February – Friday 15 February

**Love Your Heart Non-Uniform Day**  
Thursday 14 February

**P4 Swimming Programme**  
Tuesday 26 February to Tuesday 2 April

**Tri County Netball Blitz - Netball Team**  
Friday 5 April

**School Holidays  
2018/2019**

**Half Term**

**Monday 18 February -** Half Term – school closed  
**Friday 22 February**  
**Monday 25 February -** School re-opens

**St Patrick's Day**

**Monday 18 March** School closed

**Easter Holidays**

**Friday 12 April** School will close from 12pm  
Further information regarding school closing times will follow.  
**Monday 13 April – Friday 26 April** School will be closed for Easter Holidays  
**Monday 29 April** School will reopen

**School Holidays Next Term**

**Monday 6 May** Bank Holiday – school closed  
**Friday 24 May** School closed  
**Monday 27 May** Bank Holiday – school closed

**Friday 21 June** Prize Day – 10am  
**Thursday 27 June** Final Assembly School will close from 1.00pm  
**Friday 28 June** School will close from 11.00am  
Further information regarding school closing times will follow.