

# Kilbroney Integrated P.S. Rostrevor

Welcome to the schools new Sway Newsletter. Please bear with us as we learn this new skill as there may be some ups and downs along this new learning curve.

We would like to create a fortnightly Sway Newsletter so that we can keep our families up to date with all the fabulous things that are happening both in the school and perhaps in the local community. We will share information about school events and activities and hope to share information and resources for parents and any relevant community events or activities.

As always please keep up to date with what is happening in school by visiting our school website or school Facebook pages.

School Website<sup>1</sup>

School Facebook Account<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup><https://www.kilbroneyips.org.uk/>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.facebook.com/kilbroneyintegrated/>

## Communicating with the school



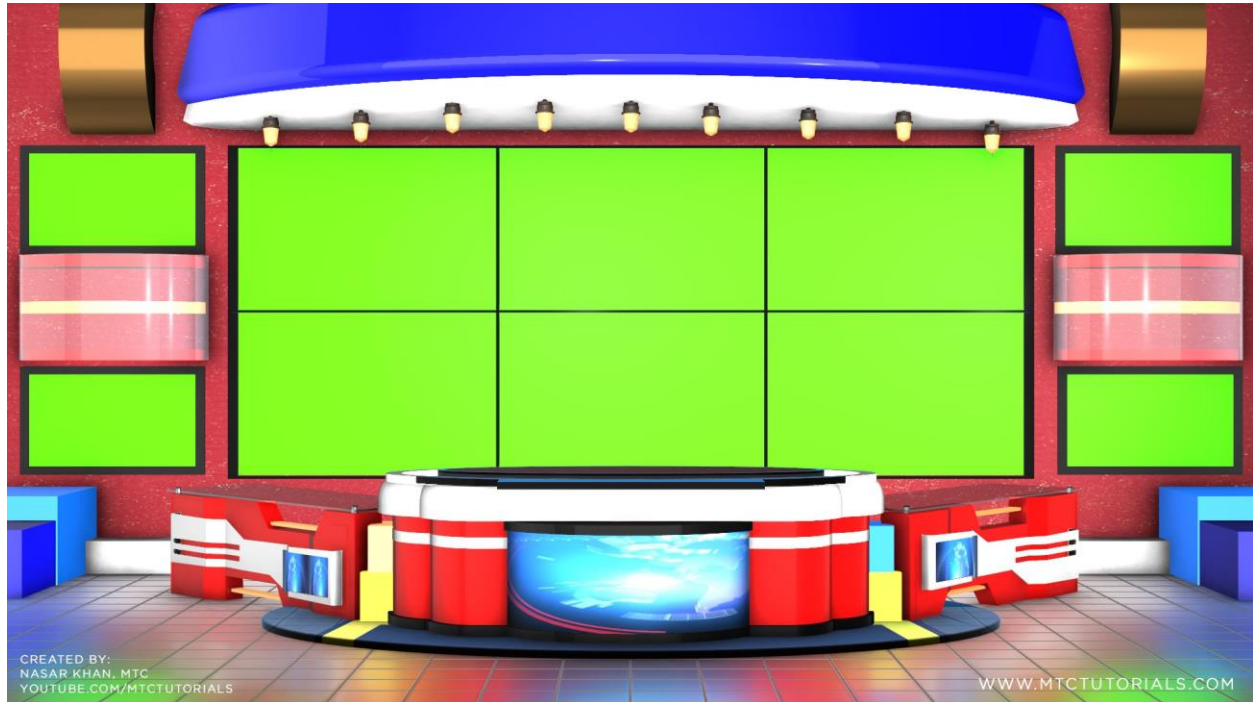
If you have an urgent message, please contact the school office on 02841738491 between 8.50am and 3.15pm as the phone goes on answer phone outside of these times. Any other queries should be sent via the info@ school email account: Info email address<sup>3</sup> and if required will be forwarded onto the relevant staff member. The relevant member of staff will come back to you as soon as possible. Our priority is as always the education and care of the children here in Kilbroney and if there is anything we can do to assist our families in any way, please contact the school.

Please remember that we use the C2K text local service, where parents who have been named as the emergency contact will receive a text message from the school when necessary. We also send school messages onto our families through the website and the Schools NI App. If you are unsure of how to download the App onto your smart phone, please contact the school for assistance. Please allow notifications and this will mean you will be notified immediately each time a school message is sent via the Schools NI App.

---

<sup>3</sup><https://info@kilbroneyips.rostrevor.ni.sch.uk>

## Resources for pupils



Newsdesk is a fabulous resource and is aimed at Primary school children. You can access Newsdesk by logging into MySchool<sup>4</sup> and then by clicking on your Apps. Look for this symbol.

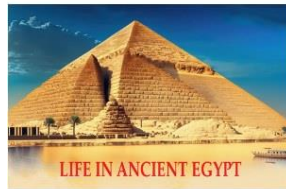
Have a look at the stories on the front page. Enter your own piece of work on the School Reporter tab, there's puzzles and games to play and event fact files about many topics to discover. Throughout the year there are also competitions that you can enter.

---

<sup>4</sup><https://www.c2kschools.net/>



Star Wars is storytelling at its best



### Life in Ancient Egypt

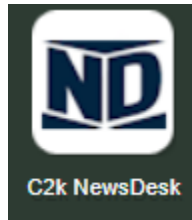
Special Adobe Newsdesk feature on pharaohs, pyramids and people



### NI's brilliant bridges

They are a vital part of our lives

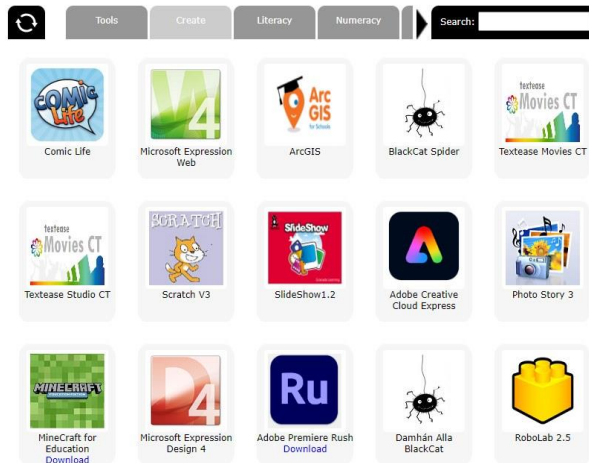
#### 1 - Today's front page news



Look for this Newsdesk symbol in your Apps and click on it. Remember if you want to upload a piece of work, click on School Reporter and select a Frontline or Headline Story. Remember to add a good quality image to your piece. You can also search for your friends work and add a comment (positive comments only, please) by searching for : Kilbroney Integrated Primary School in the search bar and your school mates work will come up for you to read and comment on. If you don't want to upload any pieces of work, you can just go to Newsdesk to read and enjoy the News stories and to play the fun games.

**My School:** When you search for MySchool log in on Google or another search engine. Log in using your C2K username and password and you will be able to access many of the Apps from your home computer or device.

You can access apps for Literacy, Numeracy, World Around Us, The Arts and creative apps. Why don't you have a go at some of these at home.



### NI4Kids digital Magazine

NI4Kids is a fun filled packed magazine full of information, competitions and activity lists for families and comes out every month.

Have a look at it here: <https://ni4kids.com/>





## EA High Five Resource for families



The High Five Resource focuses on taking five steps for well being and provides lots of fun activities and ideas for both school and home.

All High Five Newsletters can be found on the following EA web page: High Five Newsletters<sup>5</sup>

Childline have a nice child friendly website for children Buddy Zone<sup>6</sup>

---

<sup>5</sup><https://send.eani.org.uk/high-five>

<sup>6</sup><https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/buddy-zone-under12service>

## EA Useful Links for Parents

The Education Authority website also contains a section for parents with useful links such as: family support, Parenting NI, Children's services etc. See the following link: Useful links for parents<sup>7</sup>

## Primary and Post Primary Admissions



### Key Messages for Parents

- The 'Apply Now' link for Post Primary applications will be live on the EA website from **Tuesday 30 January at 12 noon**. Applications will close on **Thursday 22 February 2024 at 12 noon**.
- Applications **are not** considered on a first come, first served basis.
- It is important to **submit** your applications by 12 noon on 22 February 2024 as an application received after this time will be treated as 'late' by the school and this may affect the chance of being offered a place in the school.
- It is recommended that parents use a supported internet browser e.g. Google Chrome, Microsoft Edge, Safari etc. The application **will not** work on Internet Explorer.
- It is the responsibility of parents to check that all relevant information is included on their child's application before submitting it.
- A number of resources are available online including tutorial videos, FAQs and quick reference guides, in multiple languages, to support parents with the Post Primary application process via **EA Connect**.
- Parents can check if their child would be **eligible for transport** assistance to school on the **EA website - Check Transport Eligibility**
- Parents have the right to express school preferences, but no child can be guaranteed a place at any particular school. More than half of Post Primary schools are oversubscribed and not all children who apply will receive a place at an oversubscribed school. To ensure a child has the best chance of being offered a Post Primary school place of their choice, it is strongly recommended that **at least four schools** are listed in the order of preference and include at least one non-grammar school. Up to 12 schools can be listed on the online application and if more are needed these may be emailed to EA.
- It is important that parents **read the admissions criteria** of the schools they are considering. This will help them to assess if their child is likely to be offered a place.

The criteria inform how the school will decide which children will be selected if the school is oversubscribed. Parents should think about how well their child meets the criteria which can be found on the EA website. If parents have queries on a school's criteria they must contact the school for clarification.

Information on the number of applications the school received in previous years and the number of pupils who were accepted are included in the school's criteria to let parents know if the school is usually oversubscribed.

### P.1 Admissions

#### P.1 Admissions Process.

The time is up and Parents should have received their letter or information on the Portal to say if their child gained a place in their first preference Primary School. For more information please see the following website: <https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissionsAdmissions><sup>8</sup>

<sup>7</sup><https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/useful-links-for-parents>

We very much look forward to welcoming our new P1 pupils and their families to Kilbroney IPS in September.

## Post Primary Admissions

Parents of children in P7 are due to find out the outcomes of their applications by either post or email on Saturday 18th May.

Please see the following websites for transport assistance and information with regards to the application process.

Transport<sup>9</sup>

Applying for a Post Primary Place<sup>10</sup>

The school would like to wish the P7's good luck and we look forward to celebrate with them and their achievements from now until the finish at the end of June. They have all received their Leaver's Hoodies and they look amazing. Kilbroney IPS will miss you all when you move on to your selected Post Primary Schools. Please feel free to call back to see us anytime as we love to hear from our past pupils.

---

<sup>8</sup><https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions>

<sup>9</sup><https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/home-to-school-transport/check-transport-eligibility>

<sup>10</sup><https://www.eani.org.uk/parents/admissions/post-primary-admissions-guide>



## Achievements and Activities



We have had another busy week and today celebrated assembly with Rev. Elizabeth Hanna who was accompanied by Liz Farnan who led us in song related to the planting theme. Thanks to Rev. Elizabeth and Liz for joining us this morning. Congratulations also to our Pupils of the week who did a fantastic job.

Assembly<sup>11</sup>

Pupil of the week<sup>12</sup>

This week we also completed the NSPCC workshop 'Speak out Stay Safe Programme' with the pupils where they learned how to speak up when in need of help or if worried.

*Speak out Stay safe is a safeguarding programme for children aged 5- to 11-years-old. It is available to all primary schools in the UK and Channel Islands. It helps children understand:*

---

<sup>11</sup><https://www.kilbroneyips.org.uk/news/assembly-on-spring-planting/?cms4563-news-live=1790>

<sup>12</sup><https://www.kilbroneyips.org.uk/news/pupil-of-the-week-3rd-may-2024/>

- *abuse in all its forms and how to recognise the signs of abuse*
- *that abuse is never a child's fault and they have the right to be safe where to get help and the sources of help available to them, including our Childline service.*

*The programme content links directly the curriculum and helps reinforce key messages about abuse and neglect.*

Transfer Class began this week in P6 and will continue on Thursdays from 3-4pm with Mr Thompson.

Cricket continued this week for P4&5 with Harry Lockhart.

Aoife Cunningham from EA Reach Programme returned this week to work with the P6 children on friendships and resilience and to work on transition with P7's. This programme will last for 4 weeks.

On Monday the P5-7 children enjoyed a fabulous trip to the Palace Stables in Armagh where they learned all about the sport of Orienteering.

On 26th April the children had a fabulous 'Break the rules day' to raise funds for the school council and the school garden. Over the last few weeks Mrs McManus has been taking groups of children out to begin Spring Planting so this funding will go a long way for resources. The school council would like to purchase new football goals and nets and playground equipment and so we hope to get an order in very soon so that we can enjoy these items before the end of June.

P7s enjoyed their 'exploding volcano' experiments on 25th April. See the following link to the images: Exploding volcanoes<sup>13</sup>

Four pupils from P7 represented the school last Tuesday at a meeting with the new Children's Commissioner Chris Quinn at Newry Library. The event was attended by schools from the local area and it showcased an exhibition highlighting children's rights. The children thoroughly enjoyed it and even got to take a selfie with the Commissioner himself. Children's Commissioner<sup>14</sup>

On 17th April the school football team travelled to Kilkeel with Mrs McConnell to play against 11 other teams from schools a lot larger than ours and they won the tournament. Its an absolutely fabulous achievement for the boys and the school. Super work boys. Football tournament<sup>15</sup>

On the 15th and 16th April we had Beats Carnival into complete workshops with P4-7 pupils. They created some beautiful pieces of art. We are looking forward to them returning over the next few weeks.

On 8th April the P4 children enjoyed a visit from Lauren Agnew USPCA. Lauren spoke to the children about all of the great work they do with animals in the local area. Lauren also linked her presentation to their previous topic learning on WW2 by telling the children about the great work the USPCA did during the war, showing them publications from then. Primary 5 joined us too.

USPCA visit<sup>16</sup>

---

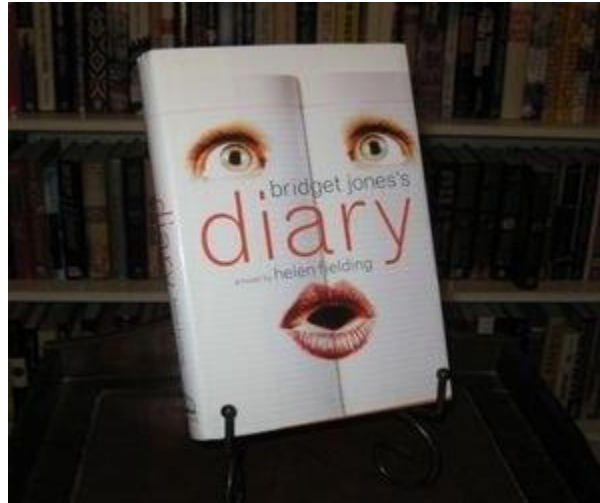
<sup>13</sup><https://www.kilbroneyips.org.uk/news/exploding-volcanoes-in-p7-/?p=1&>

<sup>14</sup><https://www.kilbroneyips.org.uk/news/p7-children-meet-chris-quinn-the-new-childrens-commissioner/?p=1&>

<sup>15</sup><https://www.kilbroneyips.org.uk/news/kilbroney-footballers-victorious-at-st-columbans-ps-tournament-/?p=2&>

For more news and events please see the school website as there's far too much to include in our first Newsletter today.

### *Coming Up-Dates for your diary*



The calendar is already starting to fill up as we move closer to the end of the school year.

Today we said farewell to Mrs Rooney as she goes off on Maternity Leave. We wish her the best of luck and look forward to seeing her again for a visit in the very near future. We look forward to welcoming Miss McCullough next Tuesday until the appointment is made.

Monday Bank Holiday No school- enjoy the good weather

Friday's Assembly and Cricket

7th and 8th May P4-7 end of year tests. Tests will be completed over the next few weeks.

10th May Kate Early (local author) will visit the P1&2 children to read them a story

15th May First Communion and Confirmation rehearsal in St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church at 9.30am

16th May The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church at 6pm. Congratulations to those children who are being confirmed. We would like to ask our First Communion children to sing at the choir during this event. Thanks to those families for their support.

17th May Cricket for P4&5, Reach for P6&7 and Dairy Council visit for P5&6 children

Saturday 18th May- First Holy Communion Celebration in St. Mary's Star of the Sea Church at 11am. We would like to ask the Confirmation children to sing in the choir and would like to invite the choir and the children and families down to the school to enjoy some refreshments after the ceremony. Congratulations to the children who will be celebrating their First Communion.

---

<sup>16</sup><https://www.kilbroneyips.org.uk/news/p4-visitors/?p=1&>

18th May P7 children will find out the outcome to their Post Primary Admission applications. Best of luck to our P7's.

22nd May P5&6 will enjoy a Woodland Trip to Kilbroney Centre with Liz Farnan. The school footballers will also travel to Newcastle for another tournament. Best of luck to the school team.

24th May: We look forward to our PTA Sponsored Walk and a special 25th Anniversary celebration for our children and parents. School will finish at 1.45pm on this day.

Mid term break Monday 27th to Friday 31st May

Monday 3rd May School finishes at 1.30pm to facilitate staff training.

7th June St Mark's Induction Day for P7 pupils-details to follow

13th June Sports day(weather dependent)

14th June Cricket with Harry, St Louis Football and Netball tournament

15th June Possible date for PTA Car Boot Sale 10-1pm £10 per car

18th June P7 Leaver's Day trip Kilbroney Park with Liz Farnan

25th June Tayto Factory trip P4&5

26th and 27th June P6&7 YMCA residential trip

29th June school finishes at 12 noon

Any changes will be shared with our families.

## Photo Gallery- Recent achievements and activities











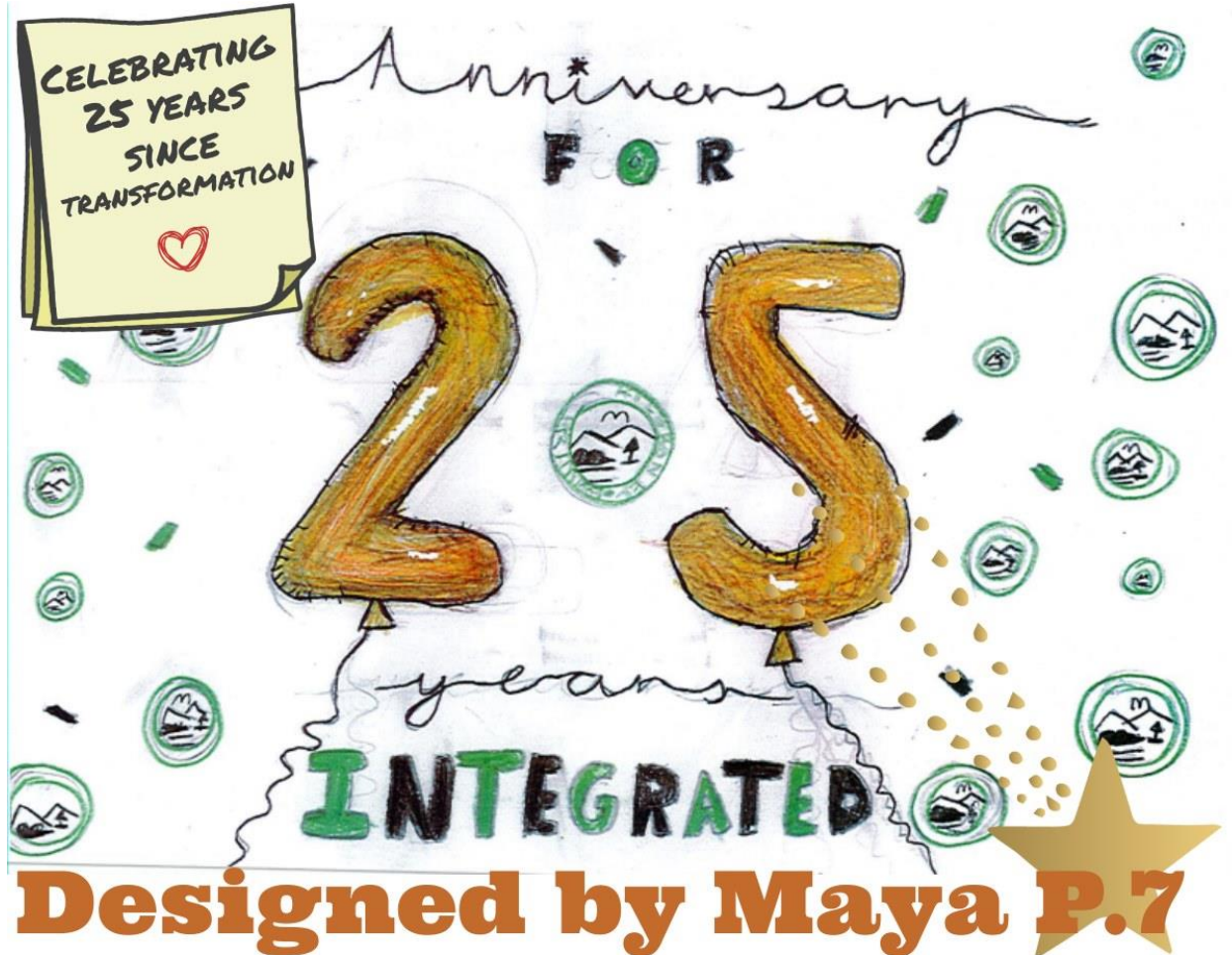


2 - Seren and School Council assembly on keeping the playground litter free



3 - Assembly on Spring Growing and planting with Rev. Elizabeth and song with Liz Farnan.

Celebrating our 25th Anniversary on 21st March 2024



On 21st March, we welcomed many esteemed guests to our school in celebration of integrated education. Present were Dr Mary McAleese, Mrs Roisin Marshall Chief Executive of Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education, Councillor Valerie Harte the Chairperson of Newry, Mourne and Down council and all local councillors. The school also welcomed the current and some previous members of the Board of Governors as well as the schools previous principals Mrs Jane Coffey and Mrs Denise Moorehead. We also welcomed members of our local churches, Father Des Mooney and Reverend Elizabeth Hannah and Principal colleagues from our local Nursery, Primary and Post Primary schools. The theme of the event was 'Building Bridges' and the children in the school worked with local artist Deirdre McClorey to create a piece of art which depicts how Dr. McAleese and Queen Elizabeth II worked together to build bridges between communities. The piece of art was unveiled during the event. As an integrated school we wish to continue to build bridges between communities for many years to come and hope to welcome you all back in another 25 years time. We as a school would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped to organise the event and our sponsors who provided so much from the fabulous food to the amazing drone footage. Please see the poster attached. We would also like to mention the schools Board of Governors and PTA who worked alongside the school in preparing for this milestone. We now look forward to organising and celebrating again with the children and families on Friday 24th May. Please enjoy the photographs and drone footage attached. The school



has just this week received the video footage of the event. If you would be interested in purchasing a copy, please contact the school office.



























