

Open Night Newsletter

I hope that you enjoy reading our latest newsletter. The articles that we have included will provide you with a flavour of what we can offer the children who attend Lisnasharragh Primary School. In May 2014 the school had a highly successful inspection. We have included a number of the comments that were made by the inspection team on the second page of this newsletter. If you would like to find out more about the school please come along to our Open Night on Tuesday 29 November at 5.30pm. My 'Principal's Talk' is at 6.00pm (and repeated at 7.00pm). Parents with children due to begin P1 in September 2017 will be able to collect information packs and application forms from Friday 25 November. Each year the school is permitted to accept up to 60 children into P1. In this current academic year we have two classes in P1, 2, 3, 4 and 5. Boys and girls of all ages are very welcome to attend our Christmas Activity Morning on Sat 3 Dec from 10.00am to 12.30pm. Please come along!

P Monks (Principal)



The Fort Of The Foals

Lisnasharragh Primary School



**Do you have a child
who is due to begin
Primary 1 in
September 2017?**

If the answer is 'Yes'
please come along
and visit our school:

Open Night
Tuesday 29 November
from 5.30pm
Principal's Talks at
6.00pm and 7.00pm

**Christmas
Activity Morning**

Saturday 3 December
from 10.00am

*You are also welcome to have
an individual tour of the school
during the week commencing
Monday 28 November.*

028 90 401211

Please visit our website...
www.lisnasharraghps.com

Beat the Street



'Beat the Street' was a very enjoyable walking, running and cycling competition. My mum and I went walking together lots of times. Maeve P7

School Building, Facilities and Learning Resources

Some additions to our school building, facilities and learning resources.



new ICT suite with multi media system

a new roof for the front of the school

a refurbished front entrance hall

refurbished toilet blocks and cloakrooms

refurbished staffroom and offices

refurbished hall with multi-media system

a new play based learning centre

a new Primary 2 lunch room

a new inter-floor lift

new internal fire doors with auto closing

new ceiling lighting throughout school

internal painting of corridors and rooms

a new multi-use games area with lights

a new outdoor play unit for P1 and P2

all tarmac areas have been resurfaced

a new parent and toddlers area

a new boiler house and heating system

a new security system with CCTV

a 'quiet area' beside P3-P7 playground

new garden area with storyteller's chair

interactive whiteboards for all rooms

a smart panel for our new P5 classroom



TITANIC

Learning Objectives:

- To explore postcards from the Titanic.

- To write from different viewpoints.

- To write appropriately within the historical context of 1912.

a defibrillator (kept in the school office)

52 new computers for the classrooms

new internal and external signage

iPads to support the children's learning

two refurbished lunch canteens

two new covered cycle parks

new gymnastics and tennis resources

new flooring for P1 classroom

refurbishment of offices corridor

a second photocopier, located upstairs

classroom resources for all areas

Lisnasharragh Primary School Inspection (May 2014) What did the inspectors say?

"The children are working in a very stimulating learning environment."



"Twenty two lessons were observed during the inspection. In the majority of these lessons the teaching was either 'very good' or 'outstanding'."

"The well planned play-based learning sessions and routines provide the younger children with valuable and fun opportunities to be self-reliant and apply their developing skills in both literacy and mathematics."

"In P1 and P2 the children are developing excellent reading and writing strategies. They have the confidence to attempt and write an expanding range of words and sentences independently."

"There is clear evidence of planning for progression across the key stages to ensure a coherent and consistent approach to the acquisition and development of literacy skills."

"In all classes, the children have a positive disposition to and enjoy their learning in mathematics."

"There are things happening at Lisnasharragh that should be sung from the rooftops."

"The teachers at Lisnasharragh have high expectations for the children."

"The teachers mark for improvement adding comments that are age-appropriate."

"The teachers put much effort into providing a stimulating and broad variety of well-connected learning experiences."



"The school gives a high priority to promoting a healthy lifestyle."

"The children who require additional support with aspects of their learning benefit from a balanced combination of highly effective withdrawal sessions and carefully planned in-class support from their teachers and classroom assistants."

"The staff provide a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities which enhances the quality and range of the children's overall learning experiences."

"The quality of pastoral care at Lisnasharragh is outstanding."

"The children, whose behaviour is exemplary, are happy and relaxed in a stimulating learning environment."

"There is a very inclusive ethos within the school, for example, all children have access to after school activities, the choir, productions and other performances."

"There is a great sense that parents are involved in the life of the school."

"There are very high quality working relationships amongst all members of the school community."

"The educational visits provided extend the overall learning of the children at Lisnasharragh."



"The school has developed a wide range of purposeful and beneficial partnerships with the local and wider community."

"Lisnasharragh Primary School is on an 'upward trajectory'



Earlier this year Lisnasharragh Primary School won the 'Anti Litter Billboard Challenge for East Belfast'. My job was to design the two characters who are seen putting things in a Belfast City Council waste bin. The message is that we can avoid having to pay a fine by putting our rubbish in the bins that have been provided. Paying a fine is just like throwing money away! Our fantastic prize was to have our design mounted on a display panel on the Cregagh Road for two weeks. In September some of us had the opportunity to go and see the billboard. When I saw the billboard on the wall I was very proud of the design that we had created. I really love art and would like to work in animation when I am older. *Isaac P7*



Last year the children in Primary 1 helped to set up a wormery for the school. Everyone was excited when the worms arrived! We were able to put our waste in the wormery. There were banana skins and orange peel. *Jude and Zara P2*



George Lytle from Belfast City Council came to school to demonstrate how we can cook meals using items from our kitchen that might otherwise be thrown away. He made a very delicious chilli! *Jasmine, Hannah and Lois P7*

We had a special assembly at the start of the 'Wheelie Big Challenge'. In this game we had to sort out the different kinds of rubbish and put it all in the correct bins. *Ethan and Luke P3*

Our Eco Plans for 2016-17



We have been given some new litter-pickers that we will be using every week. *Charlotte P3*
This is a very busy year for our Eco Committee as we are working towards renewing our green flag status in June. We would like to focus on the school grounds as our major topic this year. Some of our ideas include developing a wildlife garden to encourage bio-diversity, finishing off our bug hotel and creating a mini-beast trail. We would also like to do further work in the eco garden to enable the whole school to get involved in growing things. We will continue our work on managing waste within the school and have great plans to create an eco-classroom. Every class will be able to learn about a range of eco issues and use our large collection of recycled materials to get creative! *S McCleery*



'Scientific Sue' came to our school to teach us about the impact that litter and other waste has on the environment. I was one of the children who helped her with a number of experiments to learn about the science involved in throwing things away and writing graffiti on the walls. *Lauren P7*

The Breakfast Club is available from 7.45am each morning and it is not necessary to book in advance. For the 2-3 Club parents complete a booking form on Thursday (for the following week) and send it into school with the correct money. The Afternoon Club runs from 2.50pm to 5.00pm. For this club we ask parents to complete a form that covers the next four school weeks. All aspects of this provision are staffed by our classroom assistants.



Breakfast Club

**7.45am - 8.45am
for P1-P7 children**

**£3 per day or £15 for all week
£25 per week for 2 children**

Our Breakfast Club is held in the Play Based Learning Centre. It opens at 7.45am and is organised by three of our own classroom assistants; Mrs Graham, Mrs Todd and Mrs Hall. For breakfast the children can have cereal, pancakes, toast, yoghurt, fruit juice, milk or water.

I go to Breakfast Club every morning because I enjoy it. If I go it lets my mummy go into work early. I play with all of my friends and sometimes we sing. *Ellie P2*

Breakfast Club is fun. We are together with our friends as we eat our breakfast. *Aimee P7*

2 to 3 Club

**2.00pm - 2.50pm
for P1, P2 and P3 children**
£2.50 per day

The 2-3 Club is for children in who are in P1, P2 and P3. The purpose of the 2-3 Club is to facilitate a single pick-up time for parents. It is held Monday to Friday in the Play Based Learning Centre (at the rear of the school).

In the 2-3 Club I can play with children who are not in my class. I love dancing after I have had my pancakes. *Jack P2*

I love it when my mum books me in because I can play with my friends. *Jacob P1*

I play in the house corner in the Play Based Learning Centre. I like to cook. *Jorgia P1*

I love going to the 2-3 Club because I have cheese strings and I get to draw. *Scott P2*

Afternoon Club

**2.50pm - 4.00pm
and**

**4.00pm to 5.00pm
for P1-P7 children**

**£4 per for each session
£2 reduction when your child is attending an after school activity.**

The Afternoon Club begins at 2.50pm and the children can stay until either 4.00pm or 5.00pm. It is managed by Mrs Graham and her helpers.

I love getting a snack at the Afternoon Club. My favourite is toasted pancakes with butter and apple juice. One of the best things is that we go outside to play on the play frame or go to the Soft Play Room which is upstairs. Sometimes we make loom bands. *Stewart P2*

Healthy Eating Week



At Lisnasharragh we promote healthy eating along with an active lifestyle. Every year we have a 'Healthy Eating Week'. In October 2016 we focused on promoting healthy snacks for break time. This proved to be very successful with 98% of children having a healthy break throughout the week. Wednesday 19 October was a special 'Fruit and Veg Day' when the children in P3 to P7 were encouraged to bring a piece of fruit or vegetable for their mid-morning snack. 93% of children ate a range of fruit or vegetables such as carrot, cucumber, tomato, grapes, strawberries, pear, banana, apple or melon. All P1-P2 children are provided with a healthy snack. Many thanks to the parents for supporting our healthy eating policy! *L Orr*

P4 Road Safety Walks



On our walk with Gareth we learnt how to cross the road safely. We talked about some of the hazards such as untied shoelaces and cars that are parked on kerbs. We practised 'The Green Cross Code'. *Emilie, Aaron and Ollie P4*



Lisnasharragh Sports Park

Monday Tuesday Wednesday



Lisnasharragh Sports Park (our own Multi Use Games Area) is now available for hire by groups within the community at a cost of £30 per hour. The MUGA is the size of two tennis courts with a rubberised polymeric surface. Contact Mrs Childs for details - 028 90 401211

PSA Christmas Activity Morning

**Saturday
3 December**

**10.00am
to
12.30pm**

**Everyone is welcome.
It's free!**



P2 Sound Collage



The children in Primary 2 listened to Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite. We talked about the different sounds that were used for the Sugarplum Fairy. We got lots of materials and made a sound collage to show how we think it sounded. The boys and girls thought that the music was sparkly, twinkly, soft, special, delicate, bouncy, lively, happy, funny, shiny and gentle. We used some cotton wool, sparkly paper, tissue paper, tinfoil, felt, and paper doilies to represent the various sounds. *K Ruddock*



Every year in the Autumn Term we elect a new School Council. We had our elections for 2016-17 in September. To begin with, children had to be nominated by members of their own class. Those who were nominated had to write a manifesto and read it aloud to everyone. Those children who were standing for election explained their ideas and why they thought that they would make a good school councillor. On the day of elections everyone voted by placing a cross on a ballot paper. Our newly elected School Council now meets on a Monday afternoon with class representatives from P4 to P7. We talk about ideas that might help to improve our school. We are all really looking forward to going to Parliament Buildings at Stormont in January with the school councils from Carryduff Primary School and St Joseph's PS, Carryduff.

Emily P5 and Jessica P6



Lizzie came into school to take the Coding Club. Coding is where you use a list or sequence of commands to create an animated story. One of the projects that we completed was to make computer games based on a 'Ghostbusters' movie theme.

Jude P7



At Good News Club on Tuesday afternoons we play games and have Bible quizzes. Each week there is a prize for the best boy listener and the best girl listener.

Jessica and Bailie P6



Drama Club is great fun! I like playing 'Apple Tree' because I like catching other children when I am pretending to be a tree!

Harry P3



Liz and Lynsey (and their team of helpers) organise Scripture Union every week. We learn different Bible stories and recently we have been finding out about Noah. Sometimes we watch videos of the stories.

Lola and Harry P4

Improving our Story Writing in P4

During this term the children throughout the entire school have been developing their story writing. This has involved looking closely at the process that is required to produce a really good piece of writing. It takes a lot of work, however, the end product is worth it!

In October the children in Mrs Mayne's Primary 4 class wanted to produce a story based around our topic 'Early Man'. To begin, we did some brainstorming in our classroom. For our planning boards we talked about what we already knew about 'Early Man', what more we wanted to learn and where we could find that new information. We did some research during a P4 trip to the Ulster Museum. When we were there an archaeologist told us some interesting information about Early Man; where they lived, what they ate, how they hunted, what they used for tools and how they made their homes. We also did a 'hunter-gatherer walk', to find out what it was like to search for our own food, for example, nuts and berries. When we all arrived back at the classroom we made a rough plan of our stories. We talked about who would be in our stories, where they would be set, the time of day the story would happen, even what words we might use, for example, tools, wild boar, sabre tooth tiger. Then we decided what the ending could be. After that we wrote our stories on a page using the rough plan. Finally, we typed out our stories on the computers in the ICT Suite.

Clara P4



This is Clara's story called 'The Boar Chase'... One crisp, dark winter day in a campsite long, long ago there was a family of four. There was a very important announcement one morning while we were making breakfast. Someone ran into the camp and shouted that she had seen a really big herd of wild boar. "I found boar at Boar Mountain," said the very tall cavewoman called Mollie in an extremely happy voice. She went to the big, scary leader. The leader was called Johnny. So when it was the afternoon the whole tribe split up looking for the wild boar. But instead of wild boar they found a group of sabre toothed tigers. They were disappointed as they could not bring them down to kill them. They all blamed Mollie for bringing the news to them about the wild boar.

The leader still had hope in finding the wild boar. They searched all night and day. Week after week, they never stopped searching. Then finally they found the wild boars hiding in a cave in the spooky deep dark forest. They were so excited that they had found the wild boar. So they tried to catch them but they couldn't as they kept hearing them attack. So they stopped and took a tiny break. But evening came and the boars were resting. Someone accidentally ate poisoned berries. Then after they had rested they all got back up again to continue the hunt. As they moved into the forest they were confronted by the biggest, most, scariest wild boar they had ever seen. Then the wild boar was chasing them. They finally got back to the campsite. Bob said, "We made it home safely with no injuries". But that's what he thought! Everybody was either hurt, had a broken bone or a sprained ankle. He thought he wasn't but he was. He had scars, cuts and lots of other injuries. Then later on he found some magic powder. He put the powder on his injuries and he ate some supper. It cured him so he decided to take the powder to all the others. When he went into the camp everybody crowded around him wanting to try it. One at a time they were cured. We decided to try fishing tomorrow. It would be less dangerous. Well I hope it would be less dangerous! However, that is a story for another time.

Clara P4

After School Activities - Autumn Term

Monday

Art Club (P5)

School Council (P5-P7)

Hockey (P6-P7)

Tuesday

Soft Play Club (P2)

Tennis (P4-P5)

Scripture Union (P3-P4)

Good News Club (P5-P7)

Wednesday

Eco Committee (P4-P7)

Netball (P6-P7)

Cookery (P6-P7)

Thursday

Soft Play Club (P2)

Drama Club (P3)

Choir (P5-P7)

Friday

Football (P6-P7)

Our First Term in Primary 1

Our P1 children have had a busy first term. These photographs show just some of their learning activities. Much of the P1 work during the Autumn term is linked to the topic 'Fruit'.

Fun with Phonics



After having had a great fun time exploring the rhythms and patterns in words our Primary Ones have really embraced the schools 'Sounds Write' phonic programme. Groups of children are beginning to segment and blend simple words and are having great fun exploring how to record sounds to their symbols. We have been using dough, foam, plasticine and dry and wet sand to form sounds as well as recording on dry whiteboards and using the interactive whiteboard to develop shape and formation. A great start! Mrs Welsh and Mrs Armstrong are very proud of their super sounders!



What I like about Primary 1

I love playing with Lego Bricks.

Daniel B

I like colouring in.

Riley

I like story time.

Kolt

Going to Soft Play.

Zack

I love going outside to play.

Charlie

I like playing with Lego.

William

I like colouring in.

Lucy

I like healthy snack time.

Robyn

I like laying with Lego.

Harvey

I love playing with my friends.

Poppy

I like reading.

Abbie

I like drawing pictures.

Kora

I love 2-3 Club.

Daniel K

I like playing in the play park.

Hannah

I like counting up to 10.

Joshua

I like writing sentences.

Faye

I like learning new things.

Shannon

I like doing jigsaw puzzles.

Aimee

Having biscuits and cheese for snack.

Sarah

Making skinny minnies with plastcine.

Holly

I like my friends.

Eleanor

I like going to PE and Assembly.

Jacob

I like doing hard work.

Matthew

I like learning new sounds.

Dasha

I like playing in home corner.

Daisy

Having mash at lunch time.

Megan

I love going to Soft Play.

Max

I like playing with Play Doh.

Filip

I like reading in the reading corner.

Lucas

I liked playing in the birthday house and also dressing up as sleeping beauty.

Elia

I like playtime.

Jorgia

I like colouring in.

Zara

Handa's Surprise



During our 'Fruit' topic the P1 children read the lovely story of 'Handa's Surprise'. In order to extend the children's level of thinking we delved deeper into the story by revisiting it in lots of different ways. We sequenced the story through recall, we wrote speech bubbles for the animals in the book, we made puppets and re-enacted the storyline during playtime and found out where the exotic fruits in the story came from; guavas, passion fruit and mangos. We even tasted some of these fruits as part of our healthy snack. The children were given the opportunity to explore this book in lots of different ways. This made the learning very accessible for children of all abilities.

Celebration of our Fruit Topic



On completion of our first topic, 'Fruit' we had a consolidation celebration party where we recalled all we had been learning about fruits. After having looked through recipe books the class decided they would like to make some chocolate banana lollipops as a treat. We had great fun organising and gathering all of the ingredients and the equipment needed. We then recorded procedurally what we had to do and had great fun melting the lovely chocolate and decorating our lollipops. We made a super language wheel using lots of very descriptive vocabulary to describe how they tasted. What a lovely way to incorporate lots of different areas of learning, that is, measuring out the ingredients, melting the chocolate and freezing the bananas. We are still finding the sprinkles on our floor. It was a really great, fun morning.



Floating and Sinking



After reading the story about 'The Enormous Watermelon' the children suggested that we buy one and taste it. We made a language wheel using describing words to talk about its texture, taste and smell. Next we conducted an experiment to see whether a watermelon would float or sink. We firstly passed around the watermelon to feel if it was heavy or light. Each child then predicted whether they thought it would float or sink and we made a graph displaying the results. The children in P1 were shocked to discover that the watermelon actually FLOATED!!

I love playing at the house corner.

Emily

I like lunchtime.

Annasophia

I love painting.

Mollie

I love to dress up.

Nikola

I really liked making healthy strawberry ice-cream.

Scarlett

I love going to PE.

Emma

I loved tasting the pineapple.

Emmie

I like learning my words.

Hollie

I like reading my books.

Jessica



I loved building the Titanic out of Lego.

Jude

I like playing with the Lego.

James

I like practising my words.

Charlie

I like playing in the play park.

Bobby

I love the activity songs.

David

I like playing outside.

Tyler

I like playing with the doll's house.

Ethan L

I like playing outside with Marcel.

Yoel

I like playing with the Lego.

Marcel

It was fun cooking the banana muffins.

Jacob

I love playing games.

Joshua

I love going to soft play.

Zac

I like singing songs.

Jack

I liked tasting the watermelon.

Ethan W

I like playing instruments during music.

Riah

I really liked it when we made the strawberry ice-cream.

Ezekiel

I like lunchtime.

Katie-Louise





This photograph shows us taking part in the six week long 'Lifeguards Fitness Programme'. Our coaches were Lawrence, Luke and Jack and they taught us some fitness exercises that we can do in school or at home. Lawrence said that doing exercise to music makes it more fun. Sometimes we were in the assembly hall, however, if the weather was good we went outside. At the end we were presented with a water bottle, a certificate and a stress ball! We would recommend the 'Lifeguards Programme' to everyone because at the end you will feel much fitter.

Nicole and Andrew P7



We attended a special afternoon of football. It was just for girls! The coaches were from Glentoran Football Club. They helped us with our passing and shooting. We won certificates and real soccer medals. Rebekah and Emilie P4



The netball team had a very successful season! We were unbeaten throughout the whole year and in May won the 'Moneyrea Primary Schools Tournament'. We love playing netball because it is fun and energetic. It teaches you how to win and lose at sport. We can't wait for our league matches!

Brooke and Mackenzie P7



Last Tuesday we had our first coaching session with Steve Watters. He taught us the two most important strokes in tennis, the forehand and the backhand. We learnt how to grip the racket correctly. For forehand shots we gripped the racket with one hand and for backhand shots we used both hands. The photograph shows us holding our rackets in the safety position. This is to make sure that no-one is hurt by a racket when Steve is talking to us. Darcy & Nathan P5



We asked P7 about favourite ways to keep fit: In the summer term we focus on athletics and prepare for Sports Day. In June 2016 we had the opportunity to compete at the Mary Peters Track. It was a great event to take part in. We were able to meet children from other schools and to try out new events! We were also able to watch the teachers' race! Jude and Scott P7

Hockey (taken by Mrs Willis on Mondays) is a fun sport to play and we think it will help us when we start secondary school next year. We love getting our gum shields and shin pads on and playing matches.

David and Ben P7

We really enjoy being members of the girls' hockey team. I love wearing the goal-keeper's kit and throwing myself in front of attackers! Each week we learn new skills. These include passing, shooting and tackling. We can't wait for more matches!

Lauren and Lily P7

I can't wait for Friday afternoons! Mr Houston and Miss Carson take boys and girls for football after school. It is great to get to play in our MUGA! I am really looking forward to some competitions later in the year.

Shannon P7

We love experiencing new sports! Tag Rugby is taken by Mr McBurney who is an Ulster coach and is a game that we can all play all together. Boys and girls can play alongside each other on the same team. That is what we really like about it!

Maeve and Nathan P7



The boys and girls in Primary 4, 5, 6 and 7 have swimming lessons at Avoniel Leisure Centre and Templemore Avenue Pool. Kade P7



Last year I was a member of our school hockey team. We played in a tournament at Shaws Bridge and had a friendly match in the MUGA against Gilnahirk Primary School.

Lois P7



This is our P6-P7 school football team. We were taking part in the Ashfield Boys Soccer Tournament. It was a really cold, wintry day in January. We won some of our games and reached the play-off match for third place overall. Unfortunately, we lost this game 2-1 to Orangefield Primary School.

Aaron & Oliver P7

Sports Day Gallery



At Sports Day I took part in the egg and spoon race. You were not allowed to hold the egg with your thumb. I was also in the running race and the obstacle race. It was great fun!



Miklos P3



Our Sports Day was on a lovely, sunny morning in June. I took part in the running, egg and spoon and obstacle races. In the sack race I actually fell out of the sack!

Megan P7

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Primary 5 Titanic Project

In September the two Primary 5 classes visited the Titanic Museum. We got to walk around the Museum and take in all the events and information about the disaster in 1912. We also got to take part in two very different workshops. One workshop was about lifeboats (and the items you would need to survive) and the other was about communication using Morse Code. The pupils in P5 loved this exciting day out and were on their very best behaviour! We can't wait for our next school trip which is to the Ulster Museum.

P5 Classes



In October, Captain EJ Smith visited Primary 5. He was the Captain of the Titanic on its maiden voyage. We dressed up in period costumes for his visit. Some of us were first, second or third class passengers and some of us dressed up as the crew. Mrs Nevin and Mrs Dodd were lucky and had lifejackets so they survived. Captain Smith told us about his life growing up and how he became captain of the Titanic. It was his last voyage before he retired and he was trying to make the fastest crossing to New York. He was very popular with the passengers and very rich people wanted to travel with the White Star Line because he was the captain.

P5 Classes



Captain Smith explained why he had ignored seven iceberg warnings and what it was like when the ship hit the iceberg. He did not get off the Titanic and went down with it when it sank. He did what a captain was expected to do. Many people lost their lives. It was very interesting hearing all the facts and learning more about the Titanic. It was an amazing day and it would be great to get dressed up again.



Primary 5 have been working very hard on their narrative story writing. We have been focusing on making our stories interesting for the reader using a beginning, middle and end structure. We all wrote some fantastic stories about being stuck on a lifeboat for hours and finally being rescued. Primary 5 used an editing process to make our work the best we could by correcting spelling and adding in lots more adjectives! We will write more fantastic stories when we start our next topic!

P5 Classes



P5 made Titanic models using items such as cardboard boxes and toilet rolls. You can see them on Open Night!

Thea and Christian P5



Orchestra Visit



An orchestra came to play music for us in the Hall. My favourite instrument was the violin. The music they played was great!

Megan P4

P6 Killyleagh Visit

When we arrived at Killyleagh we were given a quick tour of the centre and got all of our stuff unpacked. Then we were given some big red waterproof suits to wear. After lunch we went for our adventure walk in Tollymore Forest Park. Joanne got us to roll down a hill and we all felt a bit dizzy afterwards. Next she took us to the river and we went for a walk in the river. We had to be careful where we put our feet. We crawled through a small dark pipe and then under a bridge. We got soaked! Lewis did a limbo under the bridge instead of crawling. Some of us went through deep water and our welly boots were filled with water. We had a really good time but were glad to get back to the centre for a hot shower. Lewis and Riley P6



On Thursday afternoon we went out on the RIBs to Salt Island and did a scavenger hunt. We had to look for five different things; something man-made, spiky, slimy, purple and 10,000 years old. We found a plastic thing, a thistle head, some seaweed, a purple flower and a stone. Trevor told us about the bothy which is for canoeists to sleep in. Joanne let us make smores with marshmallows and biscuits, yum! The best bit was going really fast in the boats because the waves were splashing up and it was freezing but great fun. We also saw a seal.

Grace, Nicole D and Hannah P6

P6-P7 Writing and ICT

In P6 and P7 the children have completed a variety of writing tasks based on the Harry Potter novel. They designed and advertised wands using persuasive writing techniques. Then they devised adverts for shops in 'Diagon Alley'. They also created designs on the 'Explain Everything' iPad app and wrote instructions for a variety of different potions. This picture was created using a Green Screen app.

M Willis



P4 Cave Drawings



We used charcoal to make pictures similar to ones cavemen would have drawn. They used symbols to show how they felt.

Saul P4

We asked some of the children who transferred from Lisnasharragh in June 2016 to tell us about their experiences at their new school.



I started Year 8 at Grosvenor on 30 August 2016 and so far it is going really well. I am really enjoying all of the different subjects and my favourites are Art, Technology and Science. There are a number of good after school clubs. I have joined Animal Club, Table Tennis and BBC School News Club.

One of the best things so far has been the Year 8 residential visit to the Delamont Field Study Centre where we got to try lots of outdoor activities such as canoeing, mountain biking and archery. The Centre is between Killyleagh and Downpatrick. This was also a really good way of getting to know my new classmates. We do get quite a lot of homework which can be hard work. I have really enjoyed these first few months and I am looking forward to all of the new opportunities that Grosvenor Grammar School will bring to me.

Leo Year 8



I have started Year 8 at Wellington College. As much as I have missed Lisnasharragh Primary School, my new school has been spectacular! There are some excellent after school activities including netball, hockey, football, rugby, art club, chess club and dance. To all the children in P6 or P7 at Lisnasharragh I would certainly recommend Wellington College. Why not come along to our Open Night? I hope to see some of you at Wellington in 2017!

Ellie Year 8



We all transferred from Lisnasharragh Primary School to Ashfield Girls' School in September 2016. We are enjoying new subjects such as Home Economics and Learning for Life and Work. One of the highlights of our P7 year was playing on the school netball team that won the Moneyrea tournament in May. We also had the opportunity to be house captains, school council members and members of Mrs McCleery's Eco Committee. We would like to thank the teachers and classroom assistants at Lisnasharragh for helping us to become the students that we are today! Good luck to all of the children in Mr Houston's and Mrs Willis's P7 classes. Hopefully, some of the girls will be joining us at Ashfield in September 2017. It is a really great school to attend! Caitlin, Emma, Maddie, Mia and Ellie

Stranmillis University College Programmes

Teaching Practice Placements starting in January 2017



Mr Mark Vincent is a second year student teacher at Stranmillis University College. He is a music specialist and after Christmas he will be teaching lessons in Miss Brown's P3 class and Mrs Nevin's P5 class. During the Autumn Term he has been spending one day each week getting to know the children and planning the lessons that he will be teaching. One of the topics that he will be developing with P3 is 'Dinosaurs'. When he is with Primary 5 he will be teaching lessons concerning 'Flight'.



Miss Naomi Dodds is also a second year music specialist. She will be teaching Mrs Crawford's P4 class, including some lessons about 'Space', and Mrs Palnoch's Primary 6 class where one of her topics will be 'The Irish Famine'.

Physical Education Student Teachers Programme



We enjoyed learning gymnastics with student teachers from Stranmillis University College. They are all learning to become teachers of Physical Education. We often worked together in pairs and developed some sequences that included a 'counter balance' and a 'counter tension'. It was great to have 16 teachers helping us at the same time! Ross & Curtis P7



Playful Approaches to Science Programme



My P3 class are very excited to be part of this programme. Miss Lowry has incorporated a wide range of interesting science experiments into our 'Dinosaurs' topic. We have explored what a paleontologist is and have even been digging for dinosaur clues. During the coming weeks the children will be making fossils from plaster of paris and creating an alarm for 'Dinosaur Rex' using circuit boards. The children use different iPad apps to document their findings. R Brown



P4 Early Man Topic

Our Primary 4 topic has been 'Early Man' and the children have been learning about how people hunted for their food thousands of years ago. In Literacy the children have been learning how to improve their writing. They combined the two together and wrote a plan - Who?, When?, Where?, What happened? and How did it end? Then the children drafted and edited their stories. Here are some examples of the finished pieces of writing. *T Crawford*

It was summer when it happened. Little Nose was going on his first ever hunting trip. Little Nose lived in the village of Big Nose. He got his name because his nose was the size of the tiniest piece of Flint. He lived in a cave with his Mother, Father, big brother Flint and big sister, Fur. He was the littlest in his family. Today he was going for the first time hunting with Stone and dad. Fur was grumpy. She had to stay and gather roots, fungi and berries while they went out hunting and had fun. But she did not realise how serious it was. Little Nose, Stone and Dad went out with their weapons and Fur and Mum went out with their knives. First of all Little Nose went on a boat. They were looking for salmon. Dad saw a salmon. He got his harpoon and shot. But he missed. So Stone tried but he got it. They pulled it in. Little Nose saw a salmon. He shot but missed. Then they went out into the forest. They saw a giant deer. Stone got his bow and arrow and caught it. He started to jump for joy but he didn't realise there was a bear behind him trying to get to sleep. Stone stood on a stick. Crack!!! The bear woke. Grrrrrrrr!!! Aaaah!!! cried Stone. They started to attack. Stone shot the bear but missed. Dad shot the bear but missed. Little Nose shot the bear and caught it. Yippee!!! said Little Nose. They went home and cooked the food. They invited friends and family. They had a feast and lit the fire. They had some entertainment from Fur who did a dance and Little Nose told a story that he wrote in this book just for you. *Julia P4*

Once upon a time there was a little boy called Little Nose. He had a twin sister called Daisy. They were not six years old until tomorrow, because it was their birthday but no-one knows! They had a mum called Mrs Nose and a dad called Mr Nose. They had a little trouble with Daisy. She always wanted to go out hunting for food but they wouldn't let her. She started getting stressed, jealous and annoyed. One night there was a lot of food to eat but they wanted to save it for the morning. That night when everyone was eating a big, brown deer Little Nose and Mr Nose had hunted for, Daisy said when will I be able to go hunting for food? Daisy had had enough of this. So one night when she thought everyone was asleep (but Little Nose wasn't) she took all of the food and went outside in the middle of the night and hid all of the food. Little Nose saw it all. The next morning all of the food was gone. Daisy thought this was her chance to ask to go hunting. But the usual word came out of her parents' mouths. No! They screamed. Dad had to go out hunting but he didn't want to bring Little Nose for no reason. Little Nose forgot about everything last night. Mr Nose set off on the big hunt. Little Nose followed his dad. Suddenly Mr Nose caught sight of a big, fat, brown wild pig. Suddenly as Mr Nose took aim for the pig there was a snap. Little Nose smiled as the pig ran. Why are you here? asked Mr Nose. I want to hunt too! After a whole day they hadn't caught a single thing. When they got home they found Daisy eating the food. They were totally amazed. How dare you eat our food, Daisy! *Katie P4*

P2 at the Soft Play Room



Primary 2 love to learn and play when 'on the move' in our Soft Play Room. The children are learning to add numbers together up to 20.

P2 using the Computers



The children in Primary 2 are using a computer program called 'Clicker' to write sentences about Christmas. The boys and girls love to use the computers in the ICT Suite and the ipads in the classroom. *L Lindsay*

Orchestra Visit



An orchestra came to play music for us in the Hall. My favourite instrument was the violin. The music they played was great! *Megan P4*

P2 Music Lessons



In P2 we have music time every Friday. We sing songs and play instruments. My favourite song is called the 'Friday Song'. My favourite instrument is the triangle. I love the long lasting sound it makes. *Zack P2*
We sing lots of songs in P2. We sing the 'Hello Everyone' song every morning. I love to play the instruments especially the castanets. They make a 'clack clack' sound. *Mia P2*

P2 Toy Time with Nanny



As part of our 'Toys' topic Primary 2 had a very special visitor who came to tell them about toys that children played with 100 years ago.

She told us about a little girl called Mairi. Lauren Mairi lived in Mount Stewart, in a very, very big house. It had twenty two bedrooms. Lucy K

Nanny was wearing a long black coat. Mollymae A long time ago they didn't have any plastic, so toys were made from metal and wood. Mairi's doll was made from china. *Eva*

Mairi had a pet goat which pulled her along in a carriage. *Sofiya*

The Nanny showed us Mairi's teddy bear. It was stuffed with straw and very hard. *Amber*

We got to play with lots of old toys. *Zach*

I really liked the Nanny Audrey's acrobat. It moved round and round. *Daisy*

The Jack-in-a-box had a handle. When you turned it round and round a monkey jumped up and scared us. *Dion*

The Jack-in-a box was my favourite toy. *Lea*

I really liked the woodpecker. You put a key in a hole and then you turned it. The woodpecker pecked the wood. *Bradley*

My favourite toy of all was the push along hedgehog. *Joshua*

I liked the Russian dolls. They fitted inside each other. *Lily B*

When you pushed the toy frog, its feet flapped round and round. *Charlie*

All of the children in Primary 2 had great fun playing with the toys. Emily, George, Sara, Scott and Kaelin all liked the spinning top best of all. Cain said it went very fast. *P2 (Miss Orr)*

P4 Making Coil Pots



We made some coil pots from clay. Thousands of years ago this is how pots would have been made. We had a base to work on. First we rolled long snakes to make the coils. Then we pressed them together and smoothed them with our thumbs. We used water to stop the clay drying out too quickly. *Chris P4*

Parent Staff Association



At the PSA Christmas Activity Morning I went to visit Santa in his grotto. I also made some delicious Christmas biscuits. Yum! Luke P3



The best thing at our Family Fun Day was the cockpit. I was able to climb right inside it. The bouncy castles were brilliant! Josiah P3



I was at the Cyclists' Breakfast with my brother Harry and my mum. I had shreddies and a hot dog for breakfast. It was good fun! Finn P3



My mum and I went to the Family Bingo Night. We played six games of Bingo and I won a raffle prize. I really enjoyed it! Grace P3



The Parent Staff Association made many very valuable purchases in 2016 including 20 ipad airs and a defibrillator which is kept in the school office. Thank you! P Monks

P2 Transport Topic



P2 have been finding out about aeroplanes as part of their topic about 'Transport'.

An aeroplane is a type of transport. It has jet engines. The air goes into the jet engine and the jet engine blows it back out again to make it fly. The captain is in charge of the aeroplane and the co-pilot isn't. David P2

Aeroplanes fly in the sky. They take you to different places that you want to go. Ellie P2

At the front of the aeroplane is a cockpit. This is where the two pilots sit. Rylee P2

The people in the control tower tell the pilot when they can take-off. They see all of the aeroplanes in the sky on a screen. Ethan P2

Wheels help the aeroplane land. Junior P2

Aeroplanes take-off on a runway. They have two wings and two flaps to help them fly. Lily

Courses for Parents

During 2015-16 the teaching staff planned and delivered a number of valuable courses for parents aimed at helping them to support their children's learning at home. The first was a DELTA course for P1 parents organised by Miss Herron, Mrs Crawford, and Mrs Hall.



A 'Phonics Night' was held for Primary 3 and Primary 4 parents to demonstrate how the children use phonics in reading and writing.



We worked closely with Barnardo's to run a curriculum course for KS1 parents.



P7 Junior Entrepreneurs

In 2016 the Primary 7 children developed an extremely successful business venture as part of our annual Junior Entrepreneur Programme.



After running a series of pitches to the three business leaders in the 'Dragon's Den' we opted to develop a new start-up venture called 'A Chance to Dance'. This involved the P7 children working together in groups to plan, advertise, and ultimately deliver a series of dance classes for the P1 to P6 pupils. The children selected and hired a dance teacher to run the classes.



'A Chance to Dance' was such a success that we were invited to showcase our achievements at the Titanic Museum. Other schools were represented and the children had the opportunity to share their experiences with each other. The children were fortunate enough to meet Ireland international rugby captain, Rory Best, and the founders of 'Mash Direct', a company that supports the Junior Entrepreneur Programme in NI primary schools.



The business was such a financial success that at the end of the project all investors (the P7 children themselves) were rewarded with £20 - following their initial £2 stake in the company! The programme not only provided the children with the chance to make a healthy profit but also experience of a wide range of business roles. Once the dragons had decided which of the original business plans should be adopted it was great to see the entire year group working together as a team, making important strategic decisions along the way. It would be wonderful if the Junior Entrepreneur Programme 2016 encourages some of children to enter the world of business in the future.

S Houston

House Captains (2016-17)

Slemish



Cavehill



Design a Christmas Card Competition Winner



Donard



Scabo



This is my design for the Lisnasharragh PS Christmas Card Competition. Mrs Claus is busy reading the 'good list'. She is helping Santa to decide which present would be best for each boy and each girl. Merry Christmas!

Elle P6

Christmas Nativity Plays 2015

Primary 1



Primary 2



Primary 3



Primary 4



**P1, P2, P3 and P4
Nativity Plays
Tuesday 6 and
Wednesday 7
December
2016**

Primary 1

'Whoops-a-Daisy Angel'

**Tuesday 6 December
9.30am**

~

Primary 3

'Tinsel & Tea Towels'

**Tuesday 6 December
10.30am**

~

Primary 2

'Christmas Counts'

**Wednesday 7 December
9.30am**

~

Primary 4

'A Midwife Crisis'

**Wednesday 7 December
10.30am**

Last year when we were in Primary 1 we did a play called 'A Miracle in Town'. In the play I was chosen to be the innkeeper. Jude P2

In our P2 nativity play I was a star. I had a special star costume to wear. Grace P3

In our P3 play 'Baubles' I had good fun dressing up as a mouse. Anna P4

Last year we were able to dress up for our nativity called 'Hey Ewe'. Eddie P5



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