



Newsletter

Issue 8
April 2024

Matilda The Musical

DATE CHANGE: In the lead up to the Easter holidays, many of our cast members were off with prolonged illness. As a result, our rehearsals fell well behind schedule. I therefore reluctantly took the decision to postpone the show for a week. I want to give our pupils the best chance of putting on a great show, but I very much appreciate and apologise for the inconvenience this will have caused many families having, made plans for the original dates.

The new dates are as follows:

**Tuesday 30th April, Wednesday 1st May
and Thursday 2nd May.**

The show will begin each evening at 7pm sharp.

Additional MATINEE Performance

Following the allocation of tickets to P6 and P7 families of those taking part in our school production of Matilda, only 29 tickets are remaining across the 3 evenings with Tuesday completely sold out. As a result, we have decided to add a Matinee performance on Monday 29th April at 1pm.

NEW READING BOOKS FOR SCHOOL

During Term 2, Mr Maitland and Mrs Corrie spent lots of time researching a new reading scheme for our school with our current stock of books becoming depleted and also out of print. They looked at lots of different schemes and decided upon Oxford Reading Tree for P1-P3/4 and Collins Big Cat Readers for P4-P7.

Oxford Reading Tree will be familiar to many of our parents with Biff, Chip, Kipper and Floppy still around not having aged in 30 years! The Collins scheme was chosen for the large numbers of high-interest and factual books that are sure to keep our KS2 pupils entertained whilst developing their reading skills.

The new schemes represent a big investment for us at a time when finances are a struggle for all schools. We have invested over £6000 in these new reading resources for our pupils, but we couldn't do this without the incredible support of our parents!

A final massive thank you to Mrs Marshall who spent every day for 2 weeks before the Easter break labelling and organising every single one of our new books into a user-friendly shelving system.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY – 3RD MAY

Friday 3rd May is a Staff Development Day in Millisle PS. Pupils will therefore be off school on the Friday as well as the Following Monday for the early May Bank Holiday on 6th May. School resumes again on Tuesday 7th May.

FOOTBALL TEAM-

Ards District Primary School Football League Winners 2023 / 24

After 16 highly competitive fixtures, Millisle PS have been crowned as champions of the Ards District Primary School Football League for the first time in our school's history. After a long absence from competitive league football, we joined the Ards Association back in 2016. At that time, we began competing in their 'small schools' competition before joining their large schools competition 3 years ago. To manage to win the now amalgamated league, playing against so many much larger schools is an incredible achievement.

We finished the season tied on points with Londonderry Primary School, Newtownards and as such are crowned as joint champions.

Placing	Played	Points
1= Millisle	16	40 pts
Londonderry	16	40 pts
3. Donaghadee	16	37 pts
4. Abbey	16	31 pts
5= Brooklands	16	30 pts
Dundonald	16	30 pts
7. Ballywalter	16	29 pts
8. Andrews	16	25 pts
9. Comber	16	24 pts
10. Model	16	21 pts
11= Castle Gardens	16	16 pts
Victoria	16	16 pts
13. St. Finians	16	14 pts
14. Alexander Dickson	16	9 pts
15= West Winds	16	8 pts
Killinchy	16	8 pts
17. Carrickmannon	16	2 pts



VISIT from EXPLORIS

Last month we had Kidz Farm NI visit school for a full day with sessions scheduled for each class across the school. We will be having a similar experience for our Nursery Unit, P1, P2 and P5 pupils on 14th May with Exploris Aquarium visiting Millisle PS. As with Kidz Farm NI, the payment for this experience will be £3 and payable via School Money. Again, the cost of this experience has been subsidised by the FMPS to keep costs down for our families.



Term 3 AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

After school clubs for Term 3 will take place as a 6-week block from Tue 7th May through to Friday 14th June. Club choice forms for these will follow in due course.

For the first 3 weeks of this term the focus is very much on our school production, with clubs beginning following the show's conclusion.

Exceptions to this are the Homework Club led by Strangford College 6th Year students on a Wednesday afternoon and the P6 Transfer Test preparation club with Mr McManus from 2pm-3pm each Friday.

**BEACH and VILLAGE Visits –
Term 3**

During Term 3, when the better weather arrives, we love to take our learning outside the four walls of the school when possible. Our seaside location lends itself to so many organic learning opportunities. As a fully trained ‘Beach School’ we love to get down to the shoreline to explore, create and build.

There is a blanket online permission form where parents can give permission for their child to take part in impromptu visits to the beach and wider village locations including using Abbey Villa FC, trips to the Millisle Beach Park and Millisle Community Garden.

You will find this form from Tuesday 15th April online on the ‘parents’ section of millisleprimary.co.uk or you can use the following link:

<https://www.millisleprimary.co.uk/safety-information/parents/form-submission/beach-trips-term>



CONTACT & SOCIAL MEDIA

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School Calendar

February – April 2024

April 29 th – 2 nd May	Matilda the Musical – School Production 29 th April – Matinee @1pm – NEW DATE 30 th April – 7pm - 8:45pm 1 st May - 7pm - 8:45pm 2 nd May - 7pm - 8:45pm
May 3 rd	School closed – Staff Development Day
May 6 th	School closed – Bank Holiday
May 13 th	Glastry Football Tournament
May 14 th	Exploris Aquarium – visit to school
May 15 th	Portavogie Football and Roundres Tournament
May 18 th	P7 pupils receive Year 8 places
May 24 th	School closed – Staff Development Day
May 27 th	School closed – Bank Holiday
May 31 st	NI Football Tournament
June 12 th - 14 th	P7 Residential Trip to Delamont OEC
June 19 th	Sports Day at Abbey Villa
June 26 th	P7 Leavers’ Service and Awards Day

WHAT'S THE PASSWORD?



ONLINE FORMS

When submitting online forms, please use the password sent to you on Dojo. This will indicate that

the form has been completed by a member of our school community with access to the appropriate password.