

Prep News

The spring term began with an Exceptional Closure Day on 4th January. On returning to school, pupils and staff were delighted to learn that the Prep Dept had been awarded “highly commended” in the NI Road Safety Awards.

Members of the School Council 2015-16 were delighted to show everyone the certificate of achievement.



P1 was one of the classes to enjoy music lessons with Head of Music Mrs Blakeman.

Events

P4 pupils learned all about life during World War II during a visit to Castleward.



P2 pupils enjoyed a visit to Armagh Planetarium.



Sharon from Kindergarden Cooks continued to work with P1-P3. In March she began a project with P4 planting potatoes and onions and making war time recipes.



A spring bread making evening was also held with parents and friends getting to try out their culinary skills too.



P6 pupils also took part in a Viking Day again led by The Active Learning Company.



The Active Learning Company visited school and led a Victorian Day for our P7 pupils.

A Travelling Book Fair visited school and on World Book Day pupils dressed as characters from non-fiction texts and completed a range of planned activities on non-fiction texts.



Swimming

Swimming Galas took place for P4 – P7 pupils in February.



P4 medal winners received their medals in assembly.

The Prep swimming team is due to compete in the Lisburn City Primary Schools' Gala on Friday 12th May.

Mariella Mackey, Haydn Maguire and Annie Poots represented the Prep at the Irish Minor Schools' Swimming Championships in February. Unfortunately, Ryan Raffo was unable to make the journey to compete due to illness.



On the day of the championships, Mariella achieved a personal best in the Under11 50m Butterfly event.



Haydn Maguire performed extremely well in the Under10 Boys' Backstroke managing to beat his qualifying time by 5 seconds. Annie Poots competed in the Under 9 girls Breaststroke taking 8 seconds off her qualifying time and winning her heat. Annie was confirmed as finishing in 11th place overall which is a wonderful achievement.

Mini Rugby

The Prep Mini Rugby team attended its first tournament on Wednesday 5 April. This was a Primary School' Blitz hosted by Friends' School.



Badminton

The Girls' and Boys' Badminton Teams entered the USBA Cup and League Competitions.



The boys were knocked out at the semi-final stage. Congratulations go to the girls who finished in second place in both the Cup and League competitions. Thanks go to coaches Mrs Smyth and Conor Hickland.



Congratulations to Laura Bell P7 who represented Alpha at the Celtic Challenge and was runner up in the U13 Irish Inter-provincials.



Choir

On Tuesday 21 March, the Prep Choir performed in the Friends' School Spring Concert held in the Ulster Hall. The choir sang from 'The Sound of Music' and also performed with Friends' Singers. Congratulations to all choir members on a fantastic performance.



Indoor Athletics

Some P7 pupils were selected to take part in the P7 Indoor Athletics Competition at Lisburn Leisureplex.





Hockey

This term Girls' and Boys' Hockey Teams competed, over a number of weeks, in the Lisburn Area Boys' and Girls' Leagues.

Congratulations go to the Girls' Team who finished joint top of the Girls' League and to the boys who matched this success by finishing top of the Boys' League.

On 28th February and 1st March both teams played in the Qualifying Tournaments for the Northern Ireland Mini Hockey Finals hosted by Ulster Hockey. The Girls' and the Boys' finished in Gold medal position in their respective tournaments. Therefore, both teams gained qualification, as one of the top 24 teams in Northern Ireland, to compete in their respective Finals Days.



This year the finals took place before Easter. The girls competed on Wednesday 29th March and made a most convincing start to their campaign winning all four opening matches and only conceding one goal. The girls, therefore, finished top of their group and were amongst the top twelve teams giving them the opportunity to play for the McCloy Cup. The bottom twelve teams progressed to the Plate competition.

After lunch the girls played two further matches in an attempt to reach the semi-final stage. They started well with a convincing 2-0 win. However, a loss in match two denied the girls a semi-final place.

The girls should be so proud of the great hockey they played and of how well they played as a team. The many supporters were incredibly proud of each one of them.

On Friday 31th March it was the turn of the boys' team. During the morning session the boys played five matches. These initial matches were to split the teams into two sets of twelve. The top twelve teams then competed for the Pearson Cup and the bottom twelve teams competed in the Plate competition.

One draw and four wins saw the boys finish top of their group and therefore qualify to play for the Pearson Cup. After lunch the boys played a further two matches, winning one and the second, against local school Pond Park, finishing in a nil all draw.

However, this was not to be Friends' day as the place in the semi- final went, on goal difference, to Pond Park. Even though the competition ended at this stage for the team, the boys should be extremely proud to end the day unbeaten in the competition. This is testament to the excellent hockey played by all and the manner in which they played as a team. Everyone was extremely proud of them.

All events, throughout each term, may be followed, as they happen, on Prep Twitter @flsprep. Please follow us!

We wish you an enjoyable Easter break. The summer term begins at 8.45 on Monday 24 April 2017.



Congratulations and thanks go to coaches Ms McMillan, Mrs Johnston and Mrs Monteith.