

We hope you all had a great summer...the sun was out in full force for the first time in years. It was great to have Katie's Sun Safety leaflet on hand.

Staff Changes

It is essential to update you as soon as possible to the changes in staffing at Holywood School this session:

Miss Baxter has decided to take the opportunity created by Mrs Shnapp's retirement to reduce her teaching contract to two days a week. Mrs McMichael will join the staff team for the first term and will be based in the P1-4 classroom.

As you are aware we work to the strengths of our staff team for the benefit of all of our pupils. Teaching staff will work between rooms and with a variety of pupils. This has been recognised as a strength of Holywood School.

A full time teaching post will be advertised this term with the aim of the new permanent full time member of staff starting after the October holidays.

Mrs Queen will remain at Holywood for mornings only this session – she will be working with primary one pupils, helping us to ensure that they settle in well and have continuity despite the changes in teaching staff.

Specialist Staff and Timetable Changes

Mrs Graham returns as our **PE** specialist – we have been given **Thursday** afternoon as our PE slot – Please remind pupils to bring their PE kit on Thursdays!!

Mrs Williams returns as our **music** specialist – we have been allocated a **Friday** afternoon for music this session.

Mr Parkhouse is our new art specialist – he will be in school on Wednesday afternoons.

Mrs Tipping has been allocated to the school as our new additional support for learning teacher. She will be in school working with us on a Tuesday morning.

Please see Miss Dale if you have any questions or concerns about the changes in staffing.

New Pupils

Welcome to Merissa, Ella, Ethan and Jack our four new P1 pupils. Elise joins Primary four and Braiden has become a member of P5. We know they will all do well as members of Team Holywood!

Swimming Lessons

As DGOne will be closing for repairs soon the local authority are trying to get as many pupils in the pool and learning to swim as soon as possible. Hence the very early lesson allocation for pupils at Holywood. Mrs Kirk and Mrs Moore will be accompanying pupils.

Personal Project

Scott requested that we dig out the All About Me personal project and ask all pupils and staff to get involved.

Instructions and resources will be handed out on Wednesday – in the meantime start searching out all the embarrassing baby and toddler photos!!

First Two Weeks

We will be working on team building skills and tasks to ensure that we are ready to work together successfully again this session.

P1-4 pupils will be looking at people who help us and may ask adults in the school and local community some tricky searching questions...look out Mrs Sturgeon!!

School and Community Gala Day

We are hoping to have a gala day very soon. The 7th September had been pencilled in the diary as the chosen date but Miss Dale has had to ask the date to be changed.

Pupils will be asked to design and create stalls and activities to help raise money for school funds. We hope lots of you will be able to help out on the day. Well done to Mrs Reid and Mrs Mattinson who have already volunteered Mr Reid and Mr Mattinson for BBQ duties.

A mini Chelsea Flower Show will be one of the competitions judged at the Gala Day. Rules and resources will be out very soon.

Masters in Education

Miss Dale will be attending Stirling University to study for a Masters in Education this session. University dates have been organised for Saturdays so will have no impact on school – Miss Dale may ask for help with her research and studies. Be prepared!

Blog

We hope to get all pupils blogging this week to let you know what they have been up to during the summer holidays. Please go online and read and comment on Learning at Holywood.

Back to School Checklist – Attached.

And we're off... Ready for another big year at Holywood School!

P. Dale