

# Holywood News

January 2018



## **Communications**

Remember to check your texts and e-mails as these are the two mains methods of communication between school and home.

Keep us up to date with changes to phone numbers or e-mail addresses to be sure you get all the information.

# Ahead of our Time ...

It has been interesting to read about local schools having a Daily Ceilidh in the newspaper. As you know our pupils have been opening the school day with a Scottish Dance for at least 6 years now.

We hope to put our dance skills to good use with a Scottish Night just before the Easter Holidays. More information to follow.

BBC Breakfast received an e-mail from me yesterday as they were showing a feature about morning exercise from a school in the south of England.

I informed them about the different 'Wake Up Shake Up' activities our pupils take part in on a daily basis.

### Winter Weather

Holywood has a reputation for being open no matter what the weather.

We know that our pupils live out and about in both rural and urban areas.

We understand that our parents will make the decision about whether it is safe to travel to school or not.

Please just phone the office and let us know if your child is going to be absent.



Parent Council Movie Night planned for Friday 16th February at 6pm.

Letters out soon with your chance to vote for the movie to be screened on the night.

Hotdogs and Ice cream too!



### **Badminton**

Badminton training continues a Monday night.



Cluster badminton competition for P6 and P7 pupils takes place on Thursday 8th February — forms available from Miss Dale. Please complete and return as soon as possible.

# Feb Holiday & Inset days

Please remember that all pupils are on holiday on the 12th, 13th and 14th of February.

Thank you to parents and grannies who have come along to lend a hand in the outdoors for Big Thursday.

Got time to spare on a Thursday ? We would love to have you in to help out.

# **Business Groups**

If you are free on a Friday between 2-3pm, please come in and lend a hand at business groups. Pupils are leading improvements based on the Global Goals.

Can't make it every week? Just come along when you can!

# Big Maths Share

Thank you to everyone who made it along to play maths

games. We hoped it would be a different way to share learning. Feedback was very positive from those who attended.

Couldn't make it this time? No Problem. Your child will be bringing their games home and the competition can begin!

# **Curriculum Swimming**

Some pupils from P6—P3 will be heading along to the swimming pool to undertake curriculum swimming lessons. Pupils will be out of school between break and lunch on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday over two weeks.

Pupils can put on their swim suit on at break time before they head out on the bus to the pool. Pupils will be accompanied by Miss McIntyre, Mrs Queen and Mrs Madden. Pupils will be back in school for lunch.

Well done to all our pupils who can already swim over 25m. A great life skill!

# **Internet Safety**

We have noticed an increase in pupils talking about online scary games or watching inappropriate content on YouTube.

As a parent do you know what your child is watching online?

It has been brought to our attention that some pupils may be contacting others with strong language or statements which they might regret or could cause offence from home.

Do you know how to block and lock down what your child can and can't view?

We are happy to set up a chat with the community police officer as they are trained to support parents with these issues. We can also set up a workshop in school if it would be useful.

Get in touch and let us know if you need us to make this happen.

Mr Walker will be leading an Internet Safely Assembly next Thursday 1st February from 9am—9.30am. Parents are very welcome to attend this short session with us.





### Assemblies

The assembly calendar is up in the corridor. Assemblies will be held on a Thursday from 9-9.30am. Pupils and staff will be leading assemblies. Pupils are also working on inviting local groups and charities in to school to share what they do at Assembly time.

Pupils who want to lead an assembly should talk to Miss Dale about getting signed up on the assembly calendar.

### **Blog Update**

#### https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/HolywoodHullabaloo

The Holywood Blog is getting a facelift!

The aim is to make it easier to find school and parental information.

Pupils' blog posts will continue to be front and centre - a great way to find out what we get up to with our learning.

#### **Bonjour Madame Millot!**



#### Nancy-Metz Partnership

Holywood Primary School has formed a new partnership with a school in the Nancy-Metz region of France— Ecole du Petit Ruisseau in Void-Vacon. The partnership will give our P1/2 pupils opportunities to video chat and write with French children, making their language learning more real. Miss Stapleton is leading the partnership project, and a teacher from our partner school, Madame Millot, will be visiting us in March to find out what learning is like at Holywood.

Tres Bien!

### We Need You!

Our Parent Council needs new members to come on board.

A number of our hard working members leave at the end of this session as their children head to high school.

We need parents to come along and lend their time and support to build on the excellent work of our Parent Council.

It was suggested at the Parent Council UK workshop that we ensure that all classes in school are represented on the Parent Council to ensure that a wider set of views and voices are heard.

It was suggested that parents may want to come on for a year and then swap as other class representatives take a turn.

It was suggested that we put all parents names in a hat and pull out two or three from each class. The head teacher would then phone to see if the parents plucked out of the hat would be happy to join us for the session.

Miss Dale will be getting her hat out and filling it with names later this term.

Please remember that all parents are welcome to join the Parent Council and this open door policy would not change—we are simple looking for fresh ways to build on the positive support and parental involvement here at Holywood.

### Confident, creative learners with big ambitions.

Kind to each other - Kind to the planet.

