Holywood News - August September 2018



Welcome Back!

We hope you all had a great Summer and found time to chill with your children.

Pupils look very smart in their school uniforms - PLEASE ensure pupils have their names on each item of clothing.

Loads of **Pre-loved** uniform on the stand—Please come and grab some bargains. £1 an item.

Mountains of left over clothes in lost property heading to the RagBag recycle bin—last chance to claim!

New-ish Staff

Welcome back to Miss McIntyre who will be working with P5-7 on a Wednesday and Friday this year.

Welcome to Miss Brockie-Donald who will be working with P3/4 Monday to Wednesday and to Mrs Jardine who will be in P3/4 on a Friday.

(Miss Brockie - Donald is a Probationer teacher and will be supported by Miss Stapleton)

Mrs Nyondo is our new full time learning assistant, she will be working across the school to support learning.

Please stop in and say hello!

Any changes?

Please let the office know of any changes in address, phone numbers or e-mail addresses.

Communications with home can only be kept up to date if we have the correct contact details.

We will be keeping up our paper free communications as much as possible. Texts and e-mails will be our most frequent methods of contact.

BLOG

We have a super blog which the pupils update weekly with their learning. Get online and check out their blog posts.

You will also find a whole load of other relevant information about Holywood School.

New Kitchen Equipment

Thank you for the helping hand last week. Our new storage units and ovens are now set up and ready for action.

Thank you to **Holywood and Newbridge Community Council** for supporting the school by providing the funding for the new storage units.

Pop in and take a look.

We will get cooking very soon!

PHONE SAGA

We are so sorry that we have not yet been able to resolve the phone issue in the office.

At the moment we do not have a working answer machine and we only very recently discovered that if we are on the phone taking a call new callers don't get an engaged tone—the phone simply keeps ringing!

We are relentlessly pursuing the issue in order to get all lines of effective communication functioning as soon as possible.

Office Time Changes

Please note that from the 18th September Mrs Jardine will be changing her office working hours slightly.

She will be available from 8.30am but will be finishing at 2.45pm.

Most parents like to get the business side of things sorted out in the morning and so this change will not impact on the majority of parents.

We simply ask that if you have office business you get in touch before 2.45pm.

P.E Kit Needed

P1/2 on a Tuesday

P3/4 and P5-7 on a Wednesday

New Primary 1 Pupils

Welcome to our new pupils joining Team Holywood in Primary 1.



Greenhouse

Our new Keder Greenhouse has landed.

We know it's huge.

We know it's brilliant!!

We now plan to get in and get organised with lots of STEM learning.

Thank you to Mrs Keenan and Ms Gillies for their expert input and relentless enthusiasm for the project. Now the exciting learning can begin.

Fair Trade Community Event

P5-7 are planning an event to explain and share their current Fair Trade class learning. We are planning to link the event to a Community Cuppa and Natter event.

We plan to invite the wider school community and to take the opportunity to say thank you and share with Community members the resources we have purchased with their funding.

FAIR TRADE CUPPA and a NATTER - Wednesday 3rd September 2018

From 2pm - 3pm and from 5.30 - 6.30pm



The event will be held in our new greenhouse!

Bike Breakfast

We are planning a Bike Breakfast on Friday 21st September. Cost = £1 per cyclist

How it works:

8am—Pupils and parents/ carers arrive at school with bicycles and helmets (Yes, I know —I am off to purchase my new cycle helmet today!!).

All bikes are safety checked and the risk assessment for the trip is shared.

Hi-vis vests are issued to all riders.

Head off at 8.15am.

Parents are asked to support with marshalling - ensuring that all riders are safe.

A staff member will lead the ride and one will follow at the back to ensure everyone returns safely.

Back in school - cereal, toast and the now traditional Houston's sausage on a roll will be available for Breakfast!

Information letter with return slip will be issued soon.

Please note: Walkers very welcome to join us for an amble through the countryside too. Bring the buggy!

What is BIG THURSDAY?

Last year we took the opportunity with four teachers in school on a Thursday to work a bit more creatively. Pupils loved Big Thursday last session and gave us very positive feedback.

How does it work?

Each member of staff teaches a curricular area for the day and has the chance and challenge of working with all pupils in school.

Staff also get their RICCT time (reduction in class contact time) during the Big Thursday day.

What do pupils need?

<u>Pupils need to come to school in their old clothes</u>. Long sleeves and long trousers. Wear wellingtons (Plenty of spare wellies in the school shed—please come and try before you buy new ones!) Layer up as the weather changes as it gets cold in Winter.

<u>Pupils need to bring their PE kit</u>—shorts, t-shirt and indoor shoes / trainers. Pupils may need outdoor trainers if the weather permits as PE may be outside.

What subjects are taught on Big Thursday?

Term 1	PE	Computer Science	Outdoor Skills	Art
Term 2	PE	Computer Science	STEM (Science Technology Engineering Maths)	Music
Term 3	PE	Computer Science	STEM	Art
Term 4	PE	Food Technology	Outdoor Skills	Music

These subjects are new to Big Thursday—read the Blog to find out what learning we get up to.

Big Thursday starts on 6th September.

Homework

Phonics and Spelling homework is now underway in all classes.

P5-7 parents please check out the photo of your children looking thrilled with their new Spelling Workout jotter - proving they did get one. Work out your spelling little and often—use it in your written work and see improvement!

We will not be punishing pupils for not getting involved—we will be encouraging and rewarding hard work and effort. In P5-7 we have decided that you...

Earn a BRONZE award when you move up to a new list.

Earn a SILVER award when you have completed three lists.

Earn a GOLD award when you have completed five lists.

Dojo Points are earned elsewhere in school for big effort.

Please note that completing homework is a parental choice—opting out? Come in and let us know.

School Photographer
Wednesday 19th September 2018

(text message coming soon!)



Maths Homework

We need pupils to return their maths pack to school so that we can set them up for this term.

Miss Dale will be holding short Maths Homework workshops for new parents (or anyone who wants an update) as it is easier to get up and running with homework when you have had a chance to talk it over.

A text will be sent out later this week.