



A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to the beautiful flowers that arrived on my desk on the last day of term. What an amazing gesture—so kind and thoughtful. Your cards and messages made my day, thank you for taking the time to share your kind thoughts.

It did reduce me to tears - it was so kind of you all to think about me as I transition from Teaching Head to Head Teacher of 2 schools. Thank you for all your support, it is very much appreciated.

I know that I don't always get it right but please know that I will always give it my best shot.

Baby Boy!

Congratulations to Miss Gilston who gave birth to her son Hayden (9lbs 5oz) on the 17th July.

Both are healthy and happy.

If you would like to donate to a wee gift for Hayden, please hand money into the school office.



Take Care!

Miss Pattie slipped out quietly yesterday and headed home to rest. She will be stopping in now and again for a cuppa and a catch up with staff. Her temporary vacancy will be advertised next week and we will interview and fill the post as soon as we can.

Until then: Mrs Jardine will be in P3/4/5 on a Monday and Tuesday with Miss Wilson taking the class on a Wednesday. Miss Patterson will be in for Big Thursday and Friday.



Hang in with us!

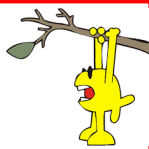
We are having a very strange start back - with so many staff changes and the Head Teacher now out at another school for half of the week.

We will need time to find our feet and build our relationships with pupils, parents and the rest of the staff team.

You know that our positive relationships are essential for getting it right for all our pupils and families.

At the moment I am travelling between Holywood and Duncow each day. This means that I can check in with pupils, staff and parents of one school in the morning and the other in the afternoon.

It makes for a very busy week but it feels like the right way to go for both schools at the moment.



Welcome!



Hello and welcome to Mrs Martin who joins the team as our temporary Principal Teacher and P1/2/3 class teacher. Mrs Martin will be with us until Miss Stapleton returns in January.

Mrs Martin wants me to pass on her thanks to Team Holywood for making her feel so welcome. She is already enjoying her trips to the woods!!

The Explorers

Mrs Jardine has planned a 2 week project for the whole school based on The Explorers by Katherine Rundell. A copy of the plan was emailed home.

Pupils are working in tribes to complete a range of tasks both in school and in the woods.

P6/7 pupils are being given leadership opportunities - we hope they will step up and support our younger team members just as P6/7 pupils did for them all those years ago.

Check your email for copies of the plans.

Thank you Mrs Jardine—for all your planning and organising. What an exciting start to the new school year.

Supporting Learners

We start this session with 20 less support hours (learning assistant time) than we were assigned last session. We have been through the local authority process and this is the decision they have taken.

Mrs Nyondo is with us full time and Mrs Madden will remain with us until Miss Gilston returns from her maternity leave.

Mrs Jardine has been assigned the Support for Learning teacher hours this session. She will be working with groups of pupils to support learning in numeracy and literacy on a Wednesday.

Miss Dale will take the lead in Support for Learning at Holywood and will consult with the staff team at fortnightly meetings to ensure that we are getting it right for all learners.



Meet Team Holywood 2.30pm on Thursday 31st August - join us for a cuppa and a big snoop around all the posters

It's time to put together your family poster and come in for a cuppa and a catch up with the staff team. Poster paper and instructions will be sent home today.

Get a nosey at Miss Dale's school photos and find out all about our new team members. A chance to get to know the new P1 pupils and parents better.