Holywood News Update - January 2024

Happy New Year!

We hope everyone had a peaceful and relaxing holiday.

Karate Club - starts back on Monday

Please note this club is funded by Holywood Pupil Equity Funding - all pupils welcome!

Are you a parent / carer interested in trying out karate? I'm certain Alan wouldn't mind if you wanted to come along and try it out with us.

Loose t-shirt—joggers and bare feet needed!

Big Thursday

Just a reminder that pupils should be in **old warm clothes - long trousers / joggers and long sleeves.**

Big Thursday could be outside for Outdoor skills.

Indoor trainers and a PE kit are needed.

Please help our senior pupils to remember their kit...

It is essential that our P6/7 pupils learn to change out of sweaty kit after PE so that they maintain good hygiene. We all know that puberty and hormones mean that we get sweatier as we develop.

This Term our Big Thursday subjects are:

ART PE—gymnastics Computer Science

STEM—technology and Outdoor Skills

ROCK UK 2024

We've paid the deposit to reserve our places for P5—7 pupils back at Rock UK in May 2024. We'll be talking to pupils about which activities they want to try out this year.

We will get prices and pay up options out to parents as soon as we can. It is hoped that once again the school can meet a bit of the cost.

We may also ask pupils to do a bit of fundraising.

We can also apply for bursaries and grants - if you are entitled to free school meals can you please sign up for them as we can use this to gain extra funding.

Welcome Back Miss Stapleton!

Miss Stapleton has now returned from maternity leave and has started as our Principal teacher on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

She will be the main teacher for P1/3 and will be working with the P6/7 maths class.

Miss Stapleton is looking forward to catching up with all of our pupils and parents.

Hard to believe that her son Luke is now 1 year old!

Staffing

Mrs Murray our new Thursday / Friday Principal teacher (PT) starts with us at the end of February.

Mrs Murray is currently a part time PT on maternity leave and is being redeployed to Holywood.

We look forward to meeting her soon.

In the meantime, Mrs Jardine will be holding the keys and answering queries as acting PT and Miss Wilson will be joining us on a Big Thursday and Friday as class teacher.

On a Friday morning, Mrs Jardine will be working with P1-3 and Ms Wilson will be working with P6/7 and P3-5.

Gathering - the new name for Assembly

The Holywood clan will be meeting together every second Friday for a whole school meet up—a Gathering.

We had our first Gathering today: Miss Dale led the gathering and we talked about what and why we have Big Thursday as part of our school week. We discussed how it upskills teachers, improves relationships when we work with different teachers and the confidence it gives to pupils particularly in P1 to learn in different places with different teachers.

We talked about our school vision - only one pupil could tell us what it is!! Confident, creative learners with Big Ambitions. Kind to each other. Kind to the planet. We came up with different ways to learn about our vision and we'll be using them to learn about it.

Wider Achievement Box:

Nancy is learning Japanese on Duo lingo.

Mena made a Hungarian Cake which was delicious.