



**Holmston Primary School**  
**October Newsletter 2024**

**This Term**

This coming term is always a very busy one starting off with the Halloween Discos and then the Pantomime visit both supported by the Parent and Carers Voice. There will be the parties, lunches, and all sorts of fun! Please remember Christmas jumpers can be worn from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. This is optional.

**Dates for You Diary**

Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	Halloween Discos – Flier with times sent out
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Wear something Red to Show Racism the Red Card Day
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	Parent Curriculum Info Session 2.00pm
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Tempest Photographer in school
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	Ayr Info & Advice Hub Drop-in 2.00pm – 4.00pm
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Wear Xmas jumpers from now!
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity TBC – details to follow
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity TBC – details to follow
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Ayr Info & Advice Hub Drop-in 2.00pm – 4.00pm
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	School Xmas lunch
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Panto at the Gaiety 10.30am
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	P1 & P2 Party pm
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	P3, P4 and P5 Party pm
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	P6 & P7 party pm
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	P4 leading the Church Service at the Auld Kirk TBC
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	School Closes 2.30pm
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	School re-opens

Please also follow us on 'X' (Twitter) @HolmstonPS for updates throughout the term.

Yours faithfully,

Richard Hardy  
Head Teacher

**Article 3**

All adults should do what is best for you. When adults make decisions, they should think about how their decisions will affect children.

**Article 29**

Your education should help you use and develop your talents and abilities. It should also help you learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable October break. It is lovely to hear all the stories about what the pupils got up to. Who can believe we are nearly in November? The clocks will go back and the weather is definitely autumnal. Please make sure that your child has appropriate clothing for the weather and that all items of clothing and coats are named. We will endeavour to be outside as much as possible – coats, hats and gloves are recommended.

I would like to thank our Primary 2 class for leading our Harvest Service at the Auld Kirk before the October Break and pass on our thanks and the thanks from the Salvation Army for the kind donations of food for their foodbank. We are all very aware that people are still facing a very challenging time at the minute.

It was wonderful to be able to see so many parents for parents evening again. We hope you liked looking around the classrooms and seeing your child's work. The book Fayre raised a lot of money for the school to buy more books for our school library. Thank you to the Parent and Carer Voice for organising and running this.

If you need to speak to a teacher, please make an appointment through the school office. Although staff are around in the mornings when they collect their class from the playground, please try not to take up too much time as they need to ensure a smooth and prompt start to the day for effective learning to take place.

Please note that the School Office is closed between 12.00pm – 12.30pm. If you ring the doorbell during this time, please be patient – we will answer it!



## Staffing

Miss Audino started her maternity leave at the October break and we wish her and her family all the best. We are interviewing this week for a temporary teacher to cover the class. In the meantime, Miss Hunter will take the class full time until someone is appointed. We will keep you updated. Miss Hunter has already been working in our P1 class. Miss Dickson will be returning from her maternity leave next week and will be working in the P6 class alongside Miss Gunning. Mr Fraser has been taking the P6 class this week to cover Miss Hunter.

## Uniforms/PE Kits

The children all look very smart in their uniforms and a gentle reminder that shirts or polo tops should be white, and jumpers or cardigans should be green. Please ensure that all items are clearly marked with names. This also includes lunch boxes and gym shoes. Please ensure that your child has their PE kit – white polo shirt, black shorts, and plimsolls - with them on the days they need it. In the interests of hygiene, I would advise that pupils further up the school have a clean PE top to change into and a roll-on deodorant. PE kits can be kept in school until the weekend or holidays. **No jewellery should be worn** and for PE, earrings should be removed, or tape provided to cover them. Long hair should also be tied back.

I would like to remind parents that **make-up, fake nails, and nail varnish are not appropriate** as part of the uniform. Thank-you for your continued support in this.

Please ensure that your child has a waterproof jacket with a hood and suitable outdoor clothing. We aim to be outside as much as possible at lunchtime and breaktimes. Classes also take their learning outdoors at different points during the week.

## Allergies

As I am sure you will appreciate, we have several pupils at the school with allergies and intolerances. Whilst these pupils try to manage their diet carefully we would ask that you support us in this by not giving your child products containing nuts for snack or packed lunch. This includes chocolates such as snicker-type bars or Nutella. We are aiming to be a nut-free school. Although we encourage our pupils to be caring and sharing, please ask your child not to share any snacks or lunch box items with other pupils.

Further information on school lunches and allergen information documents can be found on the South Ayrshire website: [School meals - South Ayrshire Council \(south-ayrshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk)

## Dolphin House

P7 really enjoyed their visit to Dolphin House. They took part in abseiling, caving, paddleboarding and a hill walk. It was great fun. Usually, this forms part of the work for the John Muir Award, unfortunately this award is currently no longer running, but the pupils have still learned about the life and work of John Muir in class.



## School Improvement Work

We have been sharing lots of information about the 6Cs – the global competencies that we are working on with the children and have set up profile folders for the P4 – P7 pupils. They will work on these profiles over the coming months as they reflect on their progress through the curriculum and how they are developing these skills for life, learning and work. The profiles will be shared at the parents' evenings before Easter and during class workshops. We would like to host a parent information session on this aspect of the curriculum on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 2.00pm** in the school hall. Please click on the link to let us know if you can make it. <https://forms.office.com/e/centrBcQxC>.

