



## Principal's Message

I am delighted that the children are settling well into the new term, building relationships with their new teachers and classroom assistants. Everyone is encouraging each other to be part of our great team in HPS. I really enjoy visiting each of the classrooms, talking to the children, looking at displays as well as getting to know all our new pupils in P1 – P7. Mrs Crookshanks

## Consultations

### P1 –P6

### CONSULTATIONS

**Monday 23 –Friday 27 October**  
1.10 p.m. - 3.00 p.m.

At Holywood Primary School we believe that strong links between home and school are vital for your child's development. Consultations will take place in October. During these 10 minute meetings, teachers will provide an update on your child's progress to date and highlight areas for development in the coming months. An email will be sent home in the coming days to P1 –P6 parents indicating when the online booking system is open.

**ALL P1–P7 PUPILS FINISH EACH DAY AT 1.10 P.M.**

P7 parents and carers have received separate notification about their consultations which have been arranged for next week.

**REMINDER FREE SCHOOL MEALS AND UNIFORM GRANTS** are available to children who are eligible. Please go to the EA website [www.eani.org.uk](http://www.eani.org.uk) to complete a short application as soon as possible. The School Office can also assist with any queries. HPS receives additional funding based on the number of pupils entitled to free school meals. Please complete the process even if you don't wish your child to take school meals. Thank you!

Our **Harvest Assembly** for pupils and staff will be held in school on Thursday 12 October. This year the Charity collection will be for **Operation Christmas Child**. More details will be sent home via email next week. All donations are greatly appreciated.



**PLEASE CONTINUE TO PROMOTE ROAD SAFETY EACH DAY AT OUR SCHOOL ENTRANCES.**

Anyone using the front entrance please use the designated pedestrian paths, not the vehicle entrance.

Despite repeatedly contacting the EA since May of this year, about their need to complete the process of appointing a new Crossing Patrol person at Church Road, they have yet to make an appointment. We will continue to campaign for this.



On a similar vein, we would like to assure the HPS community that we have been in contact with the Department for Infrastructure a number of times about ongoing concerns regarding the volume of traffic in this area, signage and road markings. Our local MLAs are also aware and supporting our requests. We have also logged calls with the PSNI about unacceptable driving of people who are mounting the footpaths in cars and other vehicles near the school entrances.



We are appealing to ALL parents who witness any dangerous driving at the Church Rd or Hillview Place area to report it directly to the PSNI. Include photographic evidence if possible. The more calls logged with the the PSNI the more likely it is that action will be taken. We believe a joint approach will have a greater impact. Ultimately we all want our children and HPS community to be as safe as possible. **THANKYOU!**

## HPS SCHOOL FUND 23-24

**THANKS** to those parents who have already made contributions to our **School Fund**. With the ever increasing demands on the school budget, our School Fund has become vital in supplementing the finances. Contributions can be made via the Eduspot payment system.



**HPS OFFICE HOURS**  
8.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.



## Important dates at a glance...

**WALK TO SCHOOL**  
October is **NATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH.**



**P7 CONSULTATIONS**  
MON 2 – FRIDAY 6  
OCTOBER



**HARVEST ASSEMBLY**  
THURSDAY 12 OCTOBER



**FLU IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME P1 – P7**  
TUESDAY 17  
OCTOBER



**P1-P6 CONSULTATIONS**  
MONDAY 23 –  
FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER

**ALL P1 –P7 PUPILS FINISH AT 1.10 P.M.**

## HALF TERM

**FRIDAY 27 OCTOBER**  
SCHOOL CLOSES FOR  
HALF TERM HOLIDAY  
AT  
1.10 P.M.



**TUESDAY 7 NOVEMBER**  
SCHOOL RE-OPENS  
AT 8.45 A.M.



**BOOK FAIR**  
TUESDAY 7 –  
FRIDAY 10  
NOVEMBER



**WED 15 - FRI 17 NOVEMBER**  
P6 RESIDENTIAL TRIP  
TO GANAWAY



## CURRICULUM NEWS

Thank you to everyone who attended the Curriculum Information presentations earlier this month. It was a great opportunity for members of staff and parents to connect. We hope parents also found our information sheets useful and will use these details to support children at home. Each Year Group curriculum information sheet is available on our school website.

### Key areas of Focus 2023-2024

Our key areas of focus for this academic year will focus on the area of Early Intervention in Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1. We have also identified focus areas in Key Stage 2 in Literacy and Numeracy. We are asking all parents to assist the children by regularly reinforcing the importance of reading, spelling & number fact recall at home. Each class is also continuing to utilise the outside spaces of HPS as much as possible to enhance the learning experiences of the children.

There was great excitement when P1 had their fun filled Teddy Bear birthday parties last Thursday!



P2 are really engaged in their Into the Woods topic. In particular they are enjoying learning about different woodland animals.



P3 can't wait for their Super Heroes Day. As part of their project on the senses they will spend time using their 'Superhero' senses to complete experiments!



Our P4 Year Group have started their topic on Space. They will be learning about the Solar System and Moon Landings.



P5 pupils have planned a Minibeast Day! Each class will study their collection of minibeasts. Following this they will use the Excel ICT program to collate their findings from the day. All minibeasts will be safely released in the garden areas afterwards!



As well as being very excited about being in the top corridor classrooms of the school, the P6 Year Group are enjoying their World Around Us topics on weather and climate.



P7 have been studying The Iron Man by Ted Hughes and have enjoyed contributing to class debates about the novel.



We are delighted with our new refurbished Library which has relocated to Room 16. The children are making good use of the lovely bright and relaxed

area. Thanks to Mr Field, Mrs J Andrews and Mrs Ruine for ensuring the Library was ready for the new term. It's getting plenty of visits from very happy children each day! Well done to P4 pupils Andrew, Connor, Rafferty and Sibi who came up with the new name for the Library. It will now be known as the **Quiet Cabin**.



Members of staff have reintroduced the members of our Safeguarding Team to our children. HPS staff want to ensure that your children feel safe and cared for at all times and know who they can talk to in school if they have any worries or concerns. The children were reminded about the use of Listening Boxes. The children have been very involved in creating their Class Charter too.



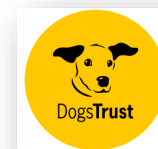
Our P6 classes have just completed their training with Mrs Cornish and are about to begin their new role as Buddies in both playgrounds. They have a number of duties but their main role is to be friendly and helpful.



Each break and lunchtime, every P4 - P7 child has the opportunity to earn a token for their class from members of staff. Tokens are awarded for a variety of reasons. Being kind, thoughtful, well behaved, helping someone who has fallen or lining up well at the end of playtime are just some of the reasons. Every Friday Mrs Forster kindly records a tally of the tokens each class has earned during the week. The classes with the top scores get extra playtime.

### PARENT VOLUNTEERS 23-24

Thank you to a number of our parents who have already completed the process of being volunteers in school on a regular basis. We would welcome some more parent volunteers. If you are able to give up 45 mins to one hour a week please contact Miss McVeigh in the School Office via email [lmcveigh426@c2kni.net](mailto:lmcveigh426@c2kni.net). An ACCESSNI process must be completed by all volunteers. She will forward information on how to complete the process. THANK YOU!



Earlier this week we welcomed Julie and Paula from The Dogs Trust Education and Community Programme. Julie and Paula led interactive workshops with classes in each Key Stage. Each session was to highlight and help the children understand how to behave safely around dogs.



### October is NATIONAL WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH.

Please encourage our children to appreciate the importance of regular exercise by walking to or from school when possible.





## HPS text, email & online payments

The email, text and online payment service is working well. To prevent missing information, it is important to notify the School Office of any changes in contact details. Either phone on 90424272 or email the school info account on [info@hollywoodprimary.org.uk](mailto:info@hollywoodprimary.org.uk)

### UPDATE

#### MEDICAL CONDITIONS

It is also really important that school is kept informed of any new or changes to existing medical conditions. Please email the school info account on [info@hollywoodprimary.org.uk](mailto:info@hollywoodprimary.org.uk)

### LOST PROPERTY

Please continue to remind the children about the importance of looking after their belongings. A number of lost property items collected have not been able to be returned to pupils as they are unnamed. Labels can fall off or fade after being in the washing machine! **PLEASE CHECK REGULARLY TO ENSURE ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING ARE NAMED.**



## MUSIC



**WELL DONE** to a number of pupils (both past & present) who did very well in music exams at the end of last term. **CONGRATULATIONS** to....

**P6 ABIGAIL ELLA**

**P7 ELLA ELSA ERIN TATE MARK LACHLAN MOLLY NATASHA**

Not forgetting past pupils Caroline, Clara, Emily, Flynn, Vivien and who are now in Year 8. Sincere thanks also to Miss Riddell, the HPS music tutors and parents who helped the children achieve such great results.

**After School Clubs** We are delighted to run

our extensive After School programme of clubs in the coming weeks. The children will receive confirmation if they have been successful in gaining a place in a club. Information of where to meet and what to bring each week will also be provided. Please ensure that your child knows their after school collection arrangements on Club days.



Temporary Catering  
Assistant Vacancy  
Priory College  
27.5 hours per week  
8.00am – 2.00pm

JOB VACANCY

Temporary Catering  
Assistant Vacancy  
Priory College  
22.5 hours per week  
9.00am – 2.00pm

For more information contact Gillian Penrose at Central Meals Priory College 90428897.

WELCOME

**Staff News** We welcome back Classroom Assistant Mrs Mc Conville to the HPS team. We are also said goodbye to Classroom Assistant Mrs Fresi. We wish her well as she prepares to move to Australia with her family later this year.

## PTA News

All parents are automatically members of the PTA. I would encourage parents to become involved. All fundraising goes directly to buy resources to enhance the learning experiences and opportunities for our children.



A PTA AGM will be held in the coming weeks. More details to follow. We REALLY needs all parents and carers to contribute to the PTA in some way to ensure events and fundraising is maximised for the good of the school.



## ECO NEWS



We need some volunteers to help do a 'tidy up' in some of the garden areas before winter sets in. We are very grateful to those who have helped in the past. It would be great to have a few new faces to help too. Please look out for an email later this week from Mrs McKeown.



## HUGE THANKS

to Holywood Men's Shed. In recent months they have helped construct a fence and create a great border to surround the flower area in our P1&P2 outdoor play area. We look forward to continuing our links with this talented team!



## HPS WORLD CUP 2023

All classes are getting involved with lots of activities linked to the rugby World Cup. Thanks to Mr Atcheson who has drawn each class a country to follow! We are also using resources linked to the World Around Us curricular area. We are excited to learn about different countries and cultures whilst also promoting the benefits of sport and exercise!

## SWIMMING

Our P5 Year Group have begun their swimming programme at Lisnasharragh Leisure Centre. Well done to everyone so far! Thanks to our parent helpers who are accompanying the classes on a rota basis.



SCHOOL WEBSITE



[www.hollywoodprimary.org.uk](http://www.hollywoodprimary.org.uk)

Enjoy looking at our school website. We update it regularly. We want to continue recording our pupils' achievements outside school. If your child has done something notable, please email the school info account with a picture and some info! We'll post it on the website!

