



Important dates at a glance....



**MONDAY 25 MARCH
LAST DAY FOR
PTA EASTER RAFFLES**



**WEDNESDAY
27 MARCH
SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR
EASTER HOLIDAYS AT
LUNCHTIME
12 NOON
NO MEALS AVAILABLE
(Non-uniform Day)**



**WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL
SCHOOL REOPENS FOR
TERM 3**



**TUESDAY 23 - FRIDAY
26 APRIL
P7 RESIDENTIAL TRIP
TO EDINBURGH**

THURSDAY 25 APRIL



**PARENTS RECEIVE
NOTIFICATION ABOUT
P1 PUPIL PLACES AT
HPS FOR
SEPTEMBER 2024**



**MONDAY 6 MAY
BANK HOLIDAY
SCHOOL CLOSED**

SATURDAY 18 MAY



**NOTIFICATION OF POST
PRIMARY SCHOOL
PLACES FOR P7 PUPILS**

**MONDAY 20 -
FRIDAY 24 MAY**



**WALK TO SCHOOL
WEEK**



**MONDAY 27 &
TUESDAY 28
BANK HOLIDAY
SCHOOL CLOSED**

Principal's Message

Thank you to all those associated with HPS who have continued to support the staff and children during a very busy Term 2. It is very evident from reading our Newsletter there is so much happening each week!

Wishing everyone a great Easter holiday. Let's hope the weather is more settled for us all to enjoy being outdoors.
Mrs Crookshanks

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Regular meetings take place with our Education Welfare Officer (EWO) Mrs Beverley Lawther. One of her main roles is to monitor attendance levels of all pupils on behalf of the Department of Education. In particular:-

- ◇ pupils whose attendance falls below 85% (which equates to 28 out of 185 days being missed in a school year)
- ◇ pupils who regularly arrive late to school.
- ◇ Parents and carers who don't provide explanations via email or Seesaw to the class teacher accounting for their child's absence from school.

GENERAL SCHOOL ABSENCE



The school and EWO very much appreciate that there are times when children need to be off school due to illness. Please send your child back to school when they have fully recovered, are ready to learn and not in a position to pass their illness on to pupils or staff.

This is important when your child has suffered from vomiting or diarrhoea. We follow PHA guidance.

The policy is that children only return to school 48 hours after the last episode. THANK YOU for your continued support.



Thanks to parents and carers who have met with class teachers in recent weeks.

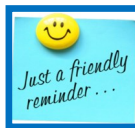
Thankyou also to the staff for preparing so conscientiously for each consultation as they continue on a daily basis to prioritise the pastoral and academic needs of each child in their class. We trust that these meetings were productive for everyone. Good communication and links between home and school are vital in order to maximise the potential and happiness of each child at HPS.

PLEASE HELP

Please continue to be vigilant at our school entrances. Thanks to many members of the HPS community who prioritise the safety of our children in our efforts to alleviate congestion at Hillview Place and Church Rd. We are reminding ALL HPS families to promote Hillview Place as a

pedestrian zone

PLEASE INFORM ALL THOSE WHO HELP WITH DROP OFF AND COLLECTION OF YOUR CHILDREN TO KEEP HILLVIEW PLACE VEHICLE FREE.



We would like to remind all adults who are collecting children at the end of the school day to be careful when walking through the

P4-P7 playground. Please walk around the edges of the playground rather than going directly



across the playground when PE and outdoor learning activities are taking place. We want to avoid any accidents at all costs. Thank you! We are really encouraged that many HPS families walk, cycle and scoot to and from school. In the interest of health and safety, please remember that helmets must be worn. People are required to dismount from bikes etc. at the school gates and walk with them whilst on the school premises.



Dogs are not allowed to be brought onto the school grounds unless they are guide dogs or assistance dogs.



STAFF NEWS Congratulations

to Mr & Mrs McGonigle on the birth of their daughter Maggie.



We give our best wishes to Mrs Wilson who is beginning her Maternity Leave. We look forward to hearing about the safe arrival of baby number 3 into the Wilson family!

CURRICULUM NEWS



Spring has sprung in **P1**! Both classes are having a great time being creative inside and outside the classroom.



P2 pupils continue to focus on their Houses & Homes topic. The children have enjoyed taking a walk into Hollywood identifying different types of houses whilst also looking at older buildings and places of interest in our town. Thanks to Mr Lavery, (Brooke & Freya's dad), who will be visiting **P2** to explain about what an architect does.



P3 are thoroughly enjoying their topic on World Explorers and learning about different countries such as Peru, Egypt and Papua New Guinea. They have welcomed Mr Evans (Jack's dad) and Mr McCullough (Mia's dad) into school. They really enjoyed their very interesting talks about Belfast Harbour and the science of aviation.



As they come to the end of their Coldlands topic, **P4** pupils have been creating clay polar animals. They have also been working collaboratively to measure and draw life size penguins!



Both **P5** classes are very engaged in the Young Enterprise Programme 'Our City'. They are introduced to the idea that cities are made up of different areas highlighting activities vital for city life to occur. Each interactive session also focuses on the value of working as a team and the steps needed in setting up a business. We want the programme to help children develop their thinking and interpersonal skills whilst also sparking some entrepreneurial skills too!



So far so good with **P6** participation in Project Ella! Environmental Officer Andrew has been visiting each week to monitor the development of the fish in the tanks. He's very pleased with how the two classes are helping the project! Next term we are hoping to arrange for the children to see the young salmon being released into a suitable area of water at Crawfordsburn Country Park.



A few weeks ago, **P7** had a fabulous day stepping back in time to experience what life was like as a Victorian child at school. It was clear to see the difference between classwork completed, breaks eaten and playtime in Victorian times compared with now! A visit to each class from Mrs Crookshanks acting as a very strict Victorian Headmistress was very different too! Thanks to parents and carers for encouraging the children to dress up and also for providing a Victorian style break for them too. Everyone looked so well and enjoyed the day.



We appreciate when parents and family members share information with us about the jobs they do which link to topics we explore. This enhances the children's understanding and shows how learning can be transferred into the working environment. It is also another way of igniting aspiration and commitment in our children from an early age.



Eco News Pre-loved uniform sale



In previous years we have successfully organised pre-loved uniform sales in conjunction with the PTA. With the help from our ECO Committee and parent volunteers we are planning to do this again during Term 3. Our aim is to :-

- help families get uniform for a small cost
- provide a way for parents to pass on items they can no longer use
- continue our emphasis of a culture of reuse
- raise money for the school

More details will follow next term.



PLEASE ENSURE ALL UNIFORM ITEMS ARE LABELLED TO ALLOW MISPLACE ITEMS TO BE RETURNED TO PUPILS !



Charity RED NOSE DAY Charity

Sincere thanks to everyone who participated in Comic Relief Day. There are some great photos on display on the school website. Over £*** was raised. All donations were greatly appreciated.



We were delighted with the success of our Book Sale on World Book Day. We raised £480 for the charity! Huge thanks to Sheila and Liz from Concern Worldwide, our fabulous **P7** helpers and to everyone who came to the sale. What a great way to encourage reading, support a local charity and help the environment. Enjoy looking at more pictures on the school website.



Congratulations to Faye Lynham (**P3**) and Mason Harvey (**P4**) who recently won a colouring competition that HPS arranged working in partnership with Concern Bookshop in Hollywood.

HPS CARES FOR THE COMMUNITY



HPS continues to link with the residents from Newcroft Lodge Care Home as part of an Intergenerational Project between Care Homes and communities. A group of **P6** pupils had a lovely morning visiting residents. Together they enjoyed designing and making aprons.



HPS OFFICE HOURS
8.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.
info @holywoodprimary.org.uk



PTA NEWS



Easter Raffles



Thank you to our P1 & P7 parents who donated gifts which have been put together to make up our lovely Easter baskets. They are on display in the school foyer.

CLOSEST FLAG WINS There are three Easter Baskets to be won for P1- P3 and also P4-P7. The children simply bring in 50p. They pick a flag and stick it on an Easter picture board. The closest three flags to the secret mark on the board win a basket!



RAFFLE TICKETS for an Adult Easter Basket can be bought via Eduspot or by completing and returning the tickets that were sent home earlier this month. The winners will be announced on Tuesday 26 March.



P7 Hoodies No doubt you will see our P7 Year Group wearing their fabulous Leavers hoodies in the coming weeks. Thanks to the PTA for generously subsidising the cost of the hoodies.



Thanks to those who have replied regarding a planning meeting for the Summer Fair this Friday at 9.00 a.m. just after drop off. We would encourage as many HPS families to help make the event happen. Please click on this link to show your support. <https://forms.office.com/e/U0XHppGeB1> **THANKYOU!**



PDMU ASSEMBLIES

Our PDMU assemblies continue to promote our PDMU curriculum as well as the values and beliefs of our school. We also focus on these themes through class teaching, circle time and role play scenarios. Each P1-P7 class helps to lead the PDMU Assemblies. Some of the many areas covered include:-

kindness, friendship, respect, compassion, resilience, teamwork as well as focusing on our physical and mental well being. The children enjoy leading their chosen theme in various ways including music, storytelling and artwork.



EDUCATIONAL VISITS



We are planning a number of Educational Visits in Term 3. Be assured all necessary Risk Assessments are completed prior to all class visits and sporting events that take place.

Written parental permission must be given for any child travelling to or from a venue by bus or car on a school trip. When you are informed about a class trip, please return permission slips as soon as possible to avoid disappointment for your child. **THANK YOU!**



SPORTS SECTION



Best wishes to our football team who will be participating in the North Down League this week. And to our girls' and boys' hockey squads who are taking part in a tournament in Newtownards



Tennis with Sign Language Classes

We welcome tennis coach Anthony Sinclair to HPS again next term. During the After School sessions, P1-P7 pupils will learn different Sign Language topics whilst enjoying top quality tennis coaching, fun and fitness.



Our P4-P7 school councillors have been working together with Mrs Heawood to decide which ideas and opinions from their classes to take forward this year. They are looking forward to meeting with Mrs Crookshanks in her Office for hot chocolate, also to discuss how some of the ideas and suggestions from each year group could be considered and actioned.



for more details about a fund raising fun event the School Council are planning in Term 3 for their chosen charity Cancer Research.



Well done to a number of pupils who were named Pupils of Term 2. They have shown acts of kindness and are good role models to others. These actions have been noted by various members of staff.

P4 Alfie Coney Felix McRoberts

Reuben Snoddy

P5 Henry Brownlow Reagan Robinson

P7 Teigan Doxley Skye Eggleton

Enjoy reading on the school website the reasons why each of the children were chosen.



A music company, based in Belfast, visited P1-P3 last week.



They gave a live performance of their brand new show called Yukee, which has recently been presented on CBeebies! The interactive musical show was such