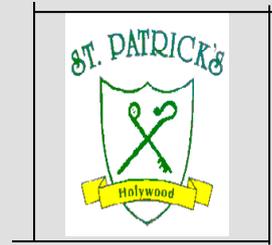


# St. Patrick's School News

Living and Learning, Today and Tomorrow



OCTOBER 2023

## School Routines

In September, we have focused on ensuring everyone has settled back into school, making new friends and reconnecting with the routines of learning and how to learn and undertaking homework tasks. We will continue to focus on expanding the children's curriculum and enhance the pupil's creativity, support a healthy mind and healthy body and we will also develop aspects of connected learning.

## Promoting Internet Safety Week & Assembly (w/b 2nd Oct)

This week in school, we are focusing on ensuring online safety workshops for all year groups. Miss Mc Keogh's P6 class will lead a school assembly on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> @1pm. Parents of the P6 class are welcome to attend the assembly.

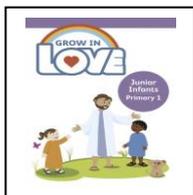
## Promoting Positive Behaviours in school

It is important that every child is a good role model in school. There have been a few issues raised by staff members regarding aspects of pupil behaviour, which has mainly focused on destruction of school properties and materials. This damage impacts on the school environment and availability of resources.

As a school community, I would ask for parental support in developing the following areas of learning and positive behaviour which build into our 'Learning to Learn' wall. We are developing the following aspects of school life to support the children as learners:

1. Develop Resilience.
2. Become More resourceful.
3. Be Focused on their learning.
4. Be able to learn from what others do and say.
5. Be a good role model.
6. Be respectful of others and the property of others and that of the school
7. Take ownership and responsibility of their own things. e.g., Jumpers!!!
8. Be a good listener in class.

*Your support would be greatly appreciated.*



Grow in Love Programme - Thank you to Fr. Stephen and the parishioners for their continued support in purchasing the 'Grow in Love' Booklets for the Sacramental classes and for the warm welcome every Tuesday at Mass.

## Curriculum Meeting presentations:

The school year curriculum introductions will continue to be available online in 23/24. This is a more effective and efficient form of delivery to all families.

These will be available by 6/10/23 <https://www.stpatrickspsholywood.com/>

## Baseline Parent Teacher Meetings and the Impact of Industrial Action by the Teaching Unions (Action Short of Strike/ASOS)

P1-P6 Baseline Assessment Meetings: In normal circumstances, the staff would organise a baseline Parent Teacher meeting and discuss the outcomes of the GL Standardised Assessments from May 2023 and map out the strengths and areas for improvement of each pupil. These meetings will not take place as result of ASOS. This will enable a full PTM to take place in Term 2.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

Look smart, think smart and act smart

Our school uniform is a very important part of our school identity. I would like to congratulate everyone on the fabulous uniforms and turn-out of all the children. As we move into October, the **full winter school uniform** should be used **but please put your child's name on each uniform item.**



**Bug Club**

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All pupils in P4 to P7 have their 'Bug Club' Logins updated and available for homework. As part of our homework policy, **BUG CLUB** is the minimum requirement for reading and comprehension skills homework, each week, we would still encourage the use of novels and visits to the library to supplement reading and fluency skills.



Purple Mash website - Our contract with Purple Mash Home Learning website has ended at the end of September. There are fantastic resources for home-learning available on the school website to supplement

<https://www.stpatrickspsholywood.com/parents/home-learning-links/>

## SCHOOL DINNERS



We welcome Zoe McManus to our Kitchen staff and alongside Alana Mc Causland, they prepare the canteen and serve the daily lunch service.

The cost of a school dinner is **£2.60**. (£13.00 per week). If your child takes dinners for the week, or on more than one day of the week, it would be helpful if the total amount could be paid on Monday and supplied to the teacher in an envelope (or Money pockets) with the child's name on the front.

The Menu for the school year will be displayed on the school website or copies available from Mrs Blaney.

<https://www.stpatrickspsholywood.com/parents/dinner-menu/>

**Money Pockets will be provided to all children attending dinners on a regular basis.**

### **FSMe funding**

Please note, that entitlement to Free school meals, is a factor in the school financial budget. If you feel you may be entitled to apply, please visit <https://freeschoolmealsanduniforms.eani.org.uk>, even if, your child does not wish to go to school dinners. Additional funding is provided by DENI per FSMe pupil.

**Registering for Dinners** in the morning- Please ensure that your child is aware that they are attending the Canteen and informs their teacher during registration. If your child is late coming into school, they must speak with Mrs Blaney at the office to confirm if they are having a dinner.



### **Please note**

Parents / carers are not permitted to use the school car park for drop offs and that Parents **should not** block the entrance gate by parking in an irresponsible manner. This is to ensure the health and safety of the pupils moving in and out of the school. Pupil should only use the entrances at Ean Hill and Church View. The Main gate is for staff, visitor and delivery vehicle access only



## Parents Communicating with Staff

Learning & Curriculum issues - e.g. forgot a homework should be addressed by ringing the School Reception on 028 90 424 772 or send an email to

[info@stpatps.holywood.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@stpatps.holywood.ni.sch.uk)

- Our aim will always be to return a telephone call to a parent within 24 hours.
- Return calls may be made by someone other than the person to whom the original call was made, should it be felt that this is more appropriate.

**Safeguarding** - please ask to speak directly to Mr Sherlock, our Safeguarding Designated Teacher. In his absence, Mrs Tunney will offer advice as his deputy.

Please check the school website for all safeguarding procedures.

Reporting an illness - Parents should ring School Reception on 028 9042 4772 or send an email to [info@stpatps.holywood.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@stpatps.holywood.ni.sch.uk)

General enquiries - Parents should ring School Reception on 028 9042 4772 or send an email to [info@stpatps.holywood.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@stpatps.holywood.ni.sch.uk)

Alternatively, a note to the class teacher can suffice.

### Key Points

1 The initial point of contact should be with the class teacher.

2 At initial point of contact can you give a brief outline of what your query is about so that it can be dealt with efficiently and effectively.

3. Effective telephone communication can be a problem in school, where teachers are teaching full-time or taking after school clubs.

Parents may be disappointed or frustrated if they feel that a message does not receive an immediate reply, when in fact there has been no available opportunity for the member of staff to reach a telephone or return a call. Be assured, a member of staff will deal with your request as soon as possible.

## See-Saw Communication Tool

Because of the Covid pandemic, school closures and remote learning experiences, the school staff availed of and used the SEE- SAW app to communicate directly with Parents.

As we return to normal schooling, the teaching staff will continue to use the SEE- SAW but in a reduced capacity, staff will continue to send out information regarding their class, class activities, samples of class work. **This will be a one-way flow of information** (Teacher to Parent only). This is to encourage the more established interactions between staff and parents, via face-to-face meetings and phone calls to the office.

Emails to [info@stpatps.hollywood.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@stpatps.hollywood.ni.sch.uk) will also receive a personal response.

## Hollywood Golf Camp



The poster features a dark purple background with a large orange full moon in the center. A silhouette of a haunted house is positioned in front of the moon. Various Halloween-themed icons are scattered around, including a witch flying on a broom, several white bats, and orange jack-o'-lantern faces. In the top corners, there are two circular logos for Hollywood Golf Club, each containing a green tree and the text 'HOLLYWOOD GOLF CLUB' and '1904'. At the bottom corners, there are two circular images of a golfer in mid-swing. The text 'HALLOWEEN' is written in large, white, dripping letters across the middle. Below it, 'Golf Camp 2023' is written in a smaller font. The dates '30th October - 1st November' and the time 'Monday - Wednesday | 9:30am-12pm' are listed. The club name 'HOLLYWOOD GOLF CLUB' is prominently displayed, followed by 'Boys & Girls ages 6-12'. At the bottom, the prices are listed: '£60 Per Child (Member price)' and '£70 Per Child (Non - Member price)'.

**HALLOWEEN**  
Golf Camp 2023  
30th October - 1st November  
Monday - Wednesday | 9:30am-12pm

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**HOLLYWOOD GOLF CLUB**  
Boys & Girls ages 6-12

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£60 Per Child (Member price)  
£70 Per Child (Non - Member price)

Parent Teachers' Association

Update

AGM on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Oct at 3pm  
Please come to the reception area

Hallowe'en Event  
Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> Oct

More info to follow