



15<sup>th</sup> March 2017

### **The Asymmetric Week**

Thank you to the parents who returned the forms relating to gauging interest in the Asymmetric Week. We received 116 responses from 200 families and the breakdown in percentages is as follows:

**50.8%** respondents were in favour of retaining the status quo

**38.7%** respondents were in favour of the Asymmetric Week commencing in August 2017

**10.5%** respondents were in favour of reviewing the option to change in session 2018/19

**Responses for those parents in favour of the Asymmetric Week** included that a change would suit families who have children in both primary and secondary school. The IRA will move to the Asymmetric Week in August 2017. Other parents were of the opinion that it would allow additional quality time at the weekend to spend with children.

**Responses from those parents in favour of retaining the status quo** included that a longer day might not be educationally productive for younger pupils as they may be tired and less able to concentrate. Children might not get the best out of after school activities if they are tired. It may also have a 'knock on' effect for children who are enrolled in after school activities. Working parents were concerned a change would be inconvenient in terms of having to adjust their working week and would impact on child care arrangements. Other parents were concerned a longer school week would make it more pressured for children, especially for those in larger families, to complete homework.

**Responses from parents who were in favour of reviewing the option to move to the Asymmetric Week in 2018/19** included that a longer day might give greater depth to the way the curriculum was taught. Concerns were raised that if changes were to follow that time would need to be given to enable parents to put after school provision in place.

**In practice this means that Holm Primary will continue with its times and days in the current form for the forthcoming session. Guidance given from the local authority has been that primary schools should have the option of aligning with their area school group secondary or to remain as they are. Unless it receives further instruction from the local authority the school will review the potential move to an asymmetric week again next session.**

### **Generation Science**

The children in Primary 2 and Primary 3 will have a visit tomorrow from Generation Science. Please view the blog to see their thoughts on this experience.

### **Book Fair**

Thank you for supporting the book fair this year the school has earned £691.00 on commission to spend on books.

### **Swish Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March Reminder**

Members of the Pupil Council are very much looking forward to hosting the first 'Swish' event to take place in the school.

"Just like shopping but FREE"

#### **HOW WILL IT WORK**

Doors will open at 9.30am for you to put your clothes (Adults & Children's) and accessories IN. You will receive a token equivalent to the number of items you donate.

Then at 10am you can begin swishing and using your tokens to update your own wardrobe.

If you wish to attend with your children please sign them out of their class. There will be a changing area available to ensure items are a good fit.

**\*\*If you have good quality stuff you would like to donate but are not able to make it on the day please drop off at the school in advance \*\***

A seamstress will also be in attendance to assist with ideas for repairing loved clothes and keeping garments in action longer. Remember this event is all about encouraging REUSE and keeping clothing in action. Do come along, get involved and refresh your wardrobe.

We would like to thank Mrs Jodi Sharpe in advance as the Swish experience was her brainchild.

### **McRobert Cup -Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

We were very successful in last year's McRobert Cup and this year we are entering two teams into each age group of the competition. Primary 2/3, 4/5 and P6/7.

Miss McHardy and Mrs Mackay are the staff members who will accompany the teams on the day.

A special thank you to Mrs Alison Wilson for giving her time to train the children for this event and for agreeing to support them on the day.

### **Advance Notice of School Closures**

The school will be closed on Monday 1st May for the May Day holiday. A reminder that the school will be closed to all pupils on Thursday 4th May as both nursery and teaching staff will have in-service training. The school will also be used as a polling station on 4<sup>th</sup> May.

# Holm Primary School

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