



Holm Primary School

Stratherrick Road, Inverness, IV2 4YL

Tel: 01463 232697

Absence Line: 01463 251920

Messaging Service: 0800 564 2272 pin: 042230

e-mail: holm.primary@highland.gov.uk

27th September 2018

Family Workshops – Relax Kids

As you are aware Relax Kids is part of our health and wellbeing initiative, which we have adopted as a whole school development. Mrs Henderson has been running family workshops to explain the approach and support parents/carers in using the strategies within the home environment. There are two remaining workshops which will run at 3pm on Thursday 27th September and 3pm on Thursday 4th October. When you arrive at reception Mrs Thomson will direct you to the class.

Scripture Union News

Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal 2019

We were delighted to welcome Rona Matheson from Blythswood outreach team to our assembly this morning. The children listened intently to her stories about individual children whose lives had been improved following receipt of shoe boxes from this country. Following on from the Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal Assembly, if pupils would like to fill a shoe box for the annual Appeal, please read the instructions on the information flier sent home for guidance. If you don't have a shoe box no problem - there will be a selection of wrapped boxes in the school office and you can pick up a box from there. There is also a selection of knitted hats/scarves/gloves donated by a lady in the local community and these are also available at the school office to help you get started with your box if needed. Please hand completed shoe boxes to the school office by Friday 2nd November. Children in SU club will be helping organise the filled boxes for collection. Thanks from the Scripture Union Team.

Parent Council

Our new Parent Council will be sending out their newsletter of introduction this week. Thank you to Mr McRoberts and Mrs Williamson who came in to sort the lost property. They are encouraging parents to check lost property as we have a lot of unnamed jackets and shoes which are in good condition. Unfortunately, if they are not collected before the end of term we cannot hold onto them and they will be given to charity. A number of jumpers without names will be washed and made available for purchase on Parents' evening if they remain unclaimed.

Inset Day

At our recent inset day in order to support staff in their continuous professional development our nursery staff, pupil support assistants and teachers all received training in ADHD or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. In order for Holm to have the status of nurturing school, training was given to staff on the

principles and practice of nurture. We will open a dedicated nurture provision within the school after the October holiday. This will be a part time provision and will be run by Mrs Henderson and supported by Mr Ross in his role as support for learning teacher. Both Mrs Henderson and Mr Ross have received training to ensure our provision is organised and run according to recognised nurture principles.

Continuous Profiling

All schools in Highland Council are moving towards delivering a model of continuous pupil profiling over the year. The rationale behind this approach is that continuous profiling captures the progress being made at different stages throughout the year, and more effectively engages families in the pupil's learning process.

In practice this means that throughout the year you will receive a number of key assessment tasks undertaken by your child in class. The tasks will be based on what your child has been learning across particular curricular areas. The first key assessment task your child will complete will focus on the curricular area of health and wellbeing within the context of the rights respecting projects of Kindness, Friendship and Respect.

These key assessment tasks will contain a number of core ingredients including the context of the lesson, the learning intention/s of the lessons and the skills the children will be developing throughout the process. The tasks will focus on identified experiences and outcomes from Curriculum for Excellence and will include an area for the pupil's reflection on his/her learning and next steps, as well as feedback from the teacher on what went well and what is needed for the child to progress. This process evolves from quality learning conversations which will take place between pupils and their teachers.

You will receive the first key assessment task completed by your child at the end of next week. Please take time to discuss the learning with your child, complete the family comment box and return the pack to school by Monday 8th October. It is essential the task is returned to school as a folio of progress is maintained over the session.

Further key assessment tasks within different curricular areas will be sent home in subsequent terms. It is intended that we will send home a minimum of five key assessment tasks this session. These tasks will represent a continuous picture of your child's progress across the year. This process is quality assured throughout by the school's Quality Improvement Officer, Lesley Taylor, who will work closely with us.



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Following this moderation process it is likely the report card you currently receive at the end of session will be replaced by an abbreviated version.

Gardening Project

The gardening group and parent helpers have made a positive impact on the school environment with the work they have undertaken across the school. The colourful presentation in planters, tubs and raised beds have been uplifting and commented on by visitors to the school. We would be most grateful for donations of spring bulbs and compost to ensure we have a lovely display in the spring.

Medical Matter

Please may we ask for your co-operation in an important matter.

One of our pupils is receiving medical treatment which puts them at an increased risk of infection. In particular, the risks are increased if they are exposed, through direct contact, to chickenpox, shingles or measles.

Chickenpox and measles are infectious 2-3 days before the spots appear. It may be that they will be required to be protected from the risk by being given a medication injection. However, the protection only works if given within 72 hours of direct contact with the illness and the cover only lasts for a few weeks. The medication needs to be repeated every time they are exposed to the illness.

It is therefore important that you let us know IMMEDIATELY if, and when, your child develops a rash that may be chickenpox, measles or shingles.

You should also be aware that in case of your own children being in contact, the incubation times are 2-3 weeks for development of these illnesses.

We ask that you avoid sending your child to school with flu-like symptoms, vomiting or diarrhoea, and in the latter case, keep your child away from school for 48hrs after the last symptom. This is standard school policy.

Your child is not at risk whatsoever from this situation. The health and well-being of the child who is at risk, however, does depend upon your co-operation.

Christmas Cards

The children will have a template form for designing their own Christmas card. It has to be sent back to the class teacher by Monday 8th October.

School Behaviour Policy

It has been some time now since we formulated our current promoting positive behaviour policy. It is important to revisit and refresh our school policies to ensure they continue to be relevant and meet the needs of all our pupils and staff. We will be seeking your views on this important matter later in the year.

Literacy Family Learning Event

Wednesday 3rd October. 6-7.30pm - School hall.

Mr Ross is hosting an event to share the new approach to spelling within the school.

The event will share:

- Information about the new approach
- The rationale behind it
- Examples of the activities your children are involved in each day
- Ways to support this at home

All families are welcome to attend, but the event is mainly aimed at families with children ranging from P3 to P7. There will be another event soon aimed at the children in P1 and P2. Children are welcome at the meeting.

School Newsletter

If you are not already registered to receive this Newsletter by email, but would like to, please email stating the name/s of your child/ren and which class/es they are in to:

tracey.walsh@highland.gov.uk

You can sign up to the school blog here:

<http://www.holmprimary.co.uk/our-blog>

Change of Date

Please note the date for the individual photos has changed to 21st November.

Dates for the Diary

27 th September	Family Workshop-Relax Kids 3pm
4 th October	Family Workshop –Relax Kids 3pm
12 th October	School and nursery closes for holiday
29 th October	School and nursery reopens after holiday
13 th November	Parents' evening
15 th November	Parents' evening
16 th November	Swimming begins, P6 Mrs Patterson's class
21 st November	Tempest Photography, individual & family Groups