

St. Patrick's School News

Living and Learning, Today and Tomorrow



OCTOBER 2021

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING

The School Development Plan (SDP) indicates the baseline assessment of where the school is at and the measures that are being put in place to enhance school based provision. The SDP has been updated to reflect the changes that we have all experienced during the lockdown of education.

In developing our plan, we have focused on distinct stages of school development. In September, we have focused on ensuring everyone has returned to school, feels safe and settled back into the environment, reconnecting with the routines of learning and how to learn. The summer scheme really helped the attendees reconnect with school.

In October, we will continue our recovery of learning and expanding the children's curriculum. This will help develop the pupil's creativity, and support a healthy mind and healthy body, we will also develop aspects of connected learning as a result of our experiences during lockdown.

The staff have analysed two sets of pupil data and identified areas that need additional support for the majority of pupils due to lockdown of 2020/21. These outcomes have been factored into our School Improvement Plans.

Curriculum presentations: Please visit the school website for a year group presentation for the academic year 2021-22. <https://www.stpatrickspsholywood.com/>

P1-P6 Baseline Assessment Meetings: -In normal circumstances, the staff would organise a baseline Parent Teacher meeting and discuss the outcomes of the GL assessments from November 2020 (school report) & June 2021 and map out the strengths and areas for improvement of each pupil. These meetings will take place remotely by a personal phone call from the class teacher. The "meeting" will take place w/b 18th October. Each class teacher will send out a schedule for parents to book their phone call appointment, via their SEE-SAW link. This will be uploaded no later than Monday 4th October.

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 **BUT** please put your child's name on each uniform item. There are still some on-going delays for those families still waiting on uniform orders but the **providers** are working as fast as they can to fulfil their orders.

SCHOOL DINNERS

Wendy Johnston (Macaulay's Mum in P1A) is our new permanent school meals lady and she is very welcome to SPH. 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 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. Money Pockets will be provided to all children attending dinners on a regular basis.

FSM 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 ask for the form at the office, even if, your child does not wish to go to school dinners. Additional funding is provided by DENI per FSM pupil.

School Maintenance: The EA maintenance teams have finally turned their attention to our school and have started to undertake a series of works around the school, including grounds, mechanical and electrical works. There will be a minor works programme to refurbish the flat roofs starting in shortly. P1B classroom has been refurbished and is now bright and encouraging learning environment.

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DIY SOS- SCHOOL GROUNDS TIDY UP

Together with the PTA, we are planning a school grounds clean up on Saturday 16th from **11:00am – 3pm** and we'd love some parent and older children volunteers.

Can you help?

We have a to do list which includes everything from litter picking, brushing & moving plant boxes to planting bulbs and creating a bug hotel for the kids to enjoy. If you have a few spare hours and are physically up for it, whatever the weather, please contact: **school on 02890 424 772 or email info@stpatps.hollywood.ni.sch.uk**

We'd also love good outdoor brushes, wire brushes for windowsills, paint scrappers, small shovels for digging and planting, litter pickers etc.

Thank you in advance

Additional jobs

Relocate the salt bins.

Tidy the rear of the canteen building - we will need a skip

The windowsills could be stripped back to the concrete

Tidy the bike rack area

Whiteboards erected on the fence beside the story bench

Learning boards and erected in garden space. -

Planting bulbs

Tidy out the boiler house.

DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON THE SCHOOL GROUNDS

Due to health and safety requirements, dogs are not allowed on school grounds at any time of the day.

HEALTHY EATING BREAK/ Nut allergies

Please ensure you provide a healthy snack for break

Please note that due to nut and seed allergies that children should not bring any break to school containing nuts /nut extracts.

GDPR

As a school organisation, we are currently updating all our data information in line with the GDPR guidelines. The school's privacy policy and statement on GDPR data has been updated and is available on the school website.

As part of our commitment to GDPR, all our consent forms have been updated and need to be renewed by all parents. Please check your inbox as Mrs Blaney has sent them out via email week beginning 20th Sept. This can be return via email, due to Covid restrictions.

Medical Needs

Our Medical Needs register and information of children with medical needs has been updated. Consequently, all parents of pupils with a Medical Need, like an allergy, have been contacted directly to complete the required documentation. Please be aware, that it is a parental responsibility to inform the staff of any allergies, to provide the required medication e.g Epipen - in date and prescribed by a GP and have all admin up to date.



All pupils in P1-P6 will participate in the 4th Year of our Shared Education project, working together and sharing their learning experiences remotely for Term 1 & 2. Please complete the permission slip on the see-saw app. P7 pupils will start their project in January 2022. Exciting experiences and collaboration between both schools is of a great benefit to the children and staff.



Celebrating Writing in St. Patricks - Poet in Residency - Denise Blake

As part of our school improvement plans, Denise will visit P4 & P4/5 this term, to work with the children and focus on themes of place and shared spaces in Northern Ireland. There will be follow up visits in term 2 and 3 to other classes.



Coding Week

w/b 4th Oct P4 - P7 & w/b 11th Oct P1 -3

In October, the pupils will explore a range of ICT coding activities using a range of various unplugged and plugged peripherals e.g. Sphero & Scratch Jr.

This year, the pupils and staff will explore the following four aspects of the ICT curriculum activities are to focus on exploring the various unplugged and plugged peripherals.

Term 1 - Desk Top Publishing

Term 2 - Music & sound

Term 3 - Film & Animation

Using ICT to explore handling data via maths.



Early Starters Club

(with breakfast served in the dinner hall)

From the 11th October, the **Early Starters Club** will recommence with the new addition of a breakfast service in the dinner hall (just waiting on EA meals service to finalise details).

The club will start at 8:15am in the dinner hall, pupils will be provided with a breakfast and will be supervised by staff until the start of class.

Last admission will be at 8:30am

Pupils will then go to their class or the hall at 8:45am, depending on their start time (Covid restrictions will still apply).

The cost per day will be £1 (even if you do not take the breakfast), booked in weekly/monthly in advance.

To ensure the **Early Starters Club** is a viable option please complete the attached Microsoft forms. An uptake of a minimum of 20 -25 children would be required to make the club viable financially.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=-yeCOETeDkaBkAVAK4mNqDPNg4BP5m5Duj2wBtoPGxVUMEcZnks0WE42T1pSUURHSFRFQzFZSlkzTC4u>

The closing date for expressing an interest in using the **Early Starters Club** is Wed 6th October.

[illegible]

PLEASE ENSURE THAT
YOUR CHILD BRINGS A
WARM WINTER COAT TO
SCHOOL AS WE MOVE
INTO THESE COLDER
DAYS.

(Don't forget the name label)

