



Hollywood News

February 2014

Confident, creative learners with big ambitions.
Kind to each other – Kind to the planet.

Target Setting – Be sure to bring your child along to do all the hard work at the target setting meetings. Not made an appointment yet? No problem, just get in touch with Mrs Henderson and we'll set up a meeting for later in the week.

Due to Miss Dale's heavy teaching commitment last week the trip letter did not make it into the mailbag on Tuesday but was handed out on Wednesday instead.

We are aware that some pupils did not pass on the letter and that parents are getting the news of the trip later than is acceptable. We will try to ensure that this does not happen again.

Our responsibility:

We appreciate that parents need to get early information in order to get organised at home and will work to improve our communications.

Your responsibility:

Please come into the office and make use of our open door policy we are happy to take on board complaints, queries and comments.

Please ensure that you keep us up to date with changes in mobile numbers, e-mail addresses and any other contact details as we are finding that sometimes our communications are not getting to you.

Pupil's responsibility:

If given a letter or mailbag by school or home pupils should take the responsibility for ensuring that it gets where it needs to go.

By working together and being open and honest I am sure that we can keep on improving!

HOLIDAY NEXT WEEK – Pupils are off school Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday the 17th, 18th and 19th February.

Teaching staff will be undertaking work on the Curriculum Structure and discussing learning at Hollywood as part of the Local Authority training day on the Tuesday. On Wednesday the staff team are taking to the forest for Forest Skills training with Tom Henry from the Ranger Service, the focus will be on fire-lighting skills – fingers crossed for dry weather!

Movie Night – Friday 21st February at 7pm is the second Hollywood Movie Night. The film being shown is the animated adventure Up!

As part of the Personal Reading Challenge Miss Dale will be setting an Up! Gimme 10 challenge at the end of the movie. Watch the movie – answer the questions and move your car up on the Wacky Reading Race Track.

The Parent Council will be serving hot dogs and ice cream – traditional movie goer snacks!

Not started the reading challenge yet?! Come on...Miss Dale will be meeting with the whole school this week to review the readers and racers.

Hayden would recommend reading Roald Dahl's *The Twits* and is now reading about Sharks. Paul has just passed his next Gimme 10 by reading *All About Boats*.

Sarah-Jane loves *Fantastic Mr Fox* which she has been reading at home with Mum and Dad. John has been reading a chapter book version of *Katie Morag* from the Ewart Library and has borrowed *Mr Gum* from our library.

Axel has borrowed Louis Sach's *Holes* but we haven't heard what he thinks of it yet.

On your marks, Get set, Get Reading!!

Reading Passport

The pupil council have designed a Reading passport for our pupils. This means that when you borrow a book from the school library you can record it in your own reading passport. We want you to note that John took the photographs for the Reading Passport promotion. 😊



Visit to Caerlaverock – the whole school are off to visit the castle at Caerlaverock this Wednesday. Please remember school uniform and warm waterproof clothing and wellingtons are required.

We will be taking our lunch and eating it before exploring. Pupils need a packed lunch on Wednesday.

We hope to organise another two trips to see a tower castle and a concentric castle. Possibly **Threave and Carlisle Castles** will fit the learning brief. Carlisle castle saw a lot of action connected with Scotland at the Time of the Wars of Independence including an unsuccessful attack from King Robert the Bruce. Mary, Queen of Scot's also spent time at Carlisle Castle but not as a guest!!

We have decided against going up to Stirling at this time as the Bannockburn Centre is fully booked. Pupil feedback has made it very clear that big trips have to be packed with fun and learning – we agree!

Greg Hutchings will be coming to visit us with his **Falcon** to share the history and skill of falconry. We have not got a date yet but we'll text out with the information so that parents and family members can come in and learn with us.

New Resource – our new reading resource has arrived and the pupils in Miss Stapleton's class have already started to use it. The Reading Boxes give pupils access to short varied texts on which they complete questions and activities to extend their comprehension skills (show their understanding of the main events or messages from the text).

Barking Mad Assembly – Keira and Chloe planned and carried out an excellent assembly on dogs last Wednesday. They checked how well their audience had listened by asking a number of tricky questions based on the content of their Dogs assembly.

The audience did very well remembering the weight of a female collie, how a dog's nose should be and how to tell if your dog is angry.

What to Find Out More About Learning at Holywood?

If the answer is YES then please log onto our blog

<https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/dg/HollywoodHullabaloo/>

and read all about the latest learning at

Hollywood.

We are still one of the only blogs which is written mainly by the pupils. Pupils in the upper school are learning about uploading photos and films. Pupils in the infant class are blogging together about learning in the class. Are you up to date with Dinosaurs? Have you read all about the life and death of Mary, Queen of Scot's?

Please add a comment – we have had very little feedback through blog comments. Come on friends and family members...the pupils love to read what you think about their blogs and learning.

We have been updating the wall displays, this is another great way to view the product and process of learning at Holywood. Get your child to bring you round any time before and after school for a look at the learning on the walls.

Some of the senior pupils were so proud of their castle prints that they pulled in their parents before the paint was dry!

Badminton Sensation

Lewis Reid and Lewis McNish represented Holywood School at the recent Active Schools Badminton Competition. It is the first time in a number of years that the school has entered a badminton competition.

The boys played well and were a credit to the school showing good manners as well as good badminton skills.

Congratulations to Lewis Reid who reached the final and came home with a silver medal.

We hope more pupils will enter next year as it is a very different sports challenge from a team event such as rugby or football. You have only your own skills and nerves to rely on. Well done!

Cross Country Training

Our next new sporting challenge is also a solo event. Pupils in P4-7 will be learning to run cross country increasing their stamina and fitness. With support from the Active Schools team pupils will be running increasing distances around the playground before heading out into the nearby wooded areas of Holywood.

A competition in March will give pupils a chance to test their skills against pupils in other schools as well as going head to head with class mates from Holywood.

Big Community Calendar

The parent council had an excellent idea at the meeting last week. They want to have a Hollywood Events Calendar which we draw up at the start of the year. The aim of the calendar is not just to help Miss Dale get more organised (self aware!!) but is so that parents and families can support in the planning and organising of events much more easily by having plenty of advanced warning about a big school or community event, such as the Gala Day or an Easter Egg Hunt.

The big calendar will be discussed at the Community Council meeting with the aim to increase more effective partnership working.

Connecting Classrooms

Miss Dale has completed the application form for the new round of exchange visits in order to hold our priority position as an ongoing partnership with the British Council. Decisions about our partnership will still need further discussion both at Hollywood and at Obugi.

New Classroom

We are entering the competition to win an £80 000 classroom. Our plan is to use it as a 'Skills for Life and Positive Destinations Unit' – where pupils can learn skills for life and work and be better prepared for their future in the global work place.

What do you think? Have we been ambitious enough in our application? We hope so and we'll keep you informed about how we get on.

Ukulele

Miss Dale, Mrs Queen and Miss Stapleton have signed themselves up for a twilight class on playing the ukulele. They hope to improve their chords and strumming so that they can keep up with the excellent skills being shown by pupils on a Friday at the sessions with Kate from Feis Rois.

Thank you to Mrs McKeown for putting her Ice Hockey and skating skills to good use by accompanying the P1 - 4 pupils to the Ice Bowl. Her support was very much appreciated. Most pupils loved the experience and we know that some pupils will want to get back on the ice very soon.

Thank you to Mr Johnstone-Smith for coming into school at short notice to help the pupil council to get the Keith Haring art work back on the outside walls. Mrs Henderson put on her boots and brought her drill to get stuck into the work – thanks Mrs Henderson!

Technology Challenge – Ethan Ireland is very keen and has already brought in his siege machine to show us...but we will wait until **Thursday the 27th February** to test out the machines. Well done Ethan and we look forward to seeing how well your machine works at the end of the month.

PE Kit – we have an increasing number of pupils who are not bringing their PE kit. PE kit is needed on a Monday and Thursday. Two hours of PE each week is a compulsory part of the curriculum and essential for promoting good physical and mental health.

Pupils have recently completed feedback on PE and Art. These views are shared with the specialist staff and are used to action improvement in the learning and teaching of lessons. As always we are happy to take your views into consideration to impact on positive change.

Thank you for your continued support – much appreciated.

P.Dale

