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## World Book Day – 5<sup>th</sup> March 2015

World Book Day arrived in Holytown Primary School and Nursery Class with a bang last week. We had a range of characters from The Gruffalo to one of Seven Dwarfs and some Minecraft characters. We had a Character Parade in the hall, where everyone had a chance to show off their costumes.

Each class organised different ways to celebrate this special day. We had paired reading with older children sharing books with our younger pupils and each class changed their door into a book cover. To celebrate World Book Day, each pupil was given their £1 book token, which can either be swapped, for one of the special World Book Day books or can be used as payment towards a book costing £2.99 or more. We look forward to hearing about all the books, which have been purchased.



## Communication with Parents

We are always looking at ways of improving our Communication with parents.

As part of our In-Service Training on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February, all staff received training with creating blogs. We are using these to update our school website. Information on what has been happening in each class will appear in the Class Blog section. This can be accessed via the school website, [www.holytown.n-lanark.sch.uk](http://www.holytown.n-lanark.sch.uk) and clicking on

the Class Blog tab at the top or via <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/holytownclassblog/>

The information Blog contains general information about the school.

We also have a twitter account @hollytownPS. Please follow us and keep up to date.

If you do not wish your child to appear in any website or twitter photographs, please inform us in writing.

### Website

[www.holytown.n-lanark.sch.uk](http://www.holytown.n-lanark.sch.uk)

Willow Grove, Holytown, MOTHERWELL, ML1 4SR

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# Holytown

Primary School and Nursery Class

March 2015



## Red Nose Day – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2015

To celebrate Red Nose Day, Rooms 9 and 11 have been focusing on World Poverty and have organised an Assembly on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 9.30am. Parents welcome! The classes have organised some surprises for the afternoon.

As well as this we have been selling Red Noses and to date have sold 300, with many children trying to get one of each type.

On Friday we will also have a Non-Uniform Day but we are asking the children to pay £1 to wear something Red or a Red Nose Day T-Shirt.

I will let you know in the next edition of the newsletter how much we have made.



## Motherwell FC Community Trust

Motherwell FC Community Trust have been working with our Primary 5 pupils on a special Health & Wellbeing programme looking at exercise and anti-smoking. The children are really enjoying this. The programme will continue until the Easter Holidays.

## Playground Improvements

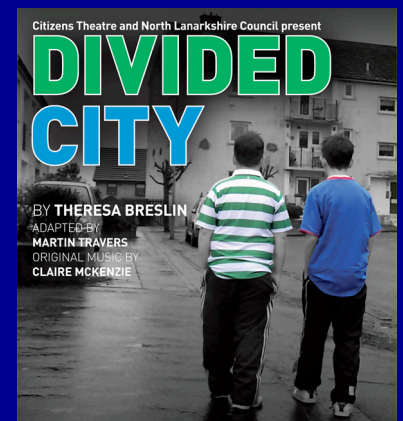
Things are beginning to get started...

On Friday we took delivery of a Pirate Ship, this has been placed in the Infant Playground and has been well used in the two days it has been in the playground. This is the start of many things to come. We are hopeful that the rest of the improvements will start in the next few weeks and we will begin to notice a real difference soon.

## Divided City

Primary 7 pupils have been working hard with Primary 7 pupils from Christ The King Primary over the past 2 months on a project based on the Novel "Divided City". This is an exciting project funded by Scottish Government and North Lanarkshire Council and delivered by The Citizens Theatre Company. The novel has been transformed into a musical and covers themes such as Sectarianism and Racism. Our performances are on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 1.45pm and 6.30pm and will take place in the school hall.

The BBC have commissioned a special programme to celebrate The Citizens Theatre' 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday and will be filming our performance to be shown as part of this special programme.



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## Mother's Day

To celebrate Mother's Day we are having a gift sale to allow the children to buy a gift for a special lady in their life. Gifts cost 50p, £1 and £1.50 and will be on sale on Friday. Children will also have an opportunity to wrap their gift.

This is a non-profit making initiative.

## Nursery "Come and Play Sessions"

The nursery had a series of very successful "Come and Play" sessions recently. The feedback from parents was very positive. We will take on board parental comments and build any suggestions into our on-going improvements. The nursery has undergone a bit of an overhaul recently and it is lovely to see all the hard work of the staff has not gone unnoticed with many parents commenting on this.

## School Improvements

Any visitors to the school will have noticed our new kitchen server area, if you haven't seen it yet, it is beautiful and has made a huge difference to our lunchtime arrangements. We have slightly altered the lunchtime arrangements with Rooms 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 coming into the dinner hall at 12.30. The children are then served in a rotation. Rooms 8, 9, 11 and 12 go outside first and come in at approximately 12.50. Again pupils are served in a rotation. All pupils are eating together whether they are having a packed lunch or a school dinner. Our school dinner uptake has increased as a result of the universal free school meals for P1 – 3 pupils. Remember our school dinners are freshly cooked on site.



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March 2015



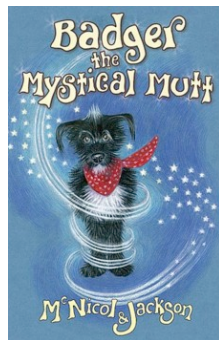
## Primary 5 Swimming

All Primary 5 pupils are about to begin their 10 week swimming block. This will take place at the Sir Matt Busby Centre, Bellshill. Pupils will leave school at 12.15 to allow them all a chance to have a swimming session and a games session. On these days, pupils will have an early lunch.

Pupils will be accompanied by school staff. Pupils must behave in an appropriate manner or they will not be allowed to continue with swimming block.

## Visiting Author Visit

We are delighted to welcome the authors to Badger The Mystical Mutt into the school on Monday 23rd March for a special reading of their book. This session is for pupils in Primary 1 – 4. The children will have a chance to meet



Badger as well as listen to the story being read by the authors. There will also be an opportunity for pupils to buy a signed copy of the book. (Details will be sent out as soon as we receive them). Further information can be found by visiting the following website, [www.badgerthemysticalmutt.com](http://www.badgerthemysticalmutt.com)

## Community Building Work

I don't have to tell you about all the building work which is going on in the local community. Building sites are often seen as a huge adventure for children and can be very dangerous. In response to this Taylor Wimpy will be visiting the school, with members of their Health & Safety team to give a presentation to all pupils on this very important subject. As this building work is likely to continue for a long time, we are hoping to develop a working partnership with Taylor Wimpy.

## Rev. Kyle

We are delighted that Rev Kyle is planning to visit the school to speak to pupils in Primary 4 upwards as part of their RME focus of Easter. As a friend of the school, Rev Kyle always engages the children in her discussions.

## SSPCA

The SSPCA will be visiting the school on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March. This is part of our Social Studies work and gives children information on a range of themes including looking after pets or helping animals in distress.

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## Annual Reports

We have changed our calendar this year and will be issuing parents with written reports just before the Easter Holidays, meaning pupils will have time to work on any targets set by the teacher. We will have a face to face parents meeting Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015.

## Room 3 and 4 Class Assembly

We were entertained a few weeks ago by all the children from Rooms 3 and 4. They performed a very interesting assembly focusing on Senses. The singing was excellent and all the children spoke with their clearest voices.



## Dates for the Diary

Red Nose Day/ Non Uniform:	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2015
P5 Swimming begins:	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2015
Author Visit (P1 – P4)	Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2015
Divided City Performances	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2015
Taylor Wimpey Safety Talks:	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March 2015
Easter break:	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April to Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2015 (inc.)
*Please note that Good Friday is 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2015 and Easter Monday is 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2015.	
May Day holiday:	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2015
In-service day:	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2015
Holiday weekend:	Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> and Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2015
Schools close:	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June 2015

## **August 2015**

In-service day:	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2015
In-service day:	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> August 2015
Pupils return to school:	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> August 2015

**\*\* Additional Dates will follow in subsequent newsletters\*\***

If you have any comments, please complete and return the slip below

Parents Name:

Child's Name:

Comment:

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