

Holytown

Primary School and Nursery Class



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Head Teacher's Message

Welcome to the November/December edition of our Newsletter, this is the final edition of 2015.

As before, we are never quite sure what the Scottish weather will throw our way over the course of a day, so please ensure your child is suitably dressed for all weathers, it would be useful for all children to have a spare pair of socks/tights in their bag in case their feet get wet.

Communication with Parents

Over the last few weeks we have been consulting parents on Communication methods and the response to our questionnaire has been rather poor, if you have any comments please fill in the coloured sheet sent out just after parents night and let us know your thoughts.

Please remember to visit our website www.holytown.n-lanark.sch.uk. The first page, links directly to the information page, to allow ease of access. Other information can be accessed from this page including the class blogs. This is a fabulous page, which is populated by all classes within the school and nursery. This information can be accessed through the website and then by clicking on the **Class Blog** tab at the top or via <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/holytownclassblog/>

We also have a twitter account @holytownPS. Please follow us and keep up to date. This account is locked to ensure the safety of our pupils. If your request to follow us is denied, please call the office with details of your account name, as sometimes it is not obvious at the time of approval. If you do not wish your child to appear in any website or twitter photographs, please inform us in **writing**.

Breakfast Club

As of Monday 9th November our Breakfast Club is costing 20p per pupil. We are delighted to see more children using this service. Recent research strongly suggests that pupils who regularly have breakfast do better at school than those who don't. Breakfast club is operational daily from 8.15am until 8.45am. Please note there is no supervision for pupils arriving before 8.15am.

Rights, Respecting School

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, we are working towards being a Rights, Respecting School.

In order to raise awareness of Children's Rights, we will be talking about rights as well as **respectful attitudes** and **responsible actions** within assembly and school, to ensure our children help us create and maintain an ethos of dignity, which will allow our children to become responsible citizens with full access to their rights. We will also have a focus right. This will be communicated through our website

Website

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as well as newsletters etc. Until Christmas our focus will be

Article 28: (Right to education): All children have the right to a primary education, which should be free. Wealthy countries should help poorer countries achieve this right. Discipline in schools should respect children's dignity. For children to benefit from education, schools must be run in an orderly way – without the use of violence. Any form of school discipline should take into account the child's human dignity. Therefore, governments must ensure that school administrators review their discipline policies and eliminate any discipline practices involving physical or mental violence, abuse or neglect. The Convention places a high value on education. Young people should be encouraged to reach the highest level of education of which they are capable.

Christmas Diary Dates

Well December is almost upon us, which means it won't be long until Christmas. Christmas in a Primary School is a fabulous time, full of learning and fun. This year we have a number of special events planned.

Hopscotch Theatre Company will visit the School on **Wednesday 9th December** in the morning with their production of **Sleeping Beauty**, there is no cost for this. If any parent does not wish the child to view this performance, please let class teachers know in writing.

Christmas lunch will be served on **Thursday 10th December**. Pupils may wish to wear their Christmas Jumper on this day. Further details and order forms will be issued in due course.

On **Friday 11th December** all classes will be in the hall for the final run through of our Christmas Concert, all pupils will get a chance to view other classes on this day.

Monday 14th December sees our Christmas Concert being performed to local pensioners. This will begin at 1pm. Therefore we will have an early lunch from **12.00 – 12.45** on this day. Please note there will be **no** crossing patrol on this day therefore pupils going home for their lunch **must** be collected by a responsible adult.

Tuesday 15th December is Christmas Concert Day. We will have 3 performances on this day at **9.30am, 1pm and 6pm**. Again we will have an early lunch from **12.00 – 12.45** on this day. Please note there will be **no** crossing patrol on this day therefore pupils going home for their lunch **must** be collected by a responsible adult.

On **Wednesday 16th December**, Primaries 4 and 5 will have their Christmas Party. Our second evening performance will begin at **6pm**.

For the evening performance, pupils should arrive in back at 5.45pm, we anticipate to be finished by 8pm.

Primaries 6 and 7 will have their Christmas party on **Thursday 17th December**.

On **Friday 18th December**, Primary 1, Primary 2 and Primary 3 will have their Christmas Parties.

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***All Christmas Parties will be from 1.30pm until 3pm. There will be no early lunch for pupils on the day of their parties. Pupils who are going home for their lunch should be collected from their classroom door at 12.30pm. Pupils, who are getting changed in school, will be able to get changed in class between 1.15 and 1.30pm. If pupils go home to get changed we do not have supervision to allow them back into school before 1.15pm.

On **Monday 21st December**, our Nursery will have their Nativity in the morning for morning pupils and the afternoon for afternoon pupils. Details can be found on the Nursery Newsletter.

The Nursery will hold their Christmas Parties on **Tuesday 22nd December**, with specific times and details to follow.

School closes at 2.30pm on **Tuesday 22nd December** for all school pupils.

School and Nursery reopen on **Wednesday 6th January** at the usual times.

Personal Details including Mobile Telephone Numbers

If you have changed your personal details including mobile number recently, please call in to the office for a change of detail form. We can no longer accept this information by phone or parental letter. Please ensure all emergency contact details are up to date too, as we need to be able to contact parents and emergency contacts.

Parent & Friends Association (PFA)/Parent Council Update.

Our PFA/Parent Council have organised the Annual Christmas Fayre on **Friday 27th November** from 3.30pm until 5.30pm. Anyone who is able to help at this event, should contact the school office and a member of the PFA will get back to you.

They are looking for donations of bottles, sweets or smelly stuff for the tombola. They are also looking for any unwanted gift bags. All donations should be handed into the school office. Any donations of home baking will be gratefully received.

Our Parent Council held their AGM on **Monday 2nd November**, unfortunately this meeting was only attended by 3 parents and under the terms of the constitution, this is not enough members to form a Parent Council, therefore the decision has been made to suspend the Parent Council until next session.

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November 2015



Dates for your Diary

Non-Uniform Day	Friday 27 th November
Christmas Fayre	Friday 27 th November 2015
Hopscotch Theatre Company - "Sleeping Beauty"	Wednesday 9 th December 2015
School Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day	Thursday 10 th December 2015
Christmas Performance rehearsal	Friday 11 th December 2015
Christmas Pensioners Show	Monday 14 th December 2015 at 1pm ** Early Lunch
Christmas Show	Tuesday 15 th December 2015 at 9.30am/1pm & 6pm ** Early Lunch
Primary 4 and 5 Christmas Party	Wednesday 16 th December 2015 – 1.30pm until 3pm
Christmas Show	Wednesday 16 th December 2015 at 6pm
Primary 6 and 7 Christmas Party	Thursday 17 th December 2015 – 1.30pm until 3pm
Primary 1, 2 and 3 Christmas Parties	Friday 18 th December 2015 – 1.30pm until 3pm
Nursery Nativities	Monday 21 st December 2015 at 9.30am and 1.30pm
Nursery Parties	Tuesday 22 nd December 2015 (normal session times)
School Closes for Christmas Holidays	Tuesday 22 nd December at 2.30pm
Christmas and New Year holidays	Wednesday 23 December 2015 to Tuesday 5 January 2016 (incl)
School & Nursery reopens	Wednesday 6 th January 2016 at usual times
Mid-term break	Monday 8 February and Tuesday 9 February 2016
In-service day	Wednesday 10 February 2016
Easter weekend	Friday 25 March and Monday 28 March 2016
Spring break	Monday 4 April to Friday 15 April 2016 (inclusive)
May Day holiday	Monday 2 May 2016
In-service day	Thursday 5 May 2016
Mid-term holiday	Friday 27 May and Monday 30 May 2016
School closes for Summer	Wednesday 29 June 2016

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

Parents Name:	Child's Name:
Comment:	

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