



#### Head Teacher's Message

Dear Parents,

We are looking forward to welcoming our new Primary 1 pupils this term for our four transition stay and play days at the school. Primary 6 will have the very important role of being their buddies. Dates for our P1 transition events are as follows:

**15<sup>th</sup> May (9.30am), 16<sup>th</sup> May (1.30pm), 31<sup>st</sup> May (9.30am) and 1<sup>st</sup> June (1.30pm).**

We have altered the format of these sessions this year to support children and parents with the move from Nursery into Primary 1. Miss Henderson has sent out information about these sessions and we can't wait to meet all our new pupils.

With our hellos, we also have goodbyes and our Primary 7 pupils getting ready for High School. They are involved in transition activities with pupils from Keir Hardie Memorial Primary, New Stevenson Primary, Newarthill Primary and Brannock High School. Pupils have visited the school over the year, have had visits from High School staff and are preparing for their 2 day visit on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May. They have all come back full of enthusiasm.

Annual report cards were distributed before the Easter holidays, please remember to return the parent and pupil feedback sheet if you haven't already done so. Instructions on signing up for Parent/Pupil/Teacher meetings will be issued next week, these meetings have been scheduled for Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May.

A school improvement questionnaire will be with you shortly to support our self-evaluation. Your contribution to this process is extremely important and necessary to support our school's improvement.

Unfortunately for Holytown Primary School, Mrs McEwan has decided to leave us for a permanent job out with education. Mrs McEwan is a popular member of our team who will be missed by pupils and parents alike and I am sure if you see her you will wish her well. I am awaiting information from NLC regarding her replacement and I will keep you updated.



Website

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### After School Clubs

This term the following after school clubs will be running on the following days. Please contact Miss Henderson for more details.

	ACTIVITIES	ACTIVITY SESSIONS
Monday	<b>P1-2 Family Learning Active Families</b> (3.00 – 4.00) <i>(Can be any parent, grandparent, aunt, uncle etc. that accompanies the child)</i>	<b>6 sessions</b> (30 <sup>th</sup> Apr, 14 <sup>th</sup> May, 22 <sup>nd</sup> May, 4 <sup>th</sup> Jun, 11 <sup>th</sup> June, 18 <sup>th</sup> Jun)
Tuesday	<b>P3-7 Musical Theatre Club</b> (3.00 – 4.00)	<b>6 sessions</b> (15 <sup>th</sup> May, 22 <sup>nd</sup> May, 29 <sup>th</sup> May, 5 <sup>th</sup> Jun, 12 <sup>th</sup> June, 19 <sup>th</sup> Jun)
Wednesday	P4-7 <b>LUNCHTIME</b> ICT club	<b>6 sessions</b> (9 <sup>th</sup> May, 16 <sup>th</sup> May, 23 <sup>rd</sup> May, 30 <sup>th</sup> May, 6 <sup>th</sup> Jun, 13 <sup>th</sup> June)
Thursday	<b>P1 -3 Athletics Club</b> (3.00 – 4.00)  <b>P 1-4 Family Learning Cookery/Craft Club</b> (3.00 – 4.00)	<b>7 sessions</b> (3 <sup>rd</sup> May, 10 <sup>th</sup> May, 17 <sup>th</sup> May, 24 <sup>th</sup> May, 31 <sup>st</sup> May, 7 <sup>th</sup> Jun, 14 <sup>th</sup> June)  <b>7 sessions</b> (3 <sup>rd</sup> May, 10 <sup>th</sup> May, 17 <sup>th</sup> May, 24 <sup>th</sup> May, 31 <sup>st</sup> May, 7 <sup>th</sup> Jun, 14 <sup>th</sup> June)
Friday		

### Eco Week

Next week (Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May) is Eco Week. During this week, pupils will be involved in a range of Eco based activities in line with our priorities of Litter, Water and Bio-diversity. As much of this work will take place outside, pupils should come to school dressed for the daily weather. Pupils can wear casual bottoms along with their school polo-shirt and jumper. Please note this is **NOT** a non-uniform day. We would welcome and appreciate the help of any parents or carers who can come along at any point during Eco Week with planting up our planters or tending to the garden or a little bit of DIY. If you can help (or know anyone else who could), please give the office a wee call.



### Rain Garden

We have been working with Taylor Wimpey, University of Abertay and WSP to create and install a Rain Garden in the Senior Playground. It is hoped this will be installed during Eco Week – watch this space.

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#### Plastic Pollution

Earth Day 2018, was held on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April, the main theme focussed on plastic pollution. In assembly we discussed ways we could reduce our plastic waste in school. We collected the plastic waste from the playground for recycling. We have decided to reduce/eliminate plastic water bottles from the school. Therefore, everyone will receive a house point each day they bring their reusable water bottle into school. Together we can make a difference.

#### Daily Mile

We have signed up for the daily mile. The daily mile is a social activity, where children walk, jog or run with their classmates in the safety of the school environment. We have identified a route twice round the playground. Everyone has fun taking part – it is not PE, nor is it competitive – while building relationships, confidence and resilience. This is summed up in the “Five F’s”.



**Fitness** – children become more aware of a healthy lifestyle.

**Fresh Air** – children thrive on the sights, sounds and seasons.

**Friends** – children use the language of friendship to support each other, improving their social and leadership skills.

**Fun** – children enjoy taking part – this is what makes The Daily Mile so successful

**Focus** – daily physical activity helps children concentrate in the classroom and is proven to raise attainment.

The Daily Mile takes place in each class at different point across the day. If you see us out taking part, feel free to join in!

#### Movie Night

The Parent Council and Fundraising Committee have arranged a Movie Night on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, more details will follow.





#### Class Assemblies

Class assemblies have been arranged as follows;

Rooms 3 & 4	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	9.30am
Rooms 1 & 2	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	9.30am
Room 9	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	9.30am
Rooms 7 & 8	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2018	9.30am
Rooms 5 & 6	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	9.30am



We hope to be joined by as many parents, grandparents and friends as possible on these days.

#### Raising Attainment

We may be starting the summer term, but at Holytown we don't slow down! We continue to work hard to raise attainment for all pupils. As part of this process, all pupils are involved in a range of assessments which inform next steps in learning. In addition, we continue to monitor attendance and late coming to ensure all children have the best possible chances to take their learning to the next level. Thank you for our continued support in this.

#### Pupil Equity Funding

As you are aware we received £57,000 from the Scottish Government as part of the Attainment Challenge (closing the poverty related attainment gap), we consulted with yourselves, staff and pupils last year on how best to spend this money.

So far we have purchased,

- \* Additional Teaching staff to work with small groups of children
- \* Additional Support staff to work with small groups of children
- \* Staff Training
- \* iPads to enhance children's learning experiences
- \* Literacy, Numeracy & Health & Wellbeing Resources
- \* Interdisciplinary Learning Resources
- \* Literacy, Maths, ICT, Science, Spanish and French online resources
- \* Community Learning and Development worker to support identified families (1 day per week)

As you will see we feel we have targeted a wide range of curricular areas in order to help us close the attainment gap. We will be consulting with parents during our Parental Consultations on how your allocation for session 2018/19 would be best spent.

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#### Dates for the diary

As always, we are a busy school and dates can change.

#### May

Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Kilbowie Meeting 1
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Rooms 3 & 4 Class Assembly 9.30am
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	HOLIDAY
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	In-Service Day 5
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	North Lanarkshire Leadership Festival
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Eco Week
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup>	P5, P6, P7 Duathlon
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Room 1 & 2 Class Assembly
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Jotter Bags Out
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	P1 Induction Session 1
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	P7 pupils to Brannock – High School Transition
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	P1 Induction Session 2
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Outdoor Classroom Day (details to follow)
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Pupil/Parent/Teacher Meetings (details to follow)
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Room 9 Class Assembly
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Movie Night (details to follow)
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Kilbowie Meeting 2
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Rooms 1 & 2 trip to Almond Valley
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Non-Uniform Day £1*** Please note change of date***
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> & Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>	HOLIDAY
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup>	P1 Induction Session 3

Thank you for your continued support. Together we can help all our children be the best they can be!

#### June

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Rooms 7 & 8 Class Assembly
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	P1 Induction Session 4
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day (or next dry day) – details to follow
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Rooms 5 & 6 Class Assembly
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	P6 Transition Event at Brannock High School
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Teddy Bears Picnic (details to follow)
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	P7 Visit to Scotland Street School (details to follow)
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	P6 (Rm 9/11) Visit to Scotland Street School
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Nursery Graduation (Pre School Children only)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Celebrating Success
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	P7 Bowling (details to follow)
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Theatre Company Visit
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Non-Uniform Day £1
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	1pm Close for school, normal sessions for nursery.

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