

A message from Mrs. Denham

What a busy week it has been with trips to RHS Rosemoor for the KS1 children and the Plough Theatre for Foxes class. They both had a fantastic time on these wonderful trip and thankyou to the parents who supported with this. Also the children took part in the first Bratton Fleming Cross Country event which was open to all schools across the Barnstaple area and 6 children from Squirrels class took part in a year 5/6 tennis competition at Tarka. We are really proud of the supportive attitude the children showed one another and for their energy and commitment.

Morning phone call.

Please can we remind you that if your child is ill and will not be attending school you must phone the school each day by 9.30 am to inform us. Also, if you have two children in school, can you please notify the office in person or by phone or email. Thank you.

PTA. Christmas Fayre

Thank you to the PTA for organising this year's Christmas Fayre, which is being held this Sunday, 18th November in the village hall from 10 am until 2 pm. They have lots of lovely stalls, beautiful gifts, art and crafts, hot food, children's activities and of course a visit from Santa between 11 am and 1 pm. We look forward to seeing many of you there.

PTA Christmas Hampers

The PTA would be most grateful for any donations of goodies that they could put in this year's Christmas raffle hampers. Every penny raised goes to our wonderful school and children.

Flu vaccinations – Reception to Year 5.

We have been allocated a date for this year's flu vaccination to take place in school on Tuesday 4th December. We will be sending out further details on how to register as soon as we receive it.

Admission September, 2019

Children born between: 1st September, 2014 and 31st August, 2015.

If you have family or know of friends who have children due to start school in September 2019, please promote Holywell and inform them to call Holywell. (01271) 34908 and Mrs. Denham will be delighted to show them around and discuss their child starting school.

Even if you have already given details to school, you must apply for a place through the Admissions Team at Devon County Council. This is the only way to apply; other forms or lists held by schools will not count.

How to apply for Primary School place in Devon:

You can apply online at:

www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline : from 15th November 2018 to 15th January 2019.

Or

If you cannot access the school admissions website you can get more details by calling our Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019 or email: admissions@devon.gov.uk

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

School News

Donations of Lego

If you have any spare Lego which your children no longer use or have family or friends whose children no longer use theirs, the school would very much appreciate it. Thank you.

Cool Milk

Our school milk scheme is administered by Cool Milk. To register your child for school milk, please visit <https://www.coolmilk.com/register> "

If you have already registered your under 5s using our bulk registration process, **parents are still able to register using the form/website**. This provides them with the opportunity to make payment for milk when their child turns 5, in line with School Food Plan legislation.

More promotional material is available on our website - <https://www.coolmilk.com/promote/>

If you need any help with any aspect of your school milk scheme, please don't hesitate to contact us - we're here to help!

Year 5 and 6 Tennis

A big well done; to Bella, Lannah, Cameron, Thomas, Imogen and Maddie who represented the school at today's year 5 and 6 tennis competition. Mr. Wilson who supported with transport and supervision today said you were all amazing, working together well as pairs in your different pools, playing competitively, fairly and with a smile on your faces. Congratulations to Maddie and Imogen who lost in a 4 - 7 tie break in the final, finishing as runners up.



Bratton Fleming Cross Country

A big well done; to the 27 children who represented Holywell at the cross country event at Bratton Fleming yesterday. A very challenging course, with a strong wind to battle! Everybody was amazing as always, running their best and supporting each other when spectating - our cheers, claps and encouragement were very, very heartfelt and lovely to see. A big thank you to the parents who supported with transport today and those that came as the support crew - you were amazing too!

Results:

Year 3 Girls: Sophia 10th, Matilda 11th, Holly 13th, Evangeline 14th, Flossie 15th, Maisy 16th, Chloe J 17th.

Year 4 Girls: Lottie 1st, Imogen 12th, Lara 13th

Year 4 Boys: Riley 8th, Louie 22nd, William 23rd, Archie 31st, Harry 32nd

Year 5 girls: Maddie 3rd, Lannah 4th, Bella 10th

Year 5 boys: Thomas 11th, Cameron 15th, Danny 29th, Harvey 31st, Rufus 34th, Jack Watts 37th

Year 6 Girls: Holly 9th

Year 6 Boys: Fred 23rd, Monty 25th



Hedgehogs and Robins class had a fantastic time at Rosemoor Gardens on Wednesday!

Hedgehog's class went on an 'Adventure in Numberland' where they had to solve each puzzle to be able to shrink down to fit through the rabbit's door and eat their lunch!

Robin's class did some making with 'Rosie the Garden Fairy' where the children created some fantastic crowns and wands using woodland materials!

Both classes enjoyed exploring the gardens and woodland after lunch. We ended our visit with a play in the park before returning to school tired, but happy!

A big thank you to all of the adults who helped make our trip to Rosemoor possible!

CHRISTMAS PRESENT SWOP SHOP

We are planning on holding our annual **CHRISTMAS PRESENT SWOP SHOP** in school on the morning of Monday 17th December. This is where the children are able to choose Christmas presents to bring home to you that will have cost nothing, which in today's present financial climate we hope will be a help!

This is how it works - we would be very grateful, if you are able to send in any small donations of presents suitable for a mums, dads, and brothers and sisters, such as small bubble bath, talc, soap, pens, pencils, chocolates, sweets, gloves, socks etc. from **December 1st**. This 'Swap Shop' will hopefully be a way for you to be able to 'recycle' some of the small presents you do not need, that you have at home! Any donations of wrapping paper and tags/labels will also be useful.

On the day of the Swap Shop, children are able to choose and wrap at least a couple of presents from those brought in, to bring home for Christmas Day. **There will be no charge on the Swap Shop day so you do not have to send in money!** The children are just bringing home recycled presents! We hope you like this idea – the children are very excited about it!

Preschool vacancies and free taster sessions

We still have places available in Pre-school on all days. Pre-school is a valued part of our school community and is an important link to the success of the school which we are very keen to keep as a thriving asset to the school. If you know of anyone who is looking for a place please ask them to contact Mrs. Denham or Elaine Palmer at adminh@gatewayfed.org.uk or (01271) 345908 who will be very happy to show them around.

School Meals

Please can you remember to return your child's school meal selection form, even if your child has a free school meal or a Meal for Free. This is the form St Michaels use to order the quantity of food required, so is very important if we wish to keep the cost per meal at a minimum.

Cheques

If you have paid any money to the school this week by cheque made payable to Devon County Council, please can you call in and see Elaine, as we now need cheques to be made payable to Ventrus Ltd. Cheques will only be accepted for a short period as new procedures will be in place shortly.

Free School Meals

If you are eligible to claim for free school meals we advise you to do so. Not only does your child benefit from receiving a meal, the school has additional funding for your child. This is in addition to the Universal Free School Meal Scheme. Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 & 2 we ask you please to still apply.

Guitar Lessons

Alex Rogozinski has a space for either a group of 2 or 3 children or an individual lesson. If your child is interested please call into the office to collect the relevant letter. As there are few spaces available they will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

News from the PTA



Holywell Christmas Fayre

Holywell's Christmas Fayre will be taking place in the village hall on Sunday 18th November from 10 am – 2 pm. If anyone would like a stall or knows of anyone who would, please contact Emma.barstow@btinternet.com. The cost of a will be £10.00.

Op Shop

If you have or require any good quality, secondhand school uniform please contact Emma Barstow on 07976 269525

Clubs

Please see the information above.

Monday	Netball	Mrs Hammond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5 & 6	
Monday	Fizz Pop Science	Mrs. Curtis	For those who have already signed up.	
Tuesday	Pottery	Mrs Coulam	YR, R, 1 & 2	
Wednesdays	Handball and Bench ball	Mr. Day		
Thursday	Football	Mr Dymond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5, & 6.	
Thursday	Staff Meetings			
Friday	Cross Country	Mrs Hammond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5, & 6	

Diary Dates – forthcoming events

Term Dates

Last day of the Autumn term, – Thursday 20th December, 2018.

Non Pupil Day – Monday 7th January, 2019.

Start of the Spring term, - Tuesday 8th January, 2019.

Spring half term starts, - Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February, 2019.

End of the Spring term, Friday 5th April, 2019.

Easter holiday starts, - Monday 8th April to Monday 22nd April, 2019.

Start of the Summer term – Tuesday 23rd April, 2019

May Bank holiday, - Monday 6th May, 2019.

Summer half term starts; - Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May, 2019.

Non Pupil Day – Monday 3rd June, 2019.

Last day of the Summer term, – Wednesday 24th July, 2019.

Diary Dates

Tuesday 4th December - Flu vaccinations – Reception to Year 5.

Christmas Performances KS2 (Yrs. 3, 4, 5 & 6 only)

Wednesday 12th December, - Dress Rehearsal 2pm.

Thursday 13th December, - Performance starts 2pm

Friday 14th December, - Performances starts 6pm. The children will need to be back in school by 5.30 pm.

Wednesday 19th December, - Whole school **Christmas lunch** - 11.50 am.

Wednesday 19th December, - **KS1 Nativity** and whole school Christingle service at Tawstock Parish Church starting at 2 pm.

Community News

St Michael's Nursery

St Michael's Nursery operates a breakfast club open from 8am, and after school club 3.15 - 6pm. We still have a limited number of spaces available so please phone us 01271 327074. office@stmichaels-nursery.org

Tawstock Tiddlers and Toddlers (has been cancelled until September)

Bumps, babies and all preschoolers welcome
Snacks provided Guest speakers and Messy play.
Monday from 9.30 – 11.00 at Tawstock Village Hall
For more details contact Sue on 07890 046033.

Circuits

Every Tuesday
9 – 9.45 am, in the village hall.
£4 pay as you go
All fitness levels welcome!
Children welcome to come along and play whilst mum/dad get fit.
Contact Estelle Liepa for more info or just turn up.
07973 533668

Caretaker of Hall

Daily clean of hall as & when required during term times & cleaning as & when required after booking of hall – this would include evenings & weekends. The hours on average will be 10 hours per month.

A fair rate to be discussed with applicant direct

Enquiries to julie@rollestonfarm.co.uk or in person 01271 8586

Links you may be interested in?

West Buckland School Activity Day

<https://www.westbuckland.com/open-day-september-2018>

Early Help for Mental Health

<http://eh4mh.co.uk>

Early Help

<http://devon.cc/earlyhelp>

Courses for Parents and Children

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/united-kingdom--bideford/family-and-education--classes/>

These events are only open to parent/carers this time around.

<https://20novemberdpcv.eventbrite.co.uk> - Buckfast Abbey Conference Centre

<https://27novemberdpcv.eventbrite.co.uk> - Cullompton Community Centre

The Plough Torrington

<https://www.facebook.com/StAnnesArtsCommunityCentre/>

Devon Library Services (including Barnstaple)

<https://www.devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/events>

Royal Albert Memorial Museum - (Exeter)

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UK ECC/bulletins/20a0199>

Barnstaple Library

<http://devonlibraries.org.uk>

On-line Safety

Online safety is an ever expanding area and you can find further valuable information on the CEOP website 'Think you know' has produced some useful conversation starters and advice to help you talk to your child about staying safe online <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk> and the NSPCC website <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventingabuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>

Some good sources of information and advice for parents:

- <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

The Professionals Online Safety Helpline is available Monday to Friday 10am – 4pm

Call 0344 381 4772 or email enquires@saferinternet.org.uk

<https://parentinfo.org/>

Parent Info is a free web service providing information to parents and carers.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/ShareAware>

Advice from NSPCC on social networks, apps and games.

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

A non-profit organisation working with others to help make the internet a great and safe place for children.