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7th October 2022

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

Wow what a busy week! This week we have seen the year 5 and 6 children take part in the Park School cross country event, had a wonderfully interactive author visit for the whole school and have held our school council elections. As always, the children across the school have made me want to explode with pride. Our cross-country runners were exemplary in their attitude and sportsmanship, the author was blown away by the enthusiasm and engagement she had from all of our children and the school council posters and presentations really do demonstrate how much our wonderful children want to be a voice in the development and direction of the school. We are so very lucky to have so many children that want to make a difference – thank you.



I am delighted to announce that our Year 6 committee for school council are:

Chair – Ruby

Vice Chair – Freya

Secretary – Poppy W

Events Organiser – Henry

Class representatives will be announced in next week's newsletter, although some already know their results 😊

This week we also held the AGM for our PTFA, where our longstanding committee made the decision to step down. We are so grateful for all of the dedication and hard work that they have put into supporting the school. During their term we have really benefitted from the monies that they have raised. Thank you: Ben, Hazel, Lucia and Sue for everything.

Following their departure, we now have a new committee who will be introducing themselves to you very soon, so watch this space!



Next week is going to be a very exciting and busy week for 19 of our year 5 and 6 children. I am really looking forward to having my first London Residential experience with you all. I have no doubt that we will have lots of fun and return home full of all of the exciting experiences we will have had. I will keep everybody posted and up to date every day on the Squirrel's page of the school website.

Parents of these children a reminder from Mrs. Palmer your blue S0E3 forms must be in on Monday and that if you have not made your final payment yet please can you do so ASAP – thank you.

Also don't forget we are introducing positive mental health to our children by supporting the 'Hello Yellow' charity <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/support-us/fundraising/helloyellow/> on Monday. The children are invited to donate (via Parent Pay) and wear as much yellow as they can.

New School News

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents RWI reading workshop

Dear parents,

We are holding a meeting on Tuesday 18th October 2.30pm in the village hall, to share further information about our Read write Inc Phonics programme. This will inform you of some of the processes involved in the learning of phonics and give you advice as to how you can help support your child at home. Please could you let us know by using this link

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=3RWFZvuneEGMNLPLdk_cPDDMNBUxhFGhvrBO_j9K7xUNOs5SjhRWERLRFNjMjdHTkw5T1JUWEFPNS4u if you are hoping to attend and we look forward to seeing you. Mrs. Coulam, Miss. Boundy and Mrs. Hammond.

Harvest Festival

This year's harvest celebration is taking place at the church on Thursday 20th October, where the children will share some of their learning and you will get to hear and join in with their beautiful singing. Please drop your children at the church at 8:50am. On the day, if you would like to send in biscuits or dry goods - not fresh, we would be very grateful. These donations will then be passed to the Freedom Centre.

Parent Conferences

Parent conference week will be the week beginning the 7th November. This first conference will be online with the Spring one being face to face. Your child's class teacher will post a sign-up sheet on their Teams page by Friday 21st October.

Mini London Marathon Update:

We have re-arranged the Mini London Marathon to Tuesday 18th October between 9.15 - 9.45. Please ensure your child has their PE kit with them on this day.

North Devon Cross Country League Results

A huge well done to the following children who turned up at Northam Burrows on Sunday morning to represent the school at the first North Devon Cross Country event of the year. Your results look amazing in fields of very large numbers.

U9 Girls - Lola 9th

U9 Boys - Harry 43rd

U11 Girls - Freya 23rd

U11 Boys - Aston 18th, Callan 33rd, Jack 46th

A Message from Debbie our worker from the Mental Health Support Team.

Dear Parents,

Thank you so much for taking the time to complete the mental health provision survey we sent out. From the responses we received, you identified both things that are going well and some areas for development.

Positive points you reported:

- You feel comfortable with staff at school and that you know who to talk to if you are concerned about your child.

- You feel welcome in school.

- You feel like your children are valued and respected in school.

Areas for development:

- You would like more extra-curricular activities to be available for your children.

- You would like opportunities to join in with workshops and events around supporting your child's mental health.

- You would like more communication around what is happening to support your child with their mental health in school.

We have looked at all the responses in detail from the whole school community and have now put together an action plan to try and address what you have identified. If you would like to be a part of this development or have any further comments around mental health provision in school, please do get in touch via the school.

Thanks also to those parents who attended the first parent coffee afternoon on Thursday in the village hall. It was great to meet and chat with you and to be able to share a little more of what we're doing in schools. Look out for more dates coming soon!

Exciting New Lunchtime Clubs

We are very excited to be starting some new lunchtime clubs at the school after half term.

On Tuesdays from 12:30 – 12:50pm we will be running a Lego club in Squirrel's class for year Reception, 1, 2 and 3. We have 10 spaces available. If your child would like to be a part of this club please indicate this by using the following link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=3RWFZvuneEGMNLPLdk_cPDDMNBUxhFGhvrBO_j9K7xUN0w1QVRFR0dBVDRBNDhaRDY0SzBLTFRSry4u – please write your child's name and class in the answer box.

On Fridays from 12pm – 12:20pm we will be running a Top Trumps club in Squirrel's class for Years 4, 5 and 6. We have 16 spaces available. If your child would like to be a part of this club please indicate this by using the following link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=3RWFZvuneEGMNLPLdk_cPDDMNBUxhFGhvrBO_j9K7xURTY3U1NQRUSzNIdJMDdUVzZYOUFZVVVNNC4u – please write your child's name and class in the answer box.

Year 6 Secondary School Transfer – URGENT for those of you who have not yet registered.

If you have not yet made an application for secondary transfer, **YOU MUST** do so before the 31st October. The easiest way to apply is online by visiting www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline

If families don't wish to or can't apply online, please complete a hard copy of the application form which can be obtained from the school office.

Late applications may be disadvantaged, so it is essential to make an on-time application to give the best chance of securing a place at one of your preferred schools.

Reminders

A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY TO ACCESS A FREE RESOURCE FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND THEIR WORRIES:

Our Mental Health Support Team are able to offer a new digital therapeutic intervention "Lumi-Nova -Tales of Courage", available free until January 31st 2023.

This is an app aimed at Children aged between 7-12 years old and uses a Low Intensity -Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (LICBT) graded exposure model to help children overcome their worries.

There is more information on the BFB-Labs website below.

<https://www.bfb-labs.com/luminova>

You can gain Open Access to the app by clicking on the link below:

<https://childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk/lumi-nova/>

Our MHST clinicians are also offering a "practitioner sign-up" model across North Devon, offering supportive calls throughout the intervention. Contact your school (Mrs. Hammond – samantha.hammond@ventrus.org.uk) to complete a Request for Help form to access this service

Absence Requests

Just a reminder that any absence requests from school during term time will be unauthorised unless evidence suggests that the absence required is due to exceptional and unavoidable circumstances.

After-School and Breakfast Clubs

We are running both Breakfast and ASC Clubs this term but would ask that **if you require places at the ASC on Monday for Fridays that you please give a one weeks' notice.** The clubs are being run by various members of staff including Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Lowin and Mrs. Bartlett-Mobbs.

The cost for Breakfast club is £4.50 per child - can drop off from 8am.

After School Club starts - pick-up 4.15pm (£4.50) or 5.15pm (£9.00).

If you are going to be late collecting or if you need to collect at an alternative time, please can you phone to school by the end of the school day (3.15pm).

After 3.15pm, please email myka.scott@ventrus.org.uk & jemma.lowin@ventrus.org.uk & carole.Bartlett-Mobbs@ventrus.org.uk

Parent Pay Debts.

ALL DEBT balances MUST be cleared. We have **20 parents with debts** for School Meals and **6 parents with debts for the ASC.** If this applies to you can we please ask that these debts are cleared as soon as possible.

If payments aren't kept up to date, we may have to inform you that your child will need to bring a packed lunch or can't attend Breakfast or ASC.

On your ParentPay account you can check all payments made and see any monies outstanding.

The following trips are now available or will be available shortly for payment and consent to be made:

School Meals – £2.30 per day

Breakfast & ASC – See above

Current Year 5 & 6 – London Residential – 6 final payments still outstanding.

Year 4, 5 & 6 – Swimming and Gymnastics. This will be available in the next couple of weeks.

Please remember to pay the correct funds into the correct account item, and for the correct child in your family

Diary Dates

11th September to 29th November (excluding 11th & 27th October) – Year 4, 5 & 6 children - Gymnastics and Swimming – **NO SWIMMING & GYMNASTICS next week due to the London residential taking place.**

11th to 14th October - Year 5 & 6 - London residential

Thursday 20th October - Harvest Festival – Please drop your child at the church for 8:50am.

Week beginning 7th November – Parent Conferences

2nd, 9th & 16th December – Christmas Jumper Days.

Thursday 15th December – Christingle, 2pm at the church. Children to be collected from the church at 3pm.

Thursday 8th December – Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 Christmas Nativity performance 9:20am – 10:20am.

Friday 9th December – Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 Christmas Nativity performance 2pm – 3pm.

Spring Term - Gymnastics and Swimming Years R, 1, 2 & 3

Term Dates

Friday 21st October 2022 – Non-Pupil Day

Friday 16th December - Last day of the Autumn term

Tuesday 3rd January - Non-Pupil Day

Wednesday 4th January - First day of the Spring term

Ventrus Job Vacancies

<https://ventrus.current-vacancies.com/v?id=VENTRUSMUL&t=Ventrus-Careers>

Including vacancies at local schools.

Governor Position at Holywell

The governing body at the school are looking for some enthusiastic people to join the team! If you are interested and would like to be involved with the school in a slightly different capacity, please leave your name and contact details in the office, or alternatively please come and speak directly to Mrs. Hammond. It would be fantastic to have you on board.

BIZZY BEEZ Coffee and Play – Wednesdays 8:45-11am (term-time)
Come and join in the fun. All ages welcome. No membership, just pay as you go.
Children £2 – Adults £1
Tawstock Village Hall (EX31 3HZ)
Messy Play, arts and crafts, music and dancing, outdoor toys and story time.
For details call Emma on 07368 422791

Free School Meals

If you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals please go to the [Citizen Portal](#) which is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in an instant decision.

School Transport

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-and-college-transport/>

[School and college transport –
Education and Families](#)

School transport information,
including free school transport
www.devon.gov.uk

Privacy Notices

Important information

Ventrus main privacy notice can be found at <https://ventrus.org.uk/our-people/privacy-notices/> and the privacy notice for pupils can be viewed <https://ventrus.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Pupil-Privacy-Notice-2021-Final.pdf>

News from the PTA



Bag2School

There will be a collection of unwanted clothes and accessories in good condition on Thursday 10th November. Please leave items inside closed plastic bags outside school before 9 am.

Your School Lottery

This is a weekly draw and tickets are just £1! In addition to the cash prize, there is also a prize draw. Tickets can be bought any time at <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/holywell-church-of-england-primary-school> Good luck!

Online fundraising

When shopping online, please remember you can raise money for the school at no cost to you on:

Easyfundraising

https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofholywellschool/?invite=HP2SQV&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=rtwsharebox

AmazonSmile <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1045040-0>

Community News



Cold days, Warm libraries

We know it's going to be a tough few months ahead with the cost-of-living crisis and heating bills rising. So, Barnstaple library is launching a 'Libraries for Life' campaign to remind everyone that we're not just about books!

You can sit in the warmth and use our free WiFi or book a computer. And there are groups ranging from Bounce & Rhyme for babies and toddlers to our Wednesday Wanderers walking group for 55s and over. Why not come to our new Tea and Chat on Fridays 1.30-3.30pm? It's free!

If you're a new parent or carer, you can bring your baby and use our free weighing facilities to chart their growth.

Our free coat rails have been running for several years and will again be offering a chance to both donate and take a warm winter coat. You can just help yourself, no questions asked.

If you're job hunting, our Work Clubs will help you with one-to-one support in CV writing, developing your skills and applying for jobs online.

Starting or developing a business? Our Business & Intellectual Property Centre is right here with courses, webinars, one-to-one coaching and advice bipc@librariesunlimited.org.uk

There are free IT sessions on offer – just ask at the desk. And don't forget if you're housebound or struggle to get to the library, our Home Library Service can deliver not just books but a friendly chat too! Contact your local library or home.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk for details.

To sign up and join for free, pop into Barnstaple or your local library. We can't wait to see you.

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