



NEWSLETTER

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www.facebook.com/HolywellSchoolTawstock
Dear Parents

A Message from Mrs Denham

What a busy week!

Squirrels class had a wonderful jungle exploration in the woods and on their return they made Armadillos, birds and plants to create their own jungle! The highlight for some was getting thoroughly mucky and messy!

And today Foxes class have had a lovely time in the muddy woods acting and filming and collecting woodland treasure as part of their wow day literacy project.

How lucky we are to have a wonderful wood right on our door step.

I have been on a 3 day fact finding course about schools converting to an academy and being part of a Multi Academy Trust. Academies are charitable companies and rather than being directly funded and accountable to the local authority, they are funded and accountable to the Secretary of State. It is a new way forward for schools and one we will have to start to consider. The Government are keen for schools to not work in isolation and so join together with other schools in a MAT.

You may have read in the local news that Pilton Community College, who have already converted to an academy, are consulting parents and the community about joining a MAT mainly based in the Tiverton area. Many schools in the local community and nationally will be considering converting to an academy in the next few months as by 2017 the Government want the majority of schools to have done so.

It was a pleasure to be able to visit 3 very successful MAT's in Swindon and Bristol and it certainly gave me lots of information to feed back to the governors, staff and community!

PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL: We are still VERY concerned that parents are driving into the Village Hall car park too fast – we had another near miss this week!!! Please, please, please drive slowly through either Lake and Tawstock or Eastacombe and the hill down to the school. Slow right down as you near all the parked cars and very slowly proceed into the car park. Please DO NOT move if you have parked on the gravel until you know all children have safely been collected by their parents and moved away off the gravel area. Thank you so much for your co-operation with these issues. We want to get it right and safe before a child gets hurt. If you have any other ideas or suggestions please let me know. We welcome us all working together to get this right.

RECEPTION PUPILS 2016: The school is getting full but we still have odd places available throughout most year groups and will definitely have spare places for any pupils who would like to join our Reception Class in September 2016. Please pass the word around that we have spaces, as we have been told by several families that they haven't applied to the school as they had heard we are full! If you know of any parents would like to come and visit the School, please ask them to call us and organise a visit. It would be a pleasure to show them around.

Pupils Achievements

Congratulations and well done to:

Summah Barrow; who successfully completed 64 lengths for her sponsored swim in aid of the Children's Hospice South West. Thank you to everyone who sponsored Summah for this event.

Madison Wilson; who has successfully passed both her IDTA Preparatory ballet and tap exams, and finally **Kodie Harmer**; has competed in many Cyclo Cross events over the last few months and has now become the overall; **South West Cyclo Cross Under 8 Champion**.

Online safety Update

With the growth of social media over the past few years, children have become very aware of it are very keen to become part of this growing phenomena. However, we are committed to teach our children about online safety. There are many risks of children being active of social media online under the age of 13. This article highlights some of the risks of children having social media accounts and how you can keep your children safe online: parentinfo.org/article/under-13s-and-social-media

Lost T Shirt

Leylan Vanhorn (Robins Class) has mislaid his school jumper, sized 7/8 years. It is initialled with the letters LCV on the label. Please could you all check your child's sweatshirts this weekend. Thank you.

PE t shirt

We would like to introduce a PE t-shirt throughout the school so thank you to those of you who have already placed your order, over 30 so far. If you have not yet ordered please see Mrs. Palmer this coming week as we would like to place our order on Friday 5th February so that they will hopefully be hear when we return after the half term break. The cost of the t-shirt is £5 and a sample can be found in the school office. We will be placing an order on Friday 5th February. If you would like one please make payment of £5 (cheques made payable to DCC) to Mrs. Palmer along with the size you require.

Year 3

As Mrs. Ashcroft is on a course next Thursday, 4th February, there will be no Forest School that day. Please bring your wellies and waterproofs for a final session on Thursday 11th February, thanks.

Book Bags – Robins and Hedgehogs

If your child has a touch attached to their book bag can it please be removed as children a playing with them and shining them in other children's eyes.

Hedgehog's Tuesday Gymnastic sessions at Falcons

It has been lovely to see so many parents visiting the gymnasium to see the wonderful opportunities our children are having during the Tuesday afternoon sessions. However it has been noted by both school staff and the coaches of Falcons that some children whose parents are there from as early as 2:15pm are not focusing fully on the tasks that they are being taught. We would therefore like to ask that for the remaining sessions parents refrain from turning up to the viewing area of the gymnasium any earlier than 2:45pm. If you have any problems with this request please do speak to either your child's class teacher(s) or Mrs. Hammond. Thank you for your understanding.

World Cancer Day

Adam Rashid and his mum Laura will be taking part in the Cancer Research Relay for Life in July this year and are currently working closely with the North Devon Relay for Life Cancer research UK Committee to try and raise both awareness and money for a cause which touches so many families. Next Thursday 4th February it is World Cancer Day and all around the country people will be participating in 'Dress down day' with purple as a theme. We would like to support Adam and Laura by having a non-uniform day (with some purple!) on Thursday. If each child made a voluntary donation of 50p each, this would be fantastic. There is a collection goblet and awareness wristbands (£2 each) in the office if you would like to make any further donations or would like to purchase one.

Sainsbury Vouchers

The school are again collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kid vouchers. If you or your friends and family shop at Sainsbury's could you please collect them on our behalf. Thank you.

After school clubs – All clubs finish at 4:15pm except Recorders which finish at 4pm but if your child wishes to also do Computer Club they can leave at 3.45 to join that club.

Netball

There will only be netball club on the next 3 Mondays for those children going to the Park school courts. Netball at school will start again after half term. Monday 22nd February.

Monday	Netball	Mrs Hammond	Y3, 4, 5 & 6	
Monday	Pottery	Mrs Coulam	YR, 1 & 2	
Tuesday	Cross Country	Mrs Hammond	Y3,4,5 & 6	No Club Tuesday 2 nd February

Wednesday	Computer	Mrs Curtis	Y5 & 6	
Wednesday	Recorders	Mrs Archer	Y4,5&6	
Thursday	Staff Meetings			
Thursday	Tag Rugby	Mrs Vine	Y3,4,5&6	Cancelled until further notice

Diary Dates – forthcoming events

Tuesday 12th January for 5 weeks – Hedgehogs class Falcons Gymnastics. Parents will be collecting children from the Gym at Tarka Tennis at 3 pm.

Tuesday February 9th – Tempest - class indoor group photos.

Friday 12th February (PTA) – Cake, Tuck and Op-shop – outside of school at the end of the day.

Feb 29th to March 4th - Parent Conference week, days to be confirmed.

Friday 4th March (PTA) – proposed Cinema Night (6:30 to 7:30pm) £1 minimum entry. Films to be confirmed.

Tues 15th March – Bags2school - PTFA

Half Term Monday 15th to Friday 19th February.

End of Term



PTFA

Next Meeting – Monday 9th May – 6.30pm in school.

PTFA Committee:

Chair - Hayley Cook – Telephone 07737193572

Vice Chair - Sue Evans (Imogen's Grandma)

Secretary – Carol Dudden

Treasurer – Sandi Prideaux

Op Shop -Tracey Smith

Community News

Drop off your kids for a couple of hours of fun!

X-site

Trinity Church - the one with the tower near Rock Park

Saturday 30th January

3-5pm

£1.50 per child to include games, craft, snack and fun!

Tawstock Tiddlers and Toddlers

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 Mel:

07866783740

St Michaels Nursery Tawstock

We have vacancies at the after school club on Tuesdays and availability in our breakfast club every day. If you are interested call the nursery on 01271 267038 or email office@stmichaels-nursery.org