



NEWSLETTER

<http://www.holywell.devon.sch.uk>
www.primaryschoolsbarstaple.co.uk
adminh@gatewayfed.org.uk
8th January, 2016

www.facebook.com/HolywellSchoolTawstock
Dear Parents

We wish you all a very Happy New Year and we hope you all had a wonderful Christmas. We thank you so much for all the wonderful gifts, cards and best wishes we received. We thoroughly enjoyed all the wonderful end of term events - the play was a huge success, the PTA were amazing and raised a significant amount of money, the Christmas lunch was delicious and the Carol Service and Christingle were just a wonderful way to end the term. We hope you enjoyed them as much as we did! We are all looking forward to this next new term - the overall theme is a geography one called Active Planet.

We welcome Summer Harris Glessing who has joined us into year 3 and Miss Lucy Mills who will be working as a 1:1 teaching assistant and in Hedgehog's Class.

Can we please also remind all parents that if you wish to take your child out of school during term time you must complete a form called "**S2 Absence request Form 'Exceptional Circumstances'**" which can be downloaded from the website or obtained from the school office. However, please will you make an appointment to see me (Mrs Denham) before you complete the form to explain why you need to take your child out of school. This **MUST** be asked for as soon as you are considering removing your child from school **NOT** after the event has been booked. This is a Government law and does **NOT** grant parents an automatic right to take their child out of school during term time - these have to be "exceptional circumstances". They have stated that schools can issue penalty notices and fines and that pupils are only in school for 190 days out of a year of 365 days - they have at least 13 weeks holiday a year away from school. Staff and governors are not being difficult over this matter - this is a law and we are trying very hard to work with it and also at the same time be supportive to parents and families. Thank you for your understanding with both of these matters.

Please can we also remind parents they **MUST** sign their children out or back into school if they have been taken to an appointment etc. the form is kept in the school office.

All through the Autumn term, pupils in their school house groups have been earning points for good behaviour, effort and following the school Christian values. At the start of half term or the first Monday back after a longer holiday we have decided the winning team will be allowed to wear non uniform. Therefore, on Monday 11th January 'St George's' the Red house group will have a non-school uniform day in celebration of them coming top in the house group point league. Well done to St George's.

Year 6

Thank you to the year 6 parents and children who came to the meeting last night about the Key Stage 2 National Curriculum Tests ('SATs'). Mrs. Curtis will be in contact to arrange an alternative date for those parents who couldn't make it. In the meantime the video linked to below provides some clear, general information about the format of the tests.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Fr3U8lgTE&feature=youtu.be>

Carol Service Collection

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the collection at the Carol service at the end of term. We collected just over £63.00 and will be making a contributions to the 'Children's Society and a donation towards our sponsorship of Nathaniel's education in

Shirwell: North Devon Cross Country Event

The next North Devon Cross Country event is at Coxleigh Barton, Shirwell on Sunday. Mrs. Hammond will be walking the course at 9am. Please don't forget your number!

Children's Hospice South West

Summah Barrow will be swimming one mile (64 lengths) of the Barnstaple Leisure Centre pool in aid of 'Children's Hospice South West. If you would like to sponsor Summah please see her Mum Nadeanne. Thank you for your support.

Letter sent home this week:

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.

Monday	Netball	Mrs Hammond	Y3, 4, 5 & 6	Starts Monday 11 th January
Monday	Pottery	Mrs Coulam	YR, 1 & 2	Starts Monday 11 th January
Tuesday	Cross Country	Mrs Hammond	Y3,4,5 & 6	Starts Tuesday 12 th January No Club Tuesday 2 nd February due to staff safeguarding training.
Wednesday	Computer	Mrs Curtis	Y5 & 6	Starts Wednesday 13 th January
Wednesday	Recorders	Mrs Archer	Y4,5&6	Starts Wednesday 13 th January
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.

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

Half Term Monday 15th to Friday 19th February.

End of Term



PTFA

PTFA – Next Meeting – Wednesday 27th January, 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

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