

Holywell C of E (VC) Primary School, Tawstock, Barnstaple, Devon EX31 3HZ **T:** 01271 345908 **E:** susan.denham@ventrus.org.uk **W:** holywell.devon.sch.uk

Dear Parent/Carer

We have now started the summer term and although our school buildings remain firmly shut to the vast majority of our children, our hearts and minds remain very much open, retaining an unwavering sense of our responsibilities as leaders, teachers and support staff for the ongoing wellbeing and education of the children and families that we serve. With this in mind, I would like to take the opportunity within this e mail to outline how we as a **School and as part of Ventrus Multi Academy Trust** have harnessed and aligned our collective efforts to meet the significant challenges ahead.

We are sure you would like to offer heartfelt thanks to all leaders, teachers and support staff for the amazing efforts that continue on a day-to-day basis. During what would have been our Easter holidays, colleagues in our **school and across the Trust** have continued to provide childcare for the most vulnerable children and to the children of parents whose work is critical to the challenge of defeating coronavirus, willingly giving up holiday time with their families to continue to serve on the front line of this national effort.

As a **School and Trust** we have clearly observed Public Health England guidelines, including minimising the amount and frequency of social contact within school. We have kept staff numbers to a minimum in our school, encouraging colleagues to work from home as much as possible. We remain committed to doing everything we can to protect our staff and your children.

There is no doubt that we are living through a unique period in our history and our actions, behaviours and achievements in the next few months will form part of an enduring legacy. Therefore, we think it is important to lay out some ambitions for our work.

We hope that at some point in the future we will all be able to look back at this period of time knowing that as far as humanly possible we did the right things at the right time for our children and families, making a significant contribution to protecting and promoting the well-being of our communities and our Nation as a whole.





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Whilst ensuring compliance with both normal and extraordinary regulations, we will have targeted resources and prioritised activities which will support our society in the long term. Crucially, we will have looked forward with positivity and by working together ...

- Your child/ren will have remained safe and well looked after
- We will have used the very best approaches to supporting remote learning that will have minimised the educational deficit of this period, especially for the most disadvantaged
- Your child/ren we will still feel connected to school through the high levels of personal contact and care that they have experienced from their teachers and support staff
- Your child/ren will have increased general knowledge, life skills and awareness of the world in which they live
- Families will feel that they have been well supported in keeping their families safe, happy and purposefully occupied
- We will have played a meaningful role as a strategic partner in civic leadership within our local communities and across the wider system
- We will have a thoroughly planned curriculum offer in place for 2020/21 which takes into account the missed time in school, especially for the most disadvantaged

At times like these, clear and consistent communication is more important than ever and we will of course keep you updated on our progress towards meeting these ambitions.

With our very best wishes, stay safe and well.

Susan Denham – head teacher Gary Chown – CEO Ventrus MAT





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