



Many other school events and news can be found on our [Facebook page - click here](#)

6th March, 2020

A message from Mrs. Denham

Coronavirus

Department for Education Coronavirus helpline

The DfE have launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

World Book Day

A big thank you to all of the parents who supported their children in joining the staff in our World Book Day dress up. The costumes were amazing and it was clear how much the children enjoyed being like the characters in their favourite books. The children really enjoyed going to the books sale, in the hall – thank you Mrs Broad for organising this and supporting the children with their choices. Parents your book purchases have secured over £600's worth of reading books for the school and for this we are very grateful.

Gymnastics Years 1 & 2

Just a reminder that the year 1 & 2 children have two weeks left of their Gymnastics session, the 10th & 17th March. They will be in school all day on the last Tuesday of term (24th).

Our Easter service will be on the 25th March at St Peter's Church, Tawstock, starting at 9 am. We will be asking you to drop your children at the church on this morning at from 8:50 am. If you don't have to rush off please stay and join us for the service. All welcome.

[Facebook page - click here](#)

School News

Spring Term

The last day of the Spring term will be Friday 27th March, 2020.

The half term will be from Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February, 2020 (inclusive).

Summer term

The first day of the Summer term will be Tuesday 14th April, 2020.

Please remember that the May Bank Holiday will now be on Friday 8th May, 2020.

The half term will be from Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May, 2020 (inclusive)

The last day of the Summer term will be Friday 17th July, 2020.

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

Pupil Achievements:

Congratulations to: Lottie Perfect who following on from a Gold and Silver at the County Athletics Championships late last year, Lottie has now been selected to represent Devon in the South West Athletics Championships in March. Well done **Lottie** and 'Good Luck.'

North Devon Schools gymnastics competition

Huge congratulations to our amazing gymnasts that took part in the North Devon Schools gymnastics competition at Kingsley on Saturday. 23 of our fantastic children chose to be part of the competition and really did let their lights shine.

Results are as follows:

Novice Competition:

U7 Mixed team – Freya, Isabella, Thomas – 7th team overall

U7 Girls Team A – Lola, Betsy, Lexi – joint 1st team overall

U7 Girls Team B – Ella, Mia, Emily, Naomi, Willow – joint 1st team overall

U9 Girls Team A – Poppy, Greta, Freya, Ruby, Anya – 9th team overall

U9 Girls Team B – Evangeline, Flossie, Isabella Ar, Matilda – 6th team overall

Intermediate Competition:

U9 Girls team – Evangeline, Flossie, Isabella A, Matilda – 8th team overall

U11 Girls team – Bella A, Greta, Felix, Rufus – 3rd team overall

Individual results

U11 Intermediate Girls, Bella A – 1st overall and a special award for musical interpretation for her floor routine

Thank you very much to all of the parents who gave up some of their Saturday to allow their child to participate. It was a very long day, but the smiling faces certainly showed just how much fun was had by all.

Dates of this year's Yr. 2 & Yr. 6 SAT's, the new multiplications check for yr. 4 pupils and the phonics check for yr. 1 pupils.

Please can we ask that if you are considering an exceptional absence request, that you speak with Mrs. Denham before you book anything and please avoid the dates below and the lead up to these.

Yr. 6– 11th – 14th May (inclusive).

Yr. 2 – 18th – 22nd May (inclusive).

Yr. 1 Phonics check - 8th – 12th June (inclusive)

Yr. 4 Multiplication check - 8th June for 3 weeks (until Friday 26th June).

Church News and current Christian Value

Value: The current Christian Value for this month is; **Love & Compassion**

Parent Pay.

If you have not yet logged on and you have mislaid your username and password, please speak to Mrs. Palmer. This system has been very well received and it has been great to hear the positive comments from those of you who already signed up and have used it. Thank you.

Items on Parent Pay

Skern Lodge Residential – Yrs. 3 & 4 –The 3rd and final instalment of £42.00 is now overdue for the residential.

If you still haven't made your final payment can you please do so on Parent Pay as soon as possible or pay cash into the office on our return to school, Monday 24th February.

Swim & Gym – Years 1 & 2

Woolacombe trip – Hedgehog class – Wednesday 11th March

Uniform – When you purchase items on parent pay please remember to email elaine.palmer@ventrus.org.uk stating the item and size/s you require.

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.

Saxophone/Clarinet/Flute Lessons



Clarinet, saxophone, flute and toot lessons are available for your child and take place during the school day. If you would like your child to take lessons on these instruments please can you contact the IMS office on 07974 849303 or email imsnorthdevon@gmail.com

A letter giving full details of these lessons have been attached to the email with this newsletter.

News from the PTA



It was great to have many children engage in the sponsored book read. If you have not yet returned your sponsorship money, you can still do so next week until the 13th March. All the money raised will go towards buying books for the school.

Thank you to everyone who came to the film night and helped us raise just over £300, which enables the school to subsidise one term and a half of swim and gym sessions.

Our next event is Monday's coffee morning and uniform shop; we look forward to seeing you there! We will be asking for donations for coffee/tea and cake. Uniform items are priced at £1 for non-branded and old logo garments and £2 for items with the new logo.

5 reasons to buy second hand uniform:

- it saves you money
- it saves natural resources used in producing the garment
- it stops old items from going to landfill
- good quality items
- it raises money for the school

Dates for your diary:

9th March- Coffee morning and uniform shop: 9-11 am Tawstock Village Hall

26th March - Easter Egg Trail – After school

22nd April - PTA meeting 7pm -Cedars Inn

7th May - cake sale

4th July - Holywell Rocks 11-4 pm Tawstock Court

Op Shop

If you have or require any good quality, secondhand school uniform please contact Hazel Malin on 07974 208835
Thank you for your support.

Club

Please see the information above.

Monday	Netball	Mrs Hammond Miss Ryder-Green	Yrs., 3, 4, 5 & 6	
Tuesday	Singing Club	Miss Shapland	Yrs., 3, 4, 5 & 6	
Tuesday	Pottery	Mrs Coulam	YR, R, 1 & 2	
Wednesdays	Goal Getters	Goal Getters	Yrs., R, 1, 2 & 3	
Thursday	Football	Mr. Dymond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5 & 6	No club until notified
Thursday	Staff Meetings			
Friday	X County	Mrs. Hammond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5, & 6	Cancelled for the rest of the spring term due to year 2 booster classes.

Diary Dates – forthcoming events

March 10th and 17th, 2020 – Yrs. 1 & 2 Gymnastics. Please collect your child from the Tarka Tennis Centre at 3 pm. Thank you.

Parent Conference – Please see notice above.

March 18th to 20th, 2020 – Skern Lodge Residential for Yrs. 3 & 4

March 25th, 2020 – Easter Service at St Peters Church, Tawstock. On this morning can you please drop of at the church from 8.45 pm. Everyone is welcome to stay and join us for our school family Easter Service.

March 26th, 2020 – PTA Easter Egg Hunt. – After school 3 & 315 pm.

May 18th, 2020 – Music Extravaganza – village hall at 2.30 or 2.45 pm – time to be confirmed. Everyone welcome.

July 16th, 2020 – Year 6 Leavers service, end of day, timings to be confirmed.

Village Hall Hire.

The cost of hiring the village hall for a 3 hour children's birthday party is now £45.00.

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

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 Friday
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 53366

Cricket Training Sessions

Park School, 7th, 14th and 28th March 4-530pm, years 3-6

Contact Pete Newby 07747792006

Links you may be interested in?

The Plough Theatre – Great Torrington

<https://www.theploughartscentre.org.uk/whats-on/diary>

Romarsport

A letter was sent home attached to the newsletter today from this company if you would like to find out more this is there website and the parent booking link.

www.romarsports.com link for parents to book is <https://www.romarsports.com/Holiday-Camps>

HappyMaps

www.happymaps.co.uk

New website for parents on children's mental health problems now launched. Funded by Health Education England, HappyMaps is designed to help parents find useful resources on behaviour and mental health for their children – from babies to young adults. It is hoped that this will be really useful for parents whose children don't meet the specialist referral thresholds or are perhaps on the waiting list. There is good general information (national) and also local information on counselling, charities, local CAMHS and parenting groups for the South West. Take a look at the website.

Outdoors Group

<https://www.outdoorsgroup.co.uk/forestschoollactivities/>

Riverdart.co.uk – event 30th March

<http://riverdart.co.uk/news-and-events>

Easter Holiday Club – Tawstock Court

<https://sciencedipity.co.uk/school-holiday-science-club/>

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>

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 the NSPCC: on social networks, app and games.

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

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

West Buckland School Activity Day

<https://www.westbuckland.com/prospective-parents>

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/>

The above events are constantly being updated and there are many new courses available which may be of interest.

Devon Library Services (including Barnstaple)

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

Royal Albert Memorial Museum - (Exeter)

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

Barnstaple Library

<http://devonlibraries.org.uk>