

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

9<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

### Message from Mrs. Hammond

With the sudden change in weather today and Christmas tunes playing around the school, we certainly know that we are heading into our final days of the Autumn term.

It has been an exciting week throughout the school with Squirrel class embarking on daily Christmas quests, Santa paying a special visit to Robin class to help with their English lessons, PE circuits with Mr. Day to Christmas music and of course Robin's and Hedgehog's performances. Years Reception, one, two and three were amazing with their acting, dancing and singing throughout both of the performances and I was very proud to watch them all. Thank you to all of you as parents/carers for supporting them at the performances and providing a wonderful array of costumes.

Our PTFA have continued to be very busy providing mince pies, teas and coffees as well as a wonderful raffle for each of the performances. Their fundraising efforts during this very busy season are very much appreciated.

And finally, you should have received the school's recent Ofsted report via email today. We do hope that you enjoy reading the report. The staff are very proud of the way it is written and represents our thoughts on how Holywell is more than just a school, it is a family. Every child is unique and Holywell moulds to them and not the other way round. I feel very privileged to have been at Holywell for so many years and am thankful that I was given the opportunity to lead the school through an Ofsted that truly reflects how I, the staff and the children feel about Holywell. Please do share the report with your children as they really are the stars of the report.

Have a wonderful weekend.



### New School News

#### Christmas Swap Shop

Our annual pupil SWAP SHOP will be happening on Monday (Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December). We have already had some gifts sent in, which have been wonderful – thank you. However, we do try to ensure that all children are able to select at least one gift as a surprise for a member of their family and still require any of the following: small bubble bath, talc, soap, pens, pencils, chocolates, sweets, gloves, socks etc. So if you are able to have a look around your home and spot any items that you are happy to recycle, please do send them into the office on the morning of the **12<sup>th</sup> December**.

Any donations of wrapping paper and tags/labels will also be useful.

### **Christingle Service**

We would like to invite all of Holywell's family and friends to next week's Christingle. This will be at St Peter's Church, Tawstock. The service is due to start at 2pm. We will be walking the children up to the church from around 1:30pm, so please be mindful of this when travelling to the church. Your child should only bring to school what they really need for that day as they will have to carry their bags to the church, where we ask you to collect them from 3pm.

### **Christmas Party**

The school Christmas party will be taking place on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December, during the school day. It will be across the afternoon, with the children playing games and having fun! We would like to invite your child to wear non-uniform on that day – the Christmassy the better!

### **Support with Miss Derges' dissertation**

Your child should have come home with a letter today outlining her plans for her dissertation. Miss Derges was a TA at Holywell, until only recently and would love your consent to enable her to look at the importance of exercise for children. Please do read the letter and complete the consent form attached, returning it to the school office by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Reminders**



**ParentPay**

### **Parent Pay Debts.**

**ALL DEBT balances MUST be cleared.** We have **21 parents with debts** for School Meals, and **14 parents' debts for Breakfast and/or 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**

**Swimming and Gymnastics – Reception & yrs. 1, 2, & 3. These sessions start on the 10<sup>th</sup> January.**

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

### **Pre-School Funding**

In order to access 30-hour funding from Spring Term 2023 parents need to have applied to HMRC and received a code by 31st December 2022.

**[30 hour funding: deadline to apply and receive a code to access funding from Spring 2023](#)**

### **Tax Free Childcare**

If your child attends or may attend at some time our Breakfast or After-School Club may be entitled to tax free childcare. The link below will take you to the site where you can check if you are entitlement and also register with the scheme.

[https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/?utm\\_source=Search+&utm\\_medium=RSA&utm\\_campaign=CC&gclid=CjwKCAiAyfybBhBKEiwAgtB7frB3iIr0Z9xEIGZQa9F68icank8Swoc1RZIOp1kjRQzL18xoapp2hoC2RwQAvD\\_BwE](https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/?utm_source=Search+&utm_medium=RSA&utm_campaign=CC&gclid=CjwKCAiAyfybBhBKEiwAgtB7frB3iIr0Z9xEIGZQa9F68icank8Swoc1RZIOp1kjRQzL18xoapp2hoC2RwQAvD_BwE)

### **September 2023 intake**

Children born between 01/09/2018 and 31/08/2019 are entitled to start full time Primary Education in September 2023. The application facility opens on 15th November 2022 and closes at midnight on 15th January 2023.

### **Driving Through the Villages of Tawstock & Eastacombe:**

Please can we remind everyone driving to school through the lanes and villages of Tawstock & Eastacombe to reduce your speed accordingly. We have received several complaints from the local community regarding the inconsiderate speed at which some cars are travelling. We also have several families who live in these villages who walk their children to and from school. All routes to the school have narrow lanes and we have heard of a few near misses involving families from our school. We all leave and arrive at different time, so please respect other road users including pedestrians and keep your speed down; I am sure you will all agree that our children's safety is paramount.

### **Admissions Policy consultation 2024-2025**

The consultation period for the 2024 – 2025 - Holywell C of E Primary School admissions policy began on the 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2021 The consultation period ends on 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2023.

Below you will see a link to our proposed admissions policy for 2024-25

[http://www.primaryschoolsbamstaple.co.uk/website/admissions\\_policies/627029](http://www.primaryschoolsbamstaple.co.uk/website/admissions_policies/627029)

We are consulting on this between 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022 and 6<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and invite any parent or other person with an interest in our admission arrangements to read the policy and make any comments you wish.

### **Anxiety Workshop**

Mrs. Williamson, along with Debbie, a member of the school's Mental Health Team have planned an Anxiety Workshop for parents. It will be taking place in the Hall on the Friday 13<sup>th</sup> January, 9 – 10am. Please see the attached flyer. We hope you will be able to come along.

### **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 31<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto: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 able to run both Breakfast and ASC Clubs every day this term, and although we no longer require a weeks' notice for Monday Breakfast and Friday after-school clubs we still ask that you book in advance as the places are limited to 8 per session. If we are over this number, we require an extra member of staff which we may not be able to provide at short notice. The clubs are now being run by Ms. Scott, Mrs. Lowin and Mrs. Mullen

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](mailto:myka.scott@ventrus.org.uk) [jemma.lowin@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:jemma.lowin@ventrus.org.uk) [charlotte.mullen@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:charlotte.mullen@ventrus.org.uk)

### Diary Dates

**12<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Swap Shop

**15<sup>th</sup> December** – Christingle, 2pm at the church. Children to be collected from the church at 3pm.

**15<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Lunch

**16<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Jumper Days.

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

### Term Dates

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December** - Last day of the Autumn term

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January** - Non-Pupil Day

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **BIZZY BEEZ Coffee and Play -**

This as closed temporarily but will be opening up again in the new year.

### 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](http://www.devon.gov.uk)

### NEW Privacy Notices – November 2023

#### **Important information**

Ventrus main privacy notice can be found at <https://ventrus.org.uk/our-people/privacy-notice/>

Ventrus pupil privacy notice can be found at <https://ventrus.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Pupil-Privacy-Notice-2022-23-Academy-Ventrus-Nov-22.pdf>



### News from the PTA

A reminder of 2 things to sign up to before you do your online Christmas Shopping...  
(you earn us free money!!)

#### Easyfundraising

If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE. 7,300 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to do your everyday online shopping - at no extra cost to you! Every donation you raise makes a difference to us so please sign up & share

today. [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofholywellschool/?invite=2RQAJ0%26referral-campaign=c2s%26utm\\_campaign=admin-trigger%26utm\\_content=srt](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofholywellschool/?invite=2RQAJ0%26referral-campaign=c2s%26utm_campaign=admin-trigger%26utm_content=srt)

#### Amazon Smile

Don't forget to use our unique charity link (<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1045040-0>) to help us earn money each time you purchase through Amazon!