



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

17th January, 2020

A message from Mrs. Denham

For their Wow day on Thursday the children enjoyed a visit from Mrs. Recycle and 'Plastic Free North Devon.' The children were able to access VR headsets allowing them to 'dive' into the Great Barrier reef, where they saw much marine life. The children were quick to understand the link between these beautiful creatures and the importance of protecting them and the ocean from plastic waste.

Some quotes from Squirrels class:

'Animals think that some plastic or rubbish in the ocean is their food.'

'I didn't realise that when you burnt plastic it turns into really bad fumes.'

'I learnt that even when you recycle, some of it doesn't get made into something, some of it gets burnt. So you should not buy as much plastic.'

Children enjoyed collecting shells and drift wood from Mrs. Recycles 'shore line.' However, many were surprised by what was left at the end of the collecting...far too much plastic waste! It was lovely to see so many children keen to share their knowledge on environmental issues and take away some fantastic ideas to reduce, reuse, recycle.

This week we have seen our Year 4s participate in a Tennis Festival at Tarka Tennis where they were amazing in letting their 'Light Shine', **please see the full report below**. But this event would not have been able to go ahead without the support of our staff members and parent volunteers. Thank you to: Mrs. Carlyon, Mr. Anderson and Mr. Wileman.

PTA

I would like to say a huge thank you to the PTA committee who rallied round last week and appointed a new Chair and Vice-Chair.

Chair: Lucia Gomar

Vice-Chair: Sue Evans

Thank you so very much ladies.

Some of the future events which they are planning are: - A monthly coffee morning, Film Night, Easter Egg Hunt and 'Holywell Rocks'.

Taster School Dinner

We hope that those children who joined us for the taster day last Thursday enjoyed their delicious dinner. Liz the cook serves up delicious dinners every day and for those of you with children in years R, 1 & 2 these are, at present, completely free. So, if your child enjoyed their meal we would love to see them every day.

Year 4 Tennis Festival

On Wednesday year 4s attended the Tarka Tennis Centre for a tennis festival. They joined other local schools and were given the opportunity to learn and try out many skills including ball control, racket skills and "beat the teacher".

Once again, the children shone by showing amazing teamwork and were even chosen as the "best sitting school" whilst waiting for their next instructions. Well done year 4.

A big thank you to Jim Wileman and Mr Anderson for supporting us on this trip and being willing to be beaten by the children!!

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.

Pupils Achievements:

Congratulations to **Madison Wilson** who was nominated for: Gymnasts gymnast of the year, Hardest working female gymnast of the year and Female development gymnast of the year at Falcon's awards event that took place at the weekend. Maddie received a trophy in recognition of her nomination by other gymnasts and also won the overall accolade of Female development gymnast of the year – well done **Maddie**.

North Devon Cross Country League – Shebbear

Huge congratulations to the nine Holywell children that competed in the North Devon Cross country league on Sunday. The weather was not great, very, very wet under foot, but that did not dampen the spirits of our lovely children and their families. Sadly, Mrs. H was unable to make this event due to another commitment, but is delighted to share the amazing results below:

U9 Girls – Greta 18th, Sophia 26th, Ruby 34th, Flossie 52nd

U9 Boys – Aston 14th, Henry 44th, Ollie 45th

U11 Girls – Lottie 23rd

U11 Boys – Riley 24th

The final race of the series is Sunday 2nd February at West Buckland. This is presentation day. If you are unable to stay for the presentation, please can you let Mrs. H know, so that she collects your medal for you.

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 is – **Wisdom, Truthfulness and Honesty**

The children enjoyed Rev. Gary's visit to school this week where he took collective worship about the Epiphany and then joined yrs. 3 & 4 who had some amazing questions for him about the Holy Trinity. Thank you Rev. Gary.

On the 12th February we will be having an informal, interactive prayer afternoon led by the Rev. Gary. This is to pray for our school and everyone is welcome: parents, children and staff. It will run straight after school until 4 pm.

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 2nd payment of £40.00 is due today 10th January, 2020.

Swim & Gym – Years 1 & 2

Uniform – We have now put all uniform on Parent Pay so you can pay for items and at the same time notify the office by email the items you require. If we have them in stock, you should be able to collect them the following day. If they are not in stock, we will order immediately and get them to you as soon as possible. If you have any issues with this system you are still able to pay by cash in at the office.

If you have any problems when trying to order on Parent Pay, please notify the office as we have adapted Parent Pay to do this so hic ups could occur!

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



EasyFundRaising

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online – from your weekly shop to your annual holiday – you could be raising free donations for Friends of Holywell School - Tawstock with easyfundraising?

There are over 4,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation – including eBay, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com and M&S – and it won't cost you a penny extra to help us raise funds.

All you need to do is:

1. Go to https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofhollywellschool/?utm_campaign=raise-more and join for free.
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. . After you've checked out, the retailer will make a donation to Friends of Holywell School - Tawstock at no extra cost to you whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and Friends of Holywell School, Tawstock will be really grateful for your donations.

Thank you for your support.

PTA Diary Dates:

7th February, 2020 - 3.15 pm Film Night £3.50 to include a picnic. There will be popcorn and sweets for sale on the night. More details to follow next week, please look out for the letter!

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

Op Shop

If you have or require any good quality, secondhand school uniform please contact Emma Barstow on 07976 269525

Club

Please see the information above.

Monday	Netball	Mrs Hammond	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	
Friday	Indoor Football	Mr. Day	Yrs., 3, 4, 5, % 6	

Diary Dates – forthcoming events

January 14th, 21st and 28th, 2020 – Yrs. 1 & 2 Gymnastics – If you have not yet paid for this event can you please do so by the close of day on Monday. Thank you.

February 7th, 2020 – PTA Film Night. £3.50 to include a picnic. There will be pop-corn and sweets for sale on the night.

March 3rd, 10th and 24th, 2020 – Yrs. 1 & 2 Gymnastics.

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.

Community News

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 - 6.pm. 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 Tuesday
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

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/UKCEC/bulletins/20a0199>

Barnstaple Library

<http://devonlibraries.org.uk>