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12th February 2021

A message from Mrs. Denham

Dear families,

I wish you all a very happy half term. I hope you have been able to enjoy some of the activities from Feel Good Friday and that the children have enjoyed receiving their thank you postcards from us. As it is Valentine's Day this weekend, we thought decorating the heart may always remind you all of Lockdown Valentine's Day.

We thank you all for your support, kind words and encouragement during what has really been a quite extraordinary term. We certainly did not predict we would be doing this a year ago!

I thank all the parents who are key workers who have been sending their children to school and supporting us through their crucial working roles. I thank all the parents who have been at home working and supporting their children with the home learning. You have all been stars.

I'm sure there has been some really tough times for everybody in the last few months and I just hope that we are going to hear in the next few weeks that school can return to some sort of normality soon.

I really also want to thank the amazing staff for all they have done supporting children both at home and at school. I wish them a relaxing half term as they most certainly need to recharge their batteries ready to come back for the rest of the spring term.

And I finally want to thank the most amazing and fabulous children that go to our school. They had to experience the most unusual, difficult year – one that I have never experienced in all my years – and have had to carry on with their learning, at home or at school throughout it all. They are I am sure are missing their families, their friends, going on outings, celebrating birthday parties, enjoying their sporting clubs and many other activities that they would normally be enjoying doing that should be part of their childhood. We are so proud of each and every one of them and hope they enjoy their half term with you.

Thank you also for all your support over the flooding, mud and drain situation outside the school. DCC are working with the environmental agency and highways to try and get the issues sorted asap.

And finally when we come back after half term, we should have the fibre broadband up and running in the school – we won't recognise ourselves. YIPEEEEEE!

World Book Day

On Thursday 4th March it will be World Book Day. We would like to invite the children at home and in school to dress up as their favourite book character for the day.

Your child's class teacher will be preparing a day of learning immersed in a book that they have chosen. The day will be one to celebrate reading and how much fun we can have with books.

Look out for more information from your child's class teacher on Teams in the coming weeks.

Holywell pre-school

- In line with the new guidance, from Monday 11 January 2021 our preschool will continue to be open to **all children**, as they normally would be. Therefore, if you haven't sent your child back into pre-school as you are not a critical worker, please do so if you would like them to attend. Please book in your normal way through Mrs Palmer in the office.

Vodafone Sim Card

Vodafone UK wanted to do their part to help keep children and parents connected and be able to continue learning from home during this difficult time. They have given away for free 250,000 data SIMs with 30GB of data to use for 90 days.

We requested and have been allocated a small number of Vodafone data SIM cards to give out to parents who have problems logging on to the Wi-Fi for their children to access Microsoft Teams from home. As they are limited, they will be given out on a first come first served basis.

- ❖ Vodafone data SIM to use as a Wi-Fi replacement.
- ❖ 30GB data (lasts for 90 days)
- ❖ Need a smart laptop/dongle that has a slot for a sim card or a smart phone that takes a sim card
- ❖ Need good Vodafone signal (you can use the Network Status tracker on www.vodafone.co.uk)

- ❖ If your phone is locked to another network, you just need to contact your network provider's customer service team to request for your phone to be unlocked.
- ❖ You won't be able to use your phone to make calls/texts while using this data SIM.
- ❖ You will be able to enjoy 30GB data for 90 days this will start once you insert the SIM into your phone and start using the data.

Spring Term

Last day of the Spring term will be 1st April 2021

Privacy Notice

The Trust has updated its Privacy Notice for parents. It is available for you to view on our website <https://www.ventrus.org.uk/our-people/privacy-notices/>

Term Dates – Jan 2021 to July 2021

1 st April 2021	Last Day of Term
19 th April 2021	Summer Term begins
3 rd May 2021	Spring Bank Holiday
28 th May 2021	Non Pupil Day
31 st May to 4 th June 2021	Half Term
23 rd July 2021	Last Day of Term

News from the PTA



We hope you enjoyed reading last week's PTA newsletter containing details of recent and current fundraising initiatives. If you have not seen it yet, you can find it in the school website!

21 Challenge

This term's challenge aims to provide an opportunity to get active and creative as well as hopefully raising some funds! You have until the 21st of February to complete a sponsored challenge of your choice based around the number 21. Please see poster and sponsorship form attached!

Easyfundraising

You can raise large donations for Support Friends of Holywell School - Tawstock when managing your household bills. Whether you are looking to switch your mobile phone, broadband or energy, you can raise a donation for us when you shop via #easyfundraising. Browse deals: <http://efraising.org/v0bHUKTUG6>

Your School Lottery

This is a weekly draw and tickets are just £1! Have you been a lucky winner yet? Tickets can be bought any time at <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/holywell-church-of-england-primary-school> Good luck!

Second hand uniform

If you require or wish to donate pre-loved uniform, please contact Hazel on 07974208835.

Next meeting Wednesday 3rd March