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| Ventrus logo |  | **Newsletter** | C:\Users\Head\Documents\Logos\Holywell school Logo Ultimate Version.jpg  **LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**  [**www.primaryschoolsbarnstaple.co.uk**](http://www.primaryschoolsbarnstaple.co.uk)  **holywell@ventrus.org.uk** |

2nd November 2023

**Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.**

**Message from Mrs. Lowrey**

Well, what a surprising week this has turned out to be! I don’t think that any of us expected to have such a sudden turn in the weather and certainly not to have the sudden closure of the school on Thursday! Thankfully, we were fortunate to experience no damage and no flooding!

Firstly, I need to say a huge well done to the year 5/6 children both on residential and those who remained in school. Children, you did us proud and I have heard some excellent reports of exciting activities, excellent behaviour and some fabulous memories being made. Thank you to the parents who have emailed in such positive feedback and I was so grateful for your kind comments. You are right, the most important thing has been the memories that have been made for these children – thank you to all staff involved for giving up their personal time to make this happen. I am so proud of you, children – this is excellent representation of the school.



I wanted to let parents know that I am delighted to be able to announce that we have moved our breakfast and after school club to the hall. This is to help us to host a range of activities for the children and will also mean that we can use gym equipment or host more physical activities as well as provide food in a more inviting way. Miss Lowin took photos of some of the food we have available for the children. Emma has also started to provide a range of foods for after school club, including some sandwiches, cakes, sausage rolls, cheese wheels etc. We will try to provide a range of foods and different activities for the children. Please contact the school if you are interested in booking your child into one of these facilities.

On Tuesday, we were delighted to take a group of our children to “Let’s go bowling” to compete in an afternoon’s bowling session and inter schools competition. The children were so excited and were extremely well behaved. Mrs Mullen and Mr Garrett were incredibly proud to take the children out for the afternoon and had a wonderful time. Thank you to all involved!

This week, we have a very exciting week ahead! For those taking part in the Shakespeare play, please make sure that your costume is in school on Monday. I have sent out a costume list during half term – please speak to me if you did not receive this or are struggling to put your costume together. Thank you!

Finally, if any of our DBS checked parents (particularly those coming to watch the play) are free during the day on Wednesday and would like to support our children on the bus and at the theatre, please let me know if you would like to help. This is not essential, but would be a lovely opportunity to be involved if you would like!

I hope you all have a fantastic weekend and those on residential in the week – enjoy being home and catching up on some sleep!

Take care, Mrs Lowrey

Ps. Those of you who have not seen our new school gate, please note the full locking system is due to be installed soon, so we are without a buzzer at the moment. We have a temporary lock attached, but this can cause some issues getting our attention during the day. Apologies for this, the new gates are fantastic, but there was confusion between the two contractors completing the work. This work will take place as soon as possible.

**School News**

**Road Closure.**

The road from Sticklepath Hill to Triangle Cottage, Tawstock will be closed from the Monday 6th November and Thursday 9th November working hours 0730hrs and 1900hrs each day.

**Admissions policy for 2025-26: Annual Consultation**

Along with all other schools and academies in Devon, we are consulting on an admission policy for 2025-26. The Local Authority is also consulting on its admission arrangements. You are invited to look at the proposals and have your say. Our proposed policy is on our admission page [weblink](http://www.primaryschoolsbarnstaple.co.uk/website/admissions_policies/627029) and you can see all policies at [http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fdevon.cc%2Fschoolpolicy&data=05%7C01%7CElaine.Palmer%40ventrus.org.uk%7Ce7059382d80847ff632208dbd95bbec0%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638342760289264841%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=rszGoljRotG8gHpOwG19vHp6wLr%2Bdu3xBjFdq4TU9Uo%3D&reserved=0) . Further information is here: [www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.devon.gov.uk%2Fadmissionarrangements&data=05%7C01%7CElaine.Palmer%40ventrus.org.uk%7Ce7059382d80847ff632208dbd95bbec0%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638342760289421080%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=fACAwUb49no3U3tAHOdJrCQf%2ForknrV0%2BgAc%2BgW%2FE0k%3D&reserved=0)

The consultation runs until 12 January 2024. Policies will be determined on 31st January 2024 and published in the same places by 15 March 2024.

**Year 5 & 6 Swimming**

Thank you to those parents who have paid for the Swimming sessions this term. We have arranged on ParentPay that this can be paid in two instalments so if you have not yet paid can we please ask that you do this as soon as possible.

**Admissions to Reception Year for September 2024**

Further details can be found at [Apply for a reception or year 3 place at a primary school (devon.gov.uk)](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.devon.gov.uk%2Feducationandfamilies%2Fschool-information%2Fapply-for-a-school-place%2Fapply-for-a-primary-school-place%2F&data=05%7C01%7Celaine.palmer%40ventrus.org.uk%7C3180d7b3b896472170b408dbba9bbba4%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638308950263009479%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=RmRsy6bJaf8ipCiyUoHEVgZ2gIYSv32snPYBs69hxcY%3D&reserved=0)  The Application window for the September 2024 Intake will open on 15th November 2023.

**Useful Links and Information:**

Here are some useful links that may assist you with your query

In Year Admission Information - [Apply for an in-year place - Education and Families (devon.gov.uk)](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.devon.gov.uk%2Feducationandfamilies%2Fschool-information%2Fapply-for-a-school-place%2Fapply-for-an-in-year-place%23%3A~%3Atext%3DThe%2520majority%2520of%2520schools%2520in%2520Devon%2520participate%2520in%2Cof%2520the%2520form%2520to%2520be%2520sent%2520to%2520you.&data=05%7C01%7Cholywell%40ventrus.org.uk%7C1e32303174064aa3093608dbadd04df3%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638294882419015332%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=fCDapfUDjgmdm%2FXYc8T9xph4ynwB6FMn60Auj6KRCWE%3D&reserved=0)

School Catchment Area Checker - [School designated (catchment) areas - Education and Families (devon.gov.uk)](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.devon.gov.uk%2Feducationandfamilies%2Fschool-information%2Fapply-for-a-school-place%2Fschool-designated-areas&data=05%7C01%7Cholywell%40ventrus.org.uk%7C1e32303174064aa3093608dbadd04df3%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638294882419015332%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=98dSKMMk7s8r1v9dpmADvdWkqYFesaDoGDH79lYK%2BK0%3D&reserved=0)

Admission Advice for international arrivals [Admission advice for international arrivals - Education and Families (devon.gov.uk)](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.devon.gov.uk%2Feducationandfamilies%2Fschool-information%2Fapply-for-a-school-place%2Fadmission-advice-international-arrivals&data=05%7C01%7Cholywell%40ventrus.org.uk%7C1e32303174064aa3093608dbadd04df3%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638294882419015332%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=MLFhctHzcmybRiJJ940%2FNjM5PuDgdS9IM%2FaAiRAoz44%3D&reserved=0)

Guide to School Appeals  [School admission appeals Archives - Education and Families (devon.gov.uk)](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.devon.gov.uk%2Feducationandfamilies%2Fguide%2Fguide-to-school-admission-appeals&data=05%7C01%7Cholywell%40ventrus.org.uk%7C1e32303174064aa3093608dbadd04df3%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638294882419015332%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=W%2Bl3XJrGZf99iGnazEtw7wTtfRpMvltL%2BtEEsu0qpKw%3D&reserved=0)

**Diary Dates**

**Children in Need** – 17th November

**Year 3,4,5 & 6 Cross Country** - Thursday 9th November - POSTPONED

**Parent Conference** - Tuesday 14th November – further details to follow.

**Parent conference** - Thursday 16th November – further details to follow.

**Christmas Plays** – Monday 4th December, further details to follow.

**Christmas lunch and Christingle** – Wednesday 13th December, further details to follow.

**Christmas Jumper Days** – for a one-off donation of £2.00 per child for Save the Children charity – Friday 1st December, Friday 8th December and Friday 15th December.

**Term Dates**

**End of Autumn Term – Friday 15th December**

**LET’S TALK**

A series of free online sessions for parents and carers of young people aged 9 – 12.

**https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.co.uk%2Fe%2Flets-talk-pre-teens-september-2023-tickets-680101400597%3Faff%3Doddtdtcreator&data=05%7C01%7CElaine.Palmer%40ventrus.org.uk%7C07cef0981f874fda0a8108dbab7b83de%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638292319191735230%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=l7IDTWBJ9C6bdvG07OH5SWQyNG2Bo2X1sqarjZEJFC0%3D&reserved=0**

**School Uniform**

We are in the process of moving our school uniforms sales from school to Daw’s at Daw’s Clothing Company Ltd, Unit 2 Affinity Devon, (Atlantic Village) Clovelly Road, Bideford.

As we sell out of items they are taking them on and can be purchased on-line at:

[**https://schoolthreads.org/collections/holywell-c-of-e**](https://schoolthreads.org/collections/holywell-c-of-e)

**PE T-shirts** will still be available to purchase from school.

**Ventrus Job Vacancies**

<https://ventrus.current-vacancies.com/v?id=VENTRUSMUL&t=Ventrus-Careers>

Including vacancies at local schools.

**Free School Meals**

**Check if your child can get free school meals and additional funding support**

All children in reception, year 1 and year 2 at state schools in England automatically get free school meals. However, parents and guardians are encouraged to apply for free school meals when they enrol their child in school, as this can help their child’s school to attract additional ‘[pupil premium](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.devon.gov.uk%2Feducationandfamilies%2Fschool-information%2Fschool-meals%2Fnew-starter-pupil-premium&data=05%7C01%7CElaine.Palmer%40ventrus.org.uk%7C7109e4304a9443c58c6708db26ce8e88%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638146440824987705%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=E1xb%2B33KaszaeeBnofCVVbtqTBsE1ead7Mmg28rMO34%3D&reserved=0)‘ funding to support learning.

From year 3 onwards, children whose parents are getting any of the following are entitled to free school meals:

* Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).
* Income Support (IS).
* Income-based Jobseekers Allowance (IBJSA).
* Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (IRESA).
* The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit.
* Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.
* Child Tax Credit (provided you’re not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income that does not exceed £16,190).
* Working Tax Credit run-on (the payment you get for a further 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).

How to apply

Apply through the [Devon Citizens Portal](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Foneonline.devon.gov.uk%2FCCSCitizenPortal_LIVE%2FAccount%2FLogin%3FReturnUrl%3D%252fCCSCitizenPortal_live&data=05%7C01%7CElaine.Palmer%40ventrus.org.uk%7C7109e4304a9443c58c6708db26ce8e88%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638146440824987705%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TDzWR7PVGNQy40PMgfbNnyUdRz%2BFPER5%2F05sUzSpOXM%3D&reserved=0). This is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision. Alternatively, call the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.

**<https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.devon.gov.uk%2Feducationandfamilies%2Fschool-information%2Fschool-meals%2F&data=05%7C01%7CElaine.Palmer%40ventrus.org.uk%7Cecb748a1694549cf9d0d08dbab7b6f66%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638292318849767515%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=MPmLE78rMu0DP1khLjP7BHOHwf5yQWoQEPlCI7ngJO4%3D&reserved=0>**

**School Transport**

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-and-college-transport/>

|  |  |
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|  | [School and college transport – Education and Families](https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-and-college-transport/)  School transport information, including free school transport  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-notices/>

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

**‘Autism and Us’ Parent Programme (Autumn Term 2023):**

[Support from the Communication and Interaction Team - Education and Families (devon.gov.uk)](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.devon.gov.uk%2Feducation-and-families%2Fsend-local-offer%2Fabout-send-and-the-local-offer%2Fareas-of-need%2Fspeech-language-and-communication-needs%2Fsupport-from-the-communication-and-interaction-team%2F&data=05%7C01%7CElaine.Palmer%40ventrus.org.uk%7Cbfede2977de84ceb386508db5e11aa3b%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638207202198219453%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=nOpby56o6z5YwaNQhnQVT3uwCSRS%2BzjM7Nk8LoCta8c%3D&reserved=0)

**Support for parents/carers of Devon primary and secondary children who are either on the autism assessment waiting list or who have received a diagnosis of autism.**

Our ‘Autism & Us’ programme delivered this academic year will once again be offered during the forthcoming Autumns term of the new 2023-24 academic year for parents/carers of Devon primary and secondary school children, pre or post diagnosis.

We are delighted to announce that we are offering access for families of CYP (Children & Young People) who are currently on the autism assessment pathway, in addition to families of CYP who have received an autism diagnosis.

Attending the ‘Autism & Us’ parent programme gives you an opportunity to develop your understanding of autism and look at practical solutions to managing and supporting your child’s presenting needs, whilst also connecting with other parents/carers.

Full programme details and application process below

**Autism & Us programmes:**

* 4 weekly ‘live online’ sessions (approx. 2hrs each) related to the following topic/themes:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **No.** | **Topic** | **Programme 1** | **Programme 2** | **Trainer** |
| 1 | Autism overview |  | Tues 31 Oct - 4.30 – 6.30 | Paul Lamanna |
| 2 | Communication |  | Tues 7 Nov - 4.30 – 6.30 | Laura O’Shea  + Melissa New |
| 3 | Understanding and supporting behaviour |  | Tues 14 Nov - 4.30 – 6.30 | Laura Matthews |
| 4 | Sensory | Thurs 12 Oct - 10 – 12 | Tues 21 Nov - 4.30 – 6.30 | Kevin Jones |

**Apply direct by email to**: [educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk](mailto:educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk)

To secure a place on either of the above programmes or express your interest for forthcoming programmes.  We will confirm your booking request, and provide you with a direct link to the event. They will be delivered online ‘live’ via the Microsoft TEAMs platform.

Additionally, we will also be offering the following very popular themed/topic-based workshops, which lead on from the above programmes for themes/topics that may be a priority area for you against your child’s presenting needs:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Date/Time** | **Trainer** |
| Autism – Sensory processing + integration | Thurs 16 Nov 10-12 | Kevin |
| Autism and Girls | Wed 8 Nov 9.30-12 | Rob |
| Autism – Demand avoidance + PDA | Wed 6 Dec 10-12 | Rob |
| Autism – Communication (verbal – support strategies) | Tues 12 Dec 10-12 | Laura O  + Melissa |
| Autism – Managing stress + anxiety | Wed 15 Nov 10-12 | Alison |
| Autism – Vulnerability + online safety | Wed 1 Nov 10-12 | Paul |
| Autism – Communication (pre/non-verbal – support strategies | Wed 22 Nov 10-12 | Laura M |

**Apply direct by email to**: [educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk](mailto:educationlearnersupport@devon.gov.uk)

To secure a place on any of the above topic-based workshops. We will confirm your booking request, and provide you with a direct link to the event. They will be delivered online ‘live’ via the Microsoft TEAMs platform.

Intercom Trust are now taking referrals for our new project – **Family Pride Southwest**. This will be available throughout Devon and Cornwall, including Plymouth and Torbay.

The project has 4 components.

**Family Pride Events** – fun family events for families where at least one member is LGBT+.

**Parenting Support** – We will be delivering Group Triple P for LGBT+ parents/carers with children between the ages of 2 and 12. This will be an 8-week course focussing on parenting skills.

**Family Mediation** – Our family practitioners can work with families where there is tension or communication problems between parents (together or apart). This can include disagreements on how best to support an LGBT+ child in the family.

**Couples/co-parent counselling** – We will have counselling available for parents who wish to work through difficulties in a therapeutic setting.

Families can book onto upcoming events via our Eventbrite page - [https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/intercom-trust-17691399947](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.eventbrite.co.uk%2Fo%2Fintercom-trust-17691399947&data=05%7C01%7Cholywell%40ventrus.org.uk%7Ccf37225b133a40cd36ad08dba56e17bb%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638285664524093990%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=TmrenwYvG2BaSyCARfLGGGiIFRrgdgrW%2Fs7c8KNUsMg%3D&reserved=0). Alternatively, they can get in touch with our helpline to join the mailing list to be informed about upcoming events - **0800 612 3010**(9am – 4pm weekdays) or email[helpline@intercomtrust.org.uk](mailto:helpline@intercomtrust.org.uk).

For parenting support, mediation or counselling, families can be referred, or can self-refer via the referral form on our website - [https://www.intercomtrust.org.uk/referral-form/](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.intercomtrust.org.uk%2Freferral-form%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cholywell%40ventrus.org.uk%7Ccf37225b133a40cd36ad08dba56e17bb%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638285664524093990%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=uNj59lMlCHKNJK1uGL0%2FdUyTHskE9SJqW9Gf8VOUBKQ%3D&reserved=0). Please select the Family Relationship Support option.

If you are interested you can find out more about the project - [https://www.intercomtrust.org.uk/lgbt-families/](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.intercomtrust.org.uk%2Flgbt-families%2F&data=05%7C01%7Cholywell%40ventrus.org.uk%7Ccf37225b133a40cd36ad08dba56e17bb%7C668515dda7fb41788c34b3c52dd93f70%7C1%7C0%7C638285664524093990%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=SvsLoeu%2B3XwQXab4hV4zzpzpwvmWeP47Q6Hlcq892xE%3D&reserved=0) .

To ensure the project is effective we also have an **advisory group** to review our practice and evaluation. This would involve meeting virtually approximately once a month. Participation in these meeting would be on a voluntary basis, but we would reimburse expenses.