



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

5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

## A message from Mrs. Denham

Thank you so, so much for your continued support with your children both in school and at home. We are thrilled how many children are joining in with the “live” lessons and everyone seems to be enjoying them. I know the teachers and support staff love to be able to see the children at home. We do miss their smiley faces! We are constantly trying to get the mix of learning at home right and are doing our very best to align home and school learning as closely together as possible.

Thank you for the lovely messages of support and thanks. They are so gratefully received as I promise you this is the hardest of all times for staff. They are really working extremely hard, with such big hearts, for children both at home and at school.

We hope to hold a day called **FEEL GOOD FRIDAY** next Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup> 2012. We do appreciate how screen heavy learning is at the moment and how we want to ensure all your family stay well and healthy, especially with everyone’s mental health. We will have a small pack of ideas and a few goodies that your child will be able to do on Friday (and over half term if they like) that will hopefully be fun and enjoyable. Most of the normal curriculum assignments won’t be given on that Friday. **If these can be picked up from school over Wednesday and Thursday that would be great** – maybe pop over to school for a walk in the woods and then, socially distanced, pick up a pack. We do however, understand some parents may not want to come to the school gate or they may be unable to pick the pack up, so we will send them home instead and hopefully have them to you by Friday. If you know you will need them posted could you, please email the school asap.

We always want to help our children and families. If you have any issues or concerns, especially with working from home, please call me at school. I would much prefer to know and help sort things out as soon as possible for you. With this in mind, I would also like to offer individual parents a chance to call in via Teams on Wednesday February 10<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 2pm to chat through any worries or to share successes/ celebrate the work being done at home. I will be on Teams and if you log in I will try and see as many people as I can. If you click on this link, I will try and see as many people as I can. You will enter into the lobby and I will invite you in when I am free:

<https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3a82e9d56509cf4ba6ab4421ed06b749b8%40thread.skype/1612533330293?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22668515dd-a7fb-4178-8c34-b3c52dd93f70%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22fb221c63-ca6b-4459-bb33-b17af8496954%22%7d>

We are so grateful to the PTA for making an amazing donation which means we are able to purchase a 3 Microsoft Surface Gos for the school. We are so grateful for all they are doing to still continue to raise funds for our school during yet another lockdown. Please, please support them if you can. They really do make a difference to the resources and support your child receives in school.

We have amalgamated the school Facebook page and the PTA Facebook page so you only have to go to one place for all the information. We hope you will find this helpful. Please “like” the page if you haven’t already

We also would like to thank Rev Gary and St Peter’s Church and the congregation who have been just wonderful and donated enough money to purchase at least 7 more Surface Gos’ WOW. The children will use these in school

and they will make a huge difference to the delivery of our lessons. We are very grateful to receive this generous donation. Thank you so much.

If any parent is in the position to display an advert of the school either in your car or window of your home, please let us know. We have places available in all our year groups and we need to direct parents to our school.

Openreach are continuing with their work bringing superfast fibre broadband to the school. This week some children watched a new telegraph pole being erected and all children in school saw one of the engineers joining two super thin pieces of fibre together – called splicing! We are all learning a great deal and can't wait to see the cable being brought into school – which we hope will be next week. When we return to school after half term we hope to have it nearly up and running.

### **Road & Lane**

Thank you to everyone who responded to our email and followed the link and complained to Devon Highways about the state of the lane and road and also for writing to our local MP, Selaine Saxby. Yesterday a contractor from DCC came and cleared the blockage followed by two highways employees who are now taking on the case. Until the pipe under the road is repaired or widened we will still get this issue but at least it has now been acknowledged.

We would also like to thank the Webber family for helping to clear the mud from the road outside of school on Monday. This help was greatly appreciated as it alleviates the hazard the mud was causing.

### **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](http://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 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021**

**Half term Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 inclusive**

### **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**

15<sup>th</sup> February to 19<sup>th</sup> February 2021      Half Term

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