



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

13<sup>th</sup> March, 2020

## A message from Mrs. Denham

### EXCITING NEWS WE'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR

From the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March work should be starting on our new office block down by the school gate. Although this is very exciting it will obviously come with some disruption over the next couple of months. Outside of the gate, near the bench, will be a fenced off area for the company's materials etc. and from time to time there will be deliveries by lorry of these materials and extra vehicles in the village hall car park. The area inside the gate will be fenced off and the builders will be gaining access to the site via the memory garden. The safety of your children is obviously paramount so all precautions have been taken to ensure this. Please bear with us and if you have any concerns please direct these to Mrs. Denham or Mrs. Palmer in the office.

### Coronavirus

#### **Department for Education Coronavirus helpline**

The DfE have launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

### Nick Butter Visit

On Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March, Nick Butter (marathon man) will be visiting the school for the final time. He will be talking to the children in assembly about his adventures at 1.15 pm; parents are more than welcome to attend if they would like to hear some of his inspiring stories.

### Year 3/4 Residential to Skern Lodge

- Please drop your child off at Skern Lodge on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 10.00am with a PACKED LUNCH.
- Please pick your child up on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March at 3pm.
- No electronics are permitted; the only exception is cameras although not encouraged.
- Children may bring some biscuits/cakes if they wish; please hand these into staff when you arrive and they will be shared out during the daytime & evenings.
- Any medication that needs to be administered during the residential needs to be given to staff on arrival along with a medication form.
- If any contact details, medical or dietary needs have changed since you filled out the SE03 form in September, please let us know.
- Spending must be in a wallet or sealed bag/envelope (alternatively you can pay for any souvenirs over the phone prior to the trip).
- Also, just a reminder that the last instalment should have now been paid.

[Facebook page - click here](#)

### School News

#### Spring Term

The last day of the Spring term will be Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2020.

The half term will be from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2020 (inclusive).

### Summer term

The first day of the Summer term will be Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2020.

**Please remember that the May Bank Holiday will now be on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2020.**

The half term will be from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2020 (inclusive)

The last day of the Summer term will be Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2020.

# Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

### Request from Foxes class.

Can you help! Foxes class and Lent club are hoping to recycle plastic bottles by turning them into new creations. If you are able to help them with this by donating any bottles to Foxes for these project they will be very, very grateful. Many thanks, Mrs Turner

### School Lunches:

On the last day of term, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March, the menu will be as follows: - hotdog & chips followed by an Easter chocolate nest

### 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– 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> May (inclusive).

Yr. 2 – 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> May (inclusive).

Yr. 1 Phonics check - 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> June (inclusive)

Yr. 4 Multiplication check - 8<sup>th</sup> June for 3 weeks (until Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June).

### Church News and current Christian Value

**Value:** The current Christian Value for this month is; **Hope and Aspiration**

### 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 3<sup>rd</sup> and final instalment of £42.00 is now overdue for the residential.**

If you still. Haven't made your final payment can you please do so on Parent Pay as soon as possible or pay cash into the office on our return to school, Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Swim & Gym – Years 1 & 2**

**Woolacombe trip** – Hedgehog class – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

**Uniform** – When you purchase items on parent pay please remember to email [elaine.palmer@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:elaine.palmer@ventrus.org.uk) stating the item and size/s you require.

### 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](mailto:imsnorthdevon@gmail.com)

A letter giving full details of these lessons have been attached to the email with this newsletter.

## News from the PTA



Thank you to those who came to the coffee morning and bought uniform. We are always grateful for donations of uniform you no longer need, especially hoodies!

Our next event is the Easter Trail on 26th March after school, £2.50 per child to be paid on the day. Please could we also have donations of cake to be sold at the event?

### Dates for your diary:

26th March - Easter Egg Trail – After school

22nd April - PTA meeting 7pm -Cedars Inn

7th May - cake sale

4th July - Holywell Rocks 11-4 pm Tawstock Court

### Op Shop

If you have or require any good quality, secondhand school uniform please contact Hazel Malin on 07974 208835  
Thank you for your support.

### Club

Please see the information above.

Monday	Netball	Mrs Hammond Miss Ryder-Green	Yrs., 3, 4, 5 & 6	
Tuesday	Singing Club	Miss Shapland	Yrs., 3, 4, 5 & 6	
Tuesday	Pottery	Mrs Coulam	YR, R, 1 & 2	<b>Cancelled until the 21<sup>st</sup> April, 2020.</b>
Wednesdays	Goal Getters	Goal Getters	Yrs., R, 1, 2 & 3	
Thursday	Football	Mr. Dymond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5 & 6	<b>No club until notified</b>
Thursday	Staff Meetings			
Friday	X County	Mrs. Hammond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5, & 6	<b>Cancelled for the rest of the spring term due to year 2 booster classes.</b>

### Diary Dates – forthcoming events

**March 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020** – Yrs. 1 & 2 Gymnastics. Please collect your child from the Tarka Tennis Centre at 3 pm. Thank you.

**Parent Conference** – Please see notice above.

**March 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020** – Skern Lodge Residential for Yrs. 3 & 4

**March 25<sup>th</sup>, 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 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020** – PTA Easter Egg Hunt. – After school 3 & 315 pm.

**May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020** – Music Extravaganza – village hall at 2.30 or 2.45 pm – time to be confirmed. Everyone welcome.

**July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020** – Year 6 Leavers service, end of day, timings to be confirmed.

## Community News

### Village Hall Hire.

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 - 6pm. We still have a limited number of spaces available so please phone us 01271 327074. [office@stmichaels-nursery.org](mailto: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 Friday

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

### **Cricket Training Sessions**

Park School, 7th, 14th and 28th March 4-530pm, years 3-6

Contact Pete Newby 07747792006

### **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](http://www.romarsports.com) link for parents to book is <https://www.romarsports.com/Holiday-Camps>

#### **HappyMaps**

[www.happymaps.co.uk](http://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 30<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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/UK ECC/bulletins/20a0199>

#### **Barnstaple Library**

<http://devonlibraries.org.uk>