

8th March 2024

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

Message from Mrs. Lowrey

Well, where to start on such a busy week in school? Firstly, the sun has made a huge difference to the children being able to get outside, run around and play. We have had a super week with behaviour and getting outside has meant that concentration has been fantastic in the classroom. Year 6 have been sitting “mock” SATs tests with Miss Boundy, Mrs Carlyon and myself and we have been so impressed with the way that they have all attacked the papers. What a fantastic effort, children, we are seeing great things from you!

In worship today, I had the privilege of presenting the Year 6 children with their leavers’ hoodies as a celebration of their journey through the school. A huge thank you to Kirsty and Naomi Jenkins for their efforts in ordering and transporting the hoodies into school and managing to keep them a surprise until the end of the day! Thank you, as always, to the PTA and everyone involved in organizing this. The children were delighted and, of course, were wearing them leaving the school building!

World Book Day was a brilliant day in school and we were so thrilled to see everyone in costume! I was also incredibly proud to see the number of children who had made the effort to put their costumes together without the need to over spend. It was a day of fun and for sharing the joy of reading. Our youngest children visited Roundswell classes and enjoyed learning together and in the afternoon all year groups engaged in book buddy reading! Mrs Bellew and I were delighted that you could stand in the corridor and see all children reading and sharing books together. They also enjoyed a “guess the teacher reading” activity and joined live webinars. In school, we were also impressed with Daniel reading aloud his book in Spanish and also showing us how he can translate the book at speed – what a tremendous skill, Daniel, well done!



A further thank you to the PTA for the fantastic book and bake sale in the afternoon. It was wonderful to bring two schools together and takes time and effort from our PTA. Thank you Lauren, Philly and everyone involved in preparing the sale. It raised £120 and I know will create another lovely opportunity for our children. Roundswell were also so grateful for your kind idea and really demonstrates the values of our wonderful school.

We had some excellent entries into the Extreme Reading challenge and we have given prizes to all who entered as it was too difficult to choose an overall winner! I loved seeing the inventive places the children thought to read and particularly love those on the farms and with the animals – well done all on your fantastic efforts. The day was a huge success.

On Wednesday, we took all Year 5 and a small group of Year 4 children to Park School for the yearly dance festival. Mr Garrett informed me that the children were OUTSTANDING in their behaviour and represented the school so well. It was wonderful to hear that all boys and girls took part and actively enjoyed learning routines, steps and everyone took part in performing in front of the audience in the end. Very well done!

Today, our Year 3 and 4 girls took part in a special football event for international women's day. The day focused on teaching girls all elements of the sport and they were taught various ball skills and games. The morning at Tarka focused on celebrating the achievement of raising the profile of women's football and was a festival for all to enjoy. Again, the behaviour of our children was excellent – this has truly been a week to be proud of – thank you, Holywell.

Children, as always you have amazed me this week – your excellent attitudes and lovely personalities have shone across every year group. I wonder if it was you all who brought the sunshine out?

Have a wonderful weekend!

Best wishes, Mrs Lowrey

School Site Update

As promised, I will continue to update you weekly on progress of the school building works at Holywell. Earlier in the week, I have been in contact with the project manager who is continuing to chase the insurers for their “rubber stamping” of the works to start. Unfortunately, the insurers have had a change of staff and this has meant that this remains with the insurers to sign off. I am very aware that another week has gone on and that this may push the start date further behind, but I will continue to chase in order that I can update you regularly. I have requested a meeting early next week so that I can have more definite information for you. Should I receive news early in the week, I will update with an email or interim school news bulletin in order to share any news.

School Contact

In school, it is noticeable that some seasonal bugs are around at the moment and I can see that the children are tired. If your child is not well, please do phone the school and leave a message or feel free to email the school on holywell@ventrus.org.uk.

You can contact the school by phoning 01271 345908. If the phone is not answered, can you please leave a message on the answerphone. These messages will be responded to as soon as possible.

Links you may find useful.

[HANDi Paediatric app: advice for common childhood conditions - One Devon](#)

Diary Dates

Wednesday 20th March - Dental Survey – Children Aged Year 5 - Please return the forms sent home

Thursday 21st March – Holywell and Roundswell cross country festival

Tuesday 26th March - Barnstaple boys football finals @ Tarka

Wednesday 29th March – Easter Church service – 2-3pm – please collect from the church

Term Dates

Last day of the Spring Term – Thursday 28th March 2024

First day of the Summer Term – Monday 15th April 2024

School Uniform

<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](#)' 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](#). 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.

School Transport

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

[School and college transport –](#)

[Education and Families](#)

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 found at <https://ventrus.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Pupil-Privacy-Notice-2022-23-Academy-Ventrus-Nov-22.pdf>

Saturday 16th March 2024
Doors open at 7pm • Bingo starts at 7:30pm

Bingo!

Adult £10
10 games & a bonus flyer

The bar will be open selling beers, cider, wine and soft drinks. Half time nibbles provided. Prizes: Easter eggs, tubs of chocolates and roast dinner up for grabs!

Join us for our Easter Bingo in Tawstock Village Hall.
There will be a raffle - we welcome any raffle prize donations!
For more information please call Philly on 07799 543 781

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO
FRIENDS OF HOLYWELL SCHOOL TAWSTOCK

Community Events

THE PARK COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Generations of Success

SPARKS
YOUTH THEATRE COMPANY

Peter Pan

written by J M Barrie and adapted by Ms Tarling

Tickets
Available from MCAS, School Reception and QR code
£6 Adult
£4 under 18s

Performances
7pm
29th February
1st March
2nd March

IN AID OF
GREAT ORMOND STREET HOSPITAL CHARITY

10% of profits towards GOSH

SCAN ME