

# Newsletter



## **LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**

www.primaryschoolsbarnstaple.co.uk holywell@ventrus.org.uk

31st January 2025

# Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

Non-Pupil Day – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February
Half Term – 17<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February
Last day of the Spring Term Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April

# Message from Mrs. Lowrey



It has been such a fantastic week at Holywell! Firstly, I just wanted to share a few pictures of the some of the amazing and generous gifts that have been bought by yourselves or by the PTA over the past few months. We were overwhelmed with the amount of high-quality games, puzzles and resources that arrived on our doorstep and these are already being used widely across the school. We are also awaiting further orders that will truly enhance the school.





Some time ago, I spoke to Lauren about signage across the school and the PTA also kindly donated new wooden signs for each class and for new spaces in school. My new little office is called, "The Burrow" and Mrs Palmer will work in "The Hive". The signs will smarten up the school and are really in keeping with the nature of the environment.

In addition, the PTA also kindly organised beautiful wooden signage for our yearly awards that will continue to be added to year on year. We really want to recognize the efforts of our pupils and are extremely grateful to Lauren and all of the members of the PTA for the time taken in all of the above. It makes a huge difference to our school culture and the children are continuing to learn and thrive with such lovely resources. Thank you!

This week, we welcomed Reverend Ally in for collective worship and she spoke about our theme of kindness. I am delighted to be working with Rev. Ally in this way and her work will continue to contribute as we develop our school values further on return to school.

Next week, we can begin to open up the hollow as a calm space for children to play at lunch times. This is most likely to be mid-week so that we can explain to the children where it is safe to play and ensure that new boundaries are learned. We are so pleased with the way that the children have settled back into their spaces and this is wonderful area to be able to explore.

I do hope that you have a wonderful weekend and look forward to the week ahead.

Best wishes, Mrs Lowrey

#### **Diary Dates**

Swimming Years R, 1 & 2 – Jan/Feb Monday

February 2025 - Year 3 & 4 Residential to the Calvert Trust — A letter was emailed home this week. The trip has been set up on ParentPay and a deposit to secure your child's place is due in September. Please email if you need to discuss an alternative payment plan.

Friday 14th February – Non-pupil day

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day – we will be dressing up as book characters – I know this is a Holywell favourite and one of mine too!

Easter Service – date to be confirmed – last week of spring term

#### Piano/Flute/Recorder Tuition - Vacancies available from Spring Term 2025.

When we return to Holywell Ania one of our current music teachers will have some free slots for tuition if you would like your child to start lessons learning any of the above instruments.

Your child must be aged 6 years old or above.

If you/your child is interested in this, please contact Ania by email:

#### aniaflute@gmail.com

Ania will them liaise with you via email to arrange the lessons.

#### Tawstock Church

Tawstock church would like to invite everyone to a special all-age service with simple activities for children on Sunday 2nd February at 11.00am to mark the feast on Candlemas (the day on which baby Jesus was taken by his parents into the Temple and revealed as a 'light to all people'). Those coming are invited to wear bright clothes and bring a candle from home for blessing.

## Admissions policy for 2026-27: Annual Consultation

Along with all other schools and academies in Devon, we are consulting on an admission policy for 2026-27. 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 <u>link to school website</u> and you can see all policies at <a href="http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy">http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy</a>. Further information is here: <a href="http://devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements">www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements</a>

The formal consultation runs until 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025. Policies will be determined on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025 and published in the same places by 15<sup>th</sup> March 2025.

# The events below will be available on Arbor from the 1st December

Year 5/6 Swimming – Now overdue.

Year 3 /4 Swimming - Now overdue

Year R 1 & 2 Swimming – Contribution now due.

Year 3/4 Residential to the Calvert Trust – Final instalment.

Year 5/6 Residential to Bristol – Deposit of £50.00 now due.

**School Meals** 

Breakfast Club – to be booked on Arbor either daily, weekly, monthly or termly.

After School Clubs – as above.

#### **School Shop**

PE t-shirts – size 7/8 and 9/11 on order

#### **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)
School Catchment Area Checker - School designated (catchment) areas - Education and Families (devon.gov.uk)
Admission Advice for international arrivals Admission advice for international arrivals - Education and Families (devon.gov.uk)

Guide to School Appeals <u>School admission appeals Archives - Education and Families (devon.gov.uk)</u> School Term Dates School term dates - Education and Families (devon.gov.uk)

School Admissions Team
Telephone – 0345 155 1019 (Education Helpline)

#### **SAFETY ALERT**

opss-issues-safety-alert-to-warn-of-the-risks-of-water-beads

#### Links you may find useful.

**Devon Family Hub - Monthly Newsletter.** 

HANDi Paediatric app: advice for common childhood conditions - One Devon

#### Online Safety

https://www.knowsleyclcs.org.uk/online-safety-videos/

#### **Term Dates**

A full list of dates for the 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 academic year can be found on our website.

#### **School Uniform**

https://schoolthreads.org/collections/holywell-c-of-e

**PE T-shirts** will still be available to purchase from school. These will now be available for you to purchase from the ARBOR shop. Currently we do not have any size 7/8 or 9/11 n stock.

# **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 <u>Devon Citizens Portal</u>. 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 <a href="https://ventrus.org.uk/our-people/privacy-notices/">https://ventrus.org.uk/our-people/privacy-notices/</a>

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