

Newsletter



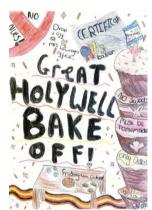
LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

<u>www.primaryschoolsbarnstaple.co.uk</u> <u>holywell@ventrus.org.uk</u>

20th September 2024

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

Non-Pupil-Day Friday 25th October followed by Half Term.



Message from Mrs. Lowrey

I don't know about everyone else, but this week seems to have flown by for us at school! Excellent attitudes, great behaviour and super learning all round – very well done everyone! I have seen some fantastic first efforts in home learning as well. In Reception and Nursery, we have seen the children perform their story "So Much" that they have been learning about as well as some amazing portraits and name writing. I have even had visits from our youngest new starters who have shown me their excellent family drawings!

On the bus, I do feel that I have to compliment our children on their excellent

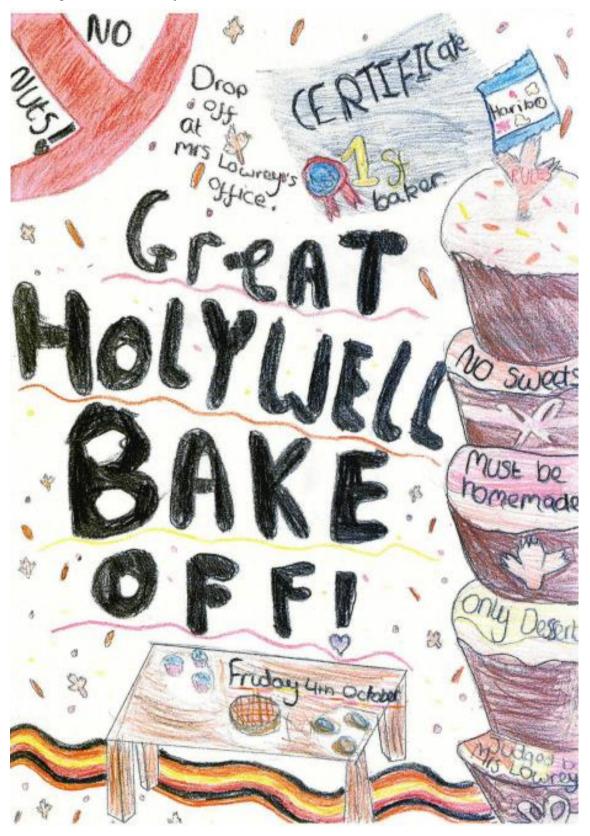
behaviour. I feel incredibly proud to have them represent the school: they are well-mannered, respectful and sensible. Thank you all of you for your efforts. I have noticed particularly that they talk animatedly about their homework and their topics – I enjoyed seeing flags from Europe earlier in the week and I am always impressed to see children reading both to and from school.

Next week, I am looking to try to register children for their meal choices while they are waiting for the bus. This will be a good use of time while we are waiting and will save time once arriving in school. This is particularly important for the timetabling of Read, Write Inc. phonics. We would be really grateful if you could talk to your child at home (either the night before or on the day) about which meal choice they are. I will attach the menu with this newsletter in order for you to refer to. We are simply hoping that this will speed up the registering process for the children when at school. Thank you!

Next week also sees the start of swimming lessons for Years 5 and 6, which I know that we are looking forward to. I know that you are already aware, however, please do remember that the pick up will be from the leisure centre. Please do speak to the school if your child needs transport for after school club or for any other reason.

On Friday, Years 3 and 4 will be attending the cross-country at Pilton school, however, we have arranged to share transport with Roundswell on that occasion. Please do send your child in PE kit on Friday if you are in Foxes class.

Finally, I am attaching an incredible poster design from our school council who have elected to organise a Great Holywell Bake Off competition in the run up to harvest. We will be collecting in cakes and homebakes to be judged for a small entry fee of 50p. I will be Prue Leith for the day and prizes will be given for the best entries. We will then be selling off the cakes at a bake sale at the end of the day. Please see the flier below for further details and well done Freya and Lola for confidently presenting your idea and inviting our Roundswell friends. Well done!



<u>Siteworks</u>

This week, I have been able to visit the site and was invited to look around the classroom. The builders have done a fantastic job and the plasterboard is going up! The building is looking much more like a familiar classroom and I am grateful to the builders for taking the time to show me around. These are exciting times and I will continue to try to communicate any developments as they occur.

Have a wonderful weekend!

Breakfast and After-School Club

Just a reminder that Breakfast and After-School Club now takes place in the hall. Please drop off and collect children from the first hall door, through the main playground gates. If the gates are locked, please ring the doorbell.

Links you may find useful.

Parent guide should my_child_stay_off_school_guidance-poster

Devon Family Hub - Monthly Newsletter.

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

<u>Online Safety</u>

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

Diary Dates

Swimming Years 5/6 – starts Tuesday 24th September – please collect from the leisure centre.

Eden Project visit Years 3, 4, 5, & 6 – 10th October 2024.

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.

Swimming sessions (for all year groups) – proposed timetable – Years 5 & 6 – Sept/Oct, Year 3 & 4 - Nov/Dec and Years R, 1 & 2 – Jan/Feb

Parent Conferences – W/C 14th September – please book your conference nearer the time on Teams

Great Holywell Bake Off Cake competition and Cake sale - Friday 4th October

Harvest Assembly/service – Thursday 24th October – location TBC

Term Dates

Non-Pupil Day – Friday 25th October 2024 Half Term – Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November 2024 End of Autumn Term – Friday 20th December 2024 A full list of dates for the 2024/2025 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. We will be having a delivery during the holidays and will be distributed by payment dates on ParentPay, except for new parents who are awaiting login details for ParentPay.

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 '<u>pupil premium</u>' 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/

<u>School and college transport –</u> <u>Education and Families</u> School transport information, including free school transport. www.devon.gov.uk

<u>NEW Privacy Notices – November 2023</u> Important information

Ventrus main privacy notice can be found at https://wentrus.org.uk/our-people/privacy-notices/

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

Tawstock and Barnstaple Community News

Half Term – Library Event

After the success of the sellout Moomins production with Lost & Found Theatre, we are delighted to welcome them back with a performance of Roald Dahl and the Imagination Seekers on Tuesday 29th October for two performances at 11am and 1pm.

We are able to subsidise ticket prices thanks to a Flourishing Culture grant from North Devon Council, making ticket prices accessible to more families.

Roald Dahl and the Imagination Seekers Tickets, Tue, Oct 29, 2024 at 11:00 AM | Eventbrite Roald Dahl and the Imagination Seekers Tickets, Tue, Oct 29, 2024 at 1:00 PM | Eventbrite

Writing competition organised by Exmoor national Park

https://www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/exmoor-for-everyone/stargazing-and-dark-skies/exmoor-dark-skies-festival/exmoor-dark-skies-festival-competition

Park Community School Open Evenings.



What's on at the Barnstaple Museum

We have a lot going on in the next few months and would like to share some of these events with you now (see also key dates at the end of the piece)

Turner in Barnstaple Jul 20, 2024 - Oct 12, 2024

With items on loan from the Tate, there will be watercolour paintings, sketchbooks and prints from engravings by JMW Turner, all inspired by his visit to the area around 1813-14

We have up to 40 places p/day with bursaries and discounts available.