



**LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**

[www.primaryschoolsbarntable.co.uk](http://www.primaryschoolsbarntable.co.uk)  
[holywell@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:holywell@ventrus.org.uk)

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

5<sup>th</sup> November 2021

## **A message from Mrs. Denham**

As we are now into the half term building up to Christmas, it is time to think about our Christmas arrangements - some will be the same as in previous years and some will differ:

- Christmas jumper days – every Friday starting November 26<sup>th</sup>, then December 3<sup>rd</sup>, December 10<sup>th</sup> and December 17<sup>th</sup> children and staff are invited to wear a Christmas jumper. **As this is for the Save the Children charity, we ask each child to make a one-off payment to donate £2 via ParentPay which we will send to the charity.**
- The amazing PTA are holding their Christmas Fayre on Thursday Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2.30 to 4.00pm. Please come along and enjoy this special occasion and support the wonderful work of our PTA.
- We will be holding our Carol Service and Christingle in St Peter's Church at 2.15pm on Thursday Dec 16<sup>th</sup>. All parents and carers are welcome to join us.
- In a change from normal, Robins and Hedgehogs Classes will be performing a short nativity play in the hall, lasting about 30 minutes. They will be supported by Foxes and Squirrels classes who will be singing the carols and songs. This will be in the Village Hall at 2pm on Wednesday December 15<sup>th</sup> and at 9.30am on Thursday December 16<sup>th</sup>.  
Parents/carers are invited to join us at one of the performances. Two tickets per family will be available for one of the dates of your choosing. Once all the tickets have been allocated, we may then be able to offer further tickets to families who would like more.

Finally, unlike previous years, year 4 to year 6 pupils will not be taking part in the acting side of the nativity play in the village hall this year – they will be supporting by singing the carols. We have decided that instead these two classes will have their own plays at different times of the year e.g. Y6 will perform a full play at the end of the summer term. They will be able to really spend time on the play (maybe even writing some of it), making props and so on as this will be in June and July. We hope both classes will have a fabulous experience performing in their own plays.

Whilst we do appreciate that this may be disappointing, we promise that the children will be taking part in a class performance during the year that parents will be invited to. This will mean that each class will end up with more performance time and larger roles in their play.

We put a great deal of thought into this decision:

- We are very concerned about the effects of staff and pupil absences on the organisation and delivery of a whole school Christmas performance. We have had many children and staff absent in the last few weeks with COVID, self-isolating, the awful flu bug and sickness and D&V.

We have just about been able to keep classes and the school open but this has only been achieved by the staff really helping out and taking on jobs and roles they wouldn't normally do. They have been just amazing. We are obviously very worried that if we had planned to put on a whole school Christmas performance, the stress and worry over absences would be putting a huge strain on staff. By only two classes taking part in a much shorter performance, all staff can support these two classes.

- We have also had several parents say they would not be happy to sit in the hall watching their children performing for over an hour with such big COVID numbers around at the moment.

- Before we finally made this decision, we spoke to the older children and they all seemed very happy with this idea.

Many thanks for your understanding over this matter and we look forward to celebrating the performance of each class over the next year.

### **Meals**

We were very sad to say goodbye to St Michael's Nursery after they have provided many meals for the children at Holywell.

We are now thrilled that Lynn? in now working full time in the kitchen providing wonderful meals for the children. There is a new menu which is delicious. The taste of the roast chicken dinner on Wednesday was amazing, the banana loaf was scrummy and the children loved the fresh pineapple and melon on Monday. Many children really wanted the pizza yesterday (the *vegetarian* option) but said they couldn't have it as they weren't vegetarians! We obviously told the children they can have any option they want!

If your child doesn't normally have a school meal, please look at the menu again and see if your child would like a try.

### **Admissions Policy consultation 2023-2024**

The consultation period for the 2023 – 2024 - Holywell C of E Primary School admissions policy began on the 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2021 The consultation period ends on 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2022.

Below you will see a link to our proposed admissions policy for 2023-24

<http://www.primaryschoolsbarstaple.co.uk/website> and found on the Homepage under 'Links and Downloads' We are consulting on this between 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021 and 8<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and invite any parent or other person with an interest in our admission arrangements to read the policy and make any comments you wish.

### **ParentPay Payments**

Now we are all using ParentPay for all payments to school, it is important to remember that each child has their own individual account, and this is linked to their trip, school meal and attendance registers etc., for them and them only. Therefore, if you pay money for dinners or after school club and only use one of your children's account the other child's record will record a debt and an arrears payment letter will be sent out.

To stop this happening can you please make sure that you use your correct child's account for all their payments. If you have any questions, please call on (01271) 345908.

### **Parent Conferences**

If you haven't already done so could you please book your child's parent conference via their teams account.

You will need to go onto your child's general channel on teams to access the document to book your appointment.

### **ParentPay**

These trips are now available for payment and consent to be made:

**Gymnastics** – Falcons (Hedgehogs class)

### **Free School Meals**

If you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals please go to the [Citizen Portal](#) which is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in an instant decision.

### **Privacy Notices**

#### **Important information**

Ventrus main privacy notice can be found at <https://ventrus.org.uk/our-people/privacy-notices/> and the privacy notice for pupils can be viewed <https://ventrus.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Pupil-Privacy-Notice-2021-Final.pdf>

#### **Breakfast & After-school club** (Spaces available).

The cost for Breakfast club is £4.50 per child - can drop off from 8am.

After School Club starts - pick-up 4.15pm (£4.50) or 5.15pm (£9.00).

**Breakfast Club** – please confirm dates booked and if you have a permanent booking please confirm when you have paid for the following month.

**After-School Club (4:15 and 5:15 finish).** Please confirm by email the dates and finish times booked and if you have a permanent booking please confirm when you have paid for the following month.

If you are going to be late or if you need to collect at an alternative time, please can you phone to school by the end of the school day (3.15pm).

After 3.15pm, or in an emergency **only** please email [myka.scott@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:myka.scott@ventrus.org.uk) (Wed & Thurs) or [lily.derges@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:lily.derges@ventrus.org.uk) (Mon, Tues & Fri)

**St Peter's Church Tawstock** invites Holywell children and their families to join them for a family service on Sunday 21st November. These services start at 11am and will be shorter than normal (40 minutes) and will have something for everyone to enjoy. There is an area of church set aside for those who wish to socially distance and wear masks.

#### **DIARY DATES:**

**16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> November** – Gymnastics at Falcons. **Can parents please collect their child at 3pm. School will hold on to siblings until you arrive back to collect them.**

**November 4<sup>th</sup> (Thursday)** – Tempest photos – individuals and family groups.

**November 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> November (Week)** – Parent Conference appointments online. We will publish further details as soon as they are available.

**December 15<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)** – Robins and Hedgehogs nativity in the village hall – 2pm to 3pm

**December 15<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)**– Flu Immunisation

**December 16<sup>th</sup> (Thursday)** - Robins and Hedgehogs nativity in the village hall – 9:20am to 10:20am

**December 16<sup>th</sup> (Thursday)** – Carol service and Christingle at Tawstock Parish Church – 2pm to 3pm.

## **Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.**

#### **Autumn Term 2021**

**Half term Monday 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2021(inclusive).**

**Last day of the Autumn term Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Start of the Spring term is Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

#### **News from the PTA**



**Thank you** to everyone that has submitted their Christmas card template, we love to see so much creativity! These have been sent off and soon you will be able to place your orders.

#### **Cake sale**

Next Friday 12th November we will be holding a cake sale after school. Please bring cakes in the morning and some cash at pick up time. Avoid anything that needs to be kept in the fridge and make sure you complete the allergen check list attached. Remember NO NUTS!

#### **Christmas Fayre**

This will take place on Thursday 2nd December 2.30-4pm in the village hall and in preparation we would like to ask for the following items to be donated: empty jars for the 'lucky jars' stall, soft toys for 'adopt a teddy' and full bottles of anything for the 'bottle tombola'.

### **Christmas Raffle**

This year we would like to put together 4 hampers with donations from each class. Donations of other prizes are also welcome!

### **Your School Lottery**

This is a weekly draw and tickets are just £1! Tickets can be bought any time at <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/holywell-church-of-england-primary-school> Thanks to your support, we have already raised over £800, the more tickets we sell the more we can raise for the school!

### **Online fundraising**

#### **Easyfundraising**

[https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofholywellschool/?invite=HP2SQV&referral-campaign=c2s&utm\\_source=rtwsharebox](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofholywellschool/?invite=HP2SQV&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=rtwsharebox)

**AmazonSmile** <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1045040-0>

### **Second hand uniform**

If you need to buy or wish to donate uniform, please contact Hazel on 07974208835. At the moment we can only accept donations of items with the current school logo please.

**Next meeting** Tuesday 16th November