



**LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE**

[www.primaryschoolsbarstaple.co.uk](http://www.primaryschoolsbarstaple.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](#)

9<sup>th</sup> September 2022

## Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

### A message from Mrs. Hammond and Mrs. Pearce

I would like to say a huge thank you to all the staff and children at Holywell school for making me feel so welcome this week. I have had a lovely week getting to know the school and children and can't wait to see what this term brings for us all. Mrs. Pearce

Welcome back to the new school year! I hope you were all able to enjoy the sunshine and have some lovely days out with your families.

We have had such a fantastic first week back at school. We were really impressed on Monday at how smart the children looked, their keenness to get into school and see their friends and their enthusiasm for their new classes and teachers. Each class is beginning to learn new routines and build new relationships and think about the year ahead – the classrooms have been a real hive of activity. Despite the end of week tiredness felt by us all the children have shown great resilience and determination and their attitudes to learning have been brilliant. It has been lovely to once again sit in the office and hear the laughter bouncing around the playground, we have no doubt this year is going to be another wonderful year for the whole Holywell family.

Thank you for continuing to drop your child off at the gate in the mornings and pass messages through the staff on duty. We are continuing to work on having a staggered start in the morning to reduce carpark congestion and ensure parents are able to get away quickly, when they need to. The drop off times for the children across the school are as follows: KS2 children (years 3,4,5,6) who do not have any KS1 siblings in the school are to arrive at 8:30am. KS1 (reception, years 1 & 2) and KS2 siblings are to arrive at 8:40am and those children in KS1 who do not have any other siblings in the school are to arrive at 8:50am. These are of course our best laid plans, however if you are running early or late for any reason we do understand that life happens!

In such a celebratory week it is with great sadness that we end our week with the news that our queen died peacefully yesterday. Over the next week we will be giving children the opportunity to ask questions and find out about her life and how she influenced modern Britain. We will provide time for the children to reflect on her life and the events that will be taking place over the next few weeks.

### Events

All of Foxes and Year 5 Squirrels are looking forward to starting their swimming and gymnastics sessions, which commence on Tuesday 13th September. Please return the SOE3 permission form which was sent home yesterday as a matter of urgency, as we will be unable to take your child without your permission.

Children in Years 5 & 6 are also getting very excited about their forthcoming residential to London in October. A reminder that the final instalment is due no later than Monday 10th October please. It promises to be an amazing time away!

### School News

#### Robins Class Stunning Start

##### **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September**

In order to introduce our topic, we will be having our Stunning Start next Friday. The theme is People who live in a Castle, we would like the children to dress up as someone who may have lived in a castle. This could be a King, Queen, Prince, Princess or a Knight. We will be making and find out more about castles.

#### After-School and Breakfast Clubs

We are running both Breakfast and ASC Clubs this term but would ask that if you require places at the ASC on Monday for Fridays that you please give a one weeks' notice. The clubs are being run by various members of staff including Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Lowin and Mrs. Bartlett-Mobbs.

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).

If you are going to be late collecting 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, please email [myka.scott@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:myka.scott@ventrus.org.uk) & [jemma.lowin@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:jemma.lowin@ventrus.org.uk) & [carole.Bartlett-Mobbs@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:carole.Bartlett-Mobbs@ventrus.org.uk)

#### PE days this term

Tuesdays – Robins & Hedgehogs (AM)

Tuesdays – Squirrels & Foxes – Gymnastics and Swimming (PM) – Letters sent home today.

Fridays – PE for all years through the day.



**ParentPay**

#### Parent Pay Debts.

**ALL DEBT balances MUST be cleared.** We have 5 parents with debts for School Meals and 12 parents with debts for the ASC. If this applies to you can we please ask that these debts are cleared as soon as possible.

If payments aren't kept up to date, we may have to inform you that your child will need to bring a packed lunch or can't attend Breakfast or ASC.

On your ParentPay account you can check all payments made and see any monies outstanding.

The following trips are now available or will be available shortly for payment and consent to be made:

**School Meals – £2.30 per day**

**Breakfast & ASC –**

**Current Year 4 & 5 – London Residential**

**Year 4, 5 & 6 – Swimming and Gymnastics. This will be available in the next couple of weeks.**

Please remember to pay the correct funds into the correct account item, and for the correct child in your family

#### Diary Dates

**Gymnastic and Swimming Year 4, 5 & 6 children: 13<sup>th</sup> September to 29<sup>th</sup> November (excluding 11<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> October)**

**Harvest Festival: date tbc**

**Non-Pupil Days on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2022**

Last day of the Autumn term Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022  
Non-Pupil Day on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023  
First day of the Spring term Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023

### Ventrus Job Vacancies

<https://ventrus.current-vacancies.com/v?id=VENTRUSMUL&t=Ventrus-Careers>  
Including vacancies at local schools.

**BIZZY BEEZ Coffee and Play** – Wednesdays 9-11am (term-time)  
Come and join in the fun. All ages welcome. No membership, just pay as you go.  
Children £2 – Adults £1  
Tawstock Village Hall (EX31 3HZ)  
Messy Play, arts and crafts, music and dancing, outdoor toys and story time.  
For details call Emma on 07368 422791 or Philly on 07799 543781

### 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.

### 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](http://www.devon.gov.uk)

### 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>

### News from the PTA



**Welcome** to the new school year! We hope everyone has settled well into the routine, especially new families! For anyone who doesn't know, Friends of Holywell is our parents, teachers and friends association and we raise funds to support the school in providing amazing experiences for the children. We always welcome new members, please join us!

### **AGM**

Our Annual General Meeting will take place on **Wednesday 5th October at 7.30pm** in school. Everyone is welcome to attend and we need to elect a new chair, vice chair, secretary and treasurer. No experience necessary, just the willingness to get actively involved in supporting your child's school!

## **Second hand uniform**

We are hoping to hold a sale after school very soon. In the meantime, 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. If you would like to run the uniform shop, please speak to Hazel.

## **Your School Lottery**

This is a weekly draw and tickets are just £1! In addition to the cash prize, there is also a prize draw. Tickets can be bought any time at <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/holywell-church-of-england-primary-school> Good luck!

## **Online fundraising**

When shopping online, please remember you can raise money for the school at no cost to you on:

### **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>

## **Other News**

### **Chulmleigh College September Open Events for Year 6 Families**

We very much look forward to meeting you at our Open Events this year.

These events include tours of the school and presentations from senior leaders, as well as the opportunity to meet with our teaching staff. Please note that booking for these events is essential, via the links below. If you're outside of our catchment area and don't qualify for free Devon County Council transport, then please visit <https://tinyurl.com/CCTransportService> to find out about our transport service from Barnstaple, Crediton, Rackenford and Torrington areas.

If you would like a look inside the College from the comfort of your own home, please do visit the virtual tours on our new website <https://tinyurl.com/CCVirtualTour22> you can have a good look around all departments, as well as seeing the school site on our drone film on the website's home page.

### **Welcome Evening Tuesday 20th September Tours 5-6pm & Meet the Teachers 6-7pm**

We are delighted to invite prospective families to join us for a tour of the school and afterwards to meet with teaching staff across all subjects. Our PTA will be on hand to provide refreshments and our Senior Leadership Team will also be available for any queries you may have. Please book here <https://tinyurl.com/CCWelcomeEveSep22>

### **Welcome Mornings Monday 19th September; Wednesday 21st September; Thursday 22nd September & Friday 23rd September Tours 9.30am-10.15am, Presentation 10.15-10.45am**

Join us for a tour of the school 'in action' and afterwards for a presentation from our Executive Headteacher Michael Johnson and SENDCo Kelly Dighton. Children are also welcome at these events. Please book here <https://tinyurl.com/CCWelcomeMornings2022>

## **Great Torrington School**

### **Open Evening and Open Morning Events 2022**

Choosing your Secondary School, please join us for one of our Open events at Great Torrington School. Please book using the links below or if you require any further information, please contact our school office: 01805 623531 Email [admin@gts.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@gts.devon.sch.uk)

### **Monday 19th September - Friday 23rd September**

Every morning from 9am-10.50am.

We are holding 'Open Morning Tours'. This is an opportunity to take a tour of the school with a member of our leadership team. You will be a part of a small group of other parents/ cares and their children seeing our school as a full working school. We will offer an opportunity at the end of each tour for refreshments and a chance to speak to members of staff.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/open-mornings-tickets-412941839157>

### **Monday 26th September**

Open evening: 6pm-8pm

On this evening we offer a presentation where we introduce GTS and explain the transition process, then you have free reign of the school. Every subject area will be represented by staff and pupils, you are free to roam wherever you wish and ask as many questions as you like.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/open-evening-tickets-412922411047>