



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

29th January 2021

A message from Mrs. Denham

Dear parents and carers,

We have all managed to get through another week of teaching in school and providing work for home learning.

We are so proud of all children who are working so hard at home. It has been wonderful to see them engaging during the live lessons. If you can encourage your children to join in any of the live parts such as the meet and greet sessions or catch up sessions that the teachers and support staff are offering, they really do seem to be making a big difference and helping children at home understand what is expected of them during the online learning.

I had a parent contact me this week who said that making a simple daily timetable had been very supportive and was making a big difference to how they were getting on with home learning. If you have any home learning tips like this, please let me know and I will share them with other parents!

Thank you for your understanding about the terrible state of the drive and car park. We are really at our wits end with it all. Mr. Anderson our caretaker is spending hours digging out stream from all the mud that is coming from down the lane. I am so sorry for the state of your cars and the children's clothes and shoes. The carpets in school aren't fairing very well either! I have been taking advice from various sources and speaking to parents, the Village Hall Committee, the Parish Council, DCC and the environmental agency about the issues to try and find a way to resolve the mess as it really is a health and safety hazard now. Mrs. Palmer sent a link in an email today to report the issue to DCC because the more people that report the blocked drain running under the road the better! Luckily a tanker supporting Openreach was in the car park today and I asked the driver called Colin, who works for Clear Flow Ltd if he could have a look at the drains. He very kindly offered to pump the water away and spent over a couple of hours helping us out. We were grateful that he pumped away litres of water and helped make the drive at least free from muddy flood water.

Now a much better piece of news – Openreach has started work to bring fibre broadband to the school. It has been a huge relief to know we'll be getting super fibre speed. This has all come about as I discussed with the chair of the Parish Council about how appalling slow the internet is at Holywell, who then passed on our concerns to Selaine Saxby our MP. She contacted Openreach and within 2 hours I had the chief engineer of Openreach calling offering to bring fibre from the cabinet at Eastacombe to the school – at no cost! This is just amazing. The children have been so excited to see it all happening around the school and some children walked up the road today to see the cable being hung from the telegraph poles. We are so looking forward to the internet being brought into school.

I really do appreciate how very difficult it is to juggle so many different aspects of life at the moment. All we can ask of ourselves is try do our very best and be kind and gentle on ourselves. Thank you for everything that you are doing an

Thank you

We would like to thank a grandparent of a pupil who has kindly sent into school a couple boxes of fruit for children and staff. The family have also kindly donated to school a laptop. Thank you so much.

Holywell pre-school

- In line with the new guidance, from Monday 11 January 2021 our preschool will continue to be open to **all children**, as they normally would be. Therefore, if you haven't sent your child back into pre-school as you are not a critical worker, please do so if you would like them to attend. Please book in your normal way through Mrs Palmer in the office.

Vodafone Sim Card

Vodafone UK wanted to do their part to help keep children and parents connected and be able to continue learning from home during this difficult time. They have given away for free 250,000 data SIMs with 30GB of data to use for 90 days.

We requested and have been allocated a small number of Vodafone data SIM cards to give out to parents who have problems logging on to the Wi-Fi for their children to access Microsoft Teams from home. As they are limited, they will be given out on a first come first served basis.

- ❖ Vodafone data SIM to use as a Wi-Fi replacement.
- ❖ 30GB data (lasts for 90 days)
- ❖ Need a smart laptop/dongle that has a slot for a sim card or a smart phone that takes a sim card
- ❖ Need good Vodafone signal (you can use the Network Status tracker on www.vodafone.co.uk)

- ❖ If your phone is locked to another network, you just need to contact your network provider's customer service team to request for your phone to be unlocked.
- ❖ You won't be able to use your phone to make calls/texts while using this data SIM.
- ❖ You will be able to enjoy 30GB data for 90 days this will start once you insert the SIM into your phone and start using the data.

Spring Term

Last day of the Spring term will be 1st April 2021

Half term Monday 15th February, 2021 – Friday 19th February, 2021 inclusive

Privacy Notice

The Trust has updated its Privacy Notice for parents. It is available for you to view on our website <https://www.ventrus.org.uk/our-people/privacy-notices/>

Term Dates – Jan 2021 to July 2021

15 th February to 19 th February 2021	Half Term
1 st April 2021	Last Day of Term
19 th April 2021	Summer Term begins
3 rd May 2021	Spring Bank Holiday
28 th May 2021	Non Pupil Day
31 st May to 4 th June 2021	Half Term
23 rd July 2021	Last Day of Term

News from the PTA

We hope you enjoyed reading last week's PTA newsletter containing details of recent and current fundraising initiatives. If you have not seen it yet, you can find it in the school website!

21 Challenge

This term's challenge aims to provide an opportunity to get active and creative as well as hopefully raising some funds! You have until the 21st of February to complete a sponsored challenge of your choice based around the number 21. Please see poster and sponsorship form attached!

Easyfundraising

You can raise large donations for Support Friends of Holywell School - Tawstock when managing your household bills. Whether you are looking to switch your mobile phone, broadband or energy, you can raise a donation for us when you shop via #easyfundraising. Browse deals: <http://efraising.org/v0bHUKTUG6>

Your School Lottery

This is a weekly draw and tickets are just £1! Have you been a lucky winner yet? Tickets can be bought any time at <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/holywell-church-of-england-primary-school> Good luck!

Second hand uniform

If you require or wish to donate pre-loved uniform, please contact Hazel on 07974208835.

Next meeting Wednesday 3rd March