

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

2nd December 2022

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

Message from Mrs. Hammond



The school is certainly beginning to feel the excitement of the arrival of December, with Christmas jumpers, class Christmas trees, advent calendars and the amazing donation of an outside tree for the playground by Matthew, from Newton Tracy Christmas Trees. Thank you to the PTFA for your superb negotiations in securing this donation!

Next week, sees a busy penultimate week to Christmas; with Robin and Hedgehog classes sharing their Christmas performance with you on Thursday and Friday. Fox and Squirrel will be supporting KS1 and year three throughout their performances – make sure you get your tickets!

We hope you were all able to attend the Christmas Fair this afternoon and take in the wonderful delights that our hard working and dedicated PTFA created for all of your children. The visit from Santa was truly special and it certainly felt like a magical and exciting place to be. Thank you to all of our lovely families for showing your support. The funds raised really are much appreciated. As we enter the last two weeks of term the calendar is looking very busy, so please check the dates section of the newsletter to ensure you keep up to date with the school based festivities that we have planned.

New School News

Tickets still available.

Robin's and Hedgehog's Christmas Performances

These will be taking place on:

Thursday 8th December – Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 Christmas Nativity performance 9:20am – 10:20am.

Friday 9th December – Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 Christmas Nativity performance 2pm – 3pm.

Mental Health Ambassador Assembly

A big thank you to Naomi, Emily, Isaac and Mia for delivering a fantastic mental health Assembly this week. They created a fantastic slideshow and used lots of props to engage their peers. When Debbie went around the classes today she was very impressed with the way all of the children across the classes could recall the information our ambassadors had shared. We clearly have some great inspirational speakers in the making.

Pre-School Funding

In order to access 30-hour funding from Spring Term 2023 parents need to have applied to HMRC and received a code by 31st December 2022.

[30 hour funding: deadline to apply and receive a code to access funding from Spring 2023](#)

Anxiety Workshop

Mrs. Williamson, along with Debbie, a member of the school's Mental Health Team have planned an Anxiety Workshop for parents. It will be taking place in the Hall on the Friday 13th January, 9 – 10am. Please see the attached flyer. We hope you will be able to come along.

Tax Free Childcare

If your child attends or may attend at some time our Breakfast or After-School Club may be entitled to tax free childcare. The link below will take you to the site where you can check if you are entitled and also register with the scheme.

https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/?utm_source=Search+&utm_medium=RSA&utm_campaign=CC&gclid=CjwKCAiAyfybBhBKEiwAgtB7frB3iIr0Z9xEIGZQa9F68icank8Swoc1RZIOp1kjRQzL18xoapp2hoC2RwQAvD_BwE

Reminders

September 2023 intake

Children born between 01/09/2018 and 31/08/2019 are entitled to start full time Primary Education in September 2023. The application facility opens on 15th November 2022 and closes at midnight on 15th January 2023.

Driving Through the Villages of Tawstock & Eastacombe:

Please can we remind everyone driving to school through the lanes and villages of Tawstock & Eastacombe to reduce your speed accordingly. We have received several complaints from the local community regarding the inconsiderate speed at which some cars are travelling. We also have several families who live in these villages who walk their children to and from school. All routes to the school have narrow lanes and we have heard of a few near misses involving families from our school. We all leave and arrive at different time, so please respect other road users including pedestrians and keep your speed down; I am sure you will all agree that our children's safety is paramount.

Christmas Swap Shop

Our annual pupil SWAP SHOP will go ahead on the afternoon of Monday 12th December. We would be very grateful, if you are able to send in a donation of presents suitable for a mum, dad, and brothers and sisters, such as small bubble bath, talc, soap, pens, pencils, chocolates, sweets, gloves, socks etc. This 'Swap Shop' will hopefully be a way for you to be able to 'recycle' some of the small presents you do not need, that you have at home! Any donations of wrapping paper and tags/labels will also be useful. On the day the children are able to choose and wrap at least a couple of presents to bring home for Christmas Day. There will be no charge so you do not have to send in money! Please send your donations into the office on the morning of the **9th December** (not before as we don't have space!)

Christmas Jumper Days

We have had our first one today and they will continue every Friday until the end of term. Please remember to make your one off £1 donation via parent pay. Thank you.

Admissions Policy consultation 2024-2025

The consultation period for the 2024 – 2025 - Holywell C of E Primary School admissions policy began on the 1st November, 2021 The consultation period ends on 6th January, 2023.

Below you will see a link to our proposed admissions policy for 2024-25

http://www.primaryschoolsbarstaple.co.uk/website/admissions_policies/627029

We are consulting on this between 1st November 2022 and 6th January 2023 and invite any parent or other person with an interest in our admission arrangements to read the policy and make any comments you wish.

A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY TO ACCESS A FREE RESOURCE FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND THEIR WORRIES:

Our Mental Health Support Team are able to offer a new digital therapeutic intervention "Lumi-Nova - Tales of Courage", available free until January 31st 2023.

This is an app aimed at Children aged between 7-12 years old and uses a Low Intensity -Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (LICBT) graded exposure model to help children overcome their worries.

There is more information on the BFB-Labs website below.

<https://www.bfb-labs.com/luminova>

You can gain Open Access to the app by clicking on the link below:

<https://childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk/lumi-nova/>

Our MHST clinicians are also offering a "practitioner sign-up" model across North Devon, offering supportive calls throughout the intervention. Contact your school (Mrs Hammond - samantha.hammond@ventrus.org.uk) to complete a Request for Help form to access this service

Absence Requests

Just a reminder that any absence requests from school during term time will be unauthorised unless evidence suggests that the absence required is due to exceptional and unavoidable circumstances.

After-School and Breakfast Clubs

We are able to run both Breakfast and ASC Clubs every day this term, and although we no longer require a weeks' notice for Monday Breakfast and Friday after-school clubs we still ask that you book in advance as the places are limited to 8 per session. If we are over this number, we require an extra member of staff which we may not be able to provide at short notice. The clubs are now being run by Ms. Scott, Mrs. Lowin and Mrs. Mullen

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 jemma.lowin@ventrus.org.uk

charlotte.mullen@ventrus.org.uk



ParentPay

Parent Pay Debts.

ALL DEBT balances MUST be cleared. We have **parents with debts** for School Meals **and 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 – See above

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

Diary Dates

9th & 16th December – Christmas Jumper Days.

Thursday 8th December – Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 Christmas Nativity performance 9:20am – 10:20am.

Friday 9th December – Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 3 Christmas Nativity performance 2pm – 3pm.

12th December – Christmas Swap Shop

15th December – Christingle, 2pm at the church. Children to be collected from the church at 3pm.

15th December – Christmas Lunch

Spring Term - Gymnastics and Swimming Years R, 1, 2 & 3

Term Dates

Friday 16th December - Last day of the Autumn term

Tuesday 3rd January - Non-Pupil Day

Wednesday 4th January - First day of the Spring term

Ventrus Job Vacancies

<https://ventrus.current-vacancies.com/v?id=VENTRUMUL&t=Ventrus-Careers>

Including vacancies at local schools.

BIZZY BEEZ Coffee and Play -

This as closed temporarily but will be opening up again in the new year.

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

NEW Privacy Notices – November 2023

Important information

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

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



News from the PTA

A reminder of 2 things to sign up to before you do your online Christmas Shopping...
(you earn us free money!!)

Easyfundraising

If you haven't signed up yet, it's easy and completely FREE. 7,300 brands will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to do your everyday online shopping - at no extra cost to you! Every donation you raise makes a difference to us so please sign up & share

today. https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofholywellschool/?invite=2RQAJ0%26referral-campaign=c2s%26utm_campaign=admin-trigger%26utm_content=srt

Amazon Smile

Don't forget to use our unique charity link (<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1045040-0>) to help us earn money each time you purchase through Amazon!