

31st January 2025

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

Non-Pupil Day – Friday 14th February
Half Term – 17th to 21st February
Last day of the Spring Term Friday 4th April

Message from Mrs. Lowrey



Firstly, as a staff team, we were so blown away by the fantastic surprise that was organised by Philly and the PTA and supported by you as parents! To offer a gratitude lunch to our staff team is a very generous and heart-warming offer and we never would expect thanks or gifts as I know we all feel very proud to work at our school.

Thank you so much for such a kind thought and for going out of your way to think of others. We have plenty to keep us going for a few days yet, what a lovely treat!



I also wanted to take time to say a huge thank you and well done to Emma in the kitchen who has done such a fantastic job with our meals at Holywell. The food quality looks amazing and our numbers are amazing, which is a real credit to her hard work. It must be mentioned that Emma works on her own to order, prepare and cook high quality food, salad bar, daily fresh fruit and homemade puddings. I tend to be in the hall most lunch times and I am so proud to see the children demolishing their lunches – even the cabbage! Thank you, Emma, I know it is done with love and has a great impact on our school culture.



Next week, we will begin to focus on our next school church value of Respect – showing respect to ourselves and each other. I hope that the children have been sharing some of the songs that they have been learning and talking about some of the teachings that we have been discussing in collective worship.

Finally, please can I kindly ask parents to ensure that they are not staying in the hall in the mornings during the Early bird drop off. The purpose of the drop-off is to support parents getting to work and also to vacate the car-park and I am conscious that children are in school care from this drop off time. Many thanks for your support with this.

The temperature looks like it is due to be dropping, so please do dress warmly next week and have a good half term break! Please remember that we have a non-pupil day on Friday 14th February, so school will be closed on this day. We will be returning to school on Monday 24th February. Have a good weekend!

Best wishes, Mrs Lowrey

Cleaning Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy at the school for a cleaner, working 10 hours a week. Should you know someone who would be interested, please do encourage them to follow the link to apply for the position. Alternatively, please contact the school on the holywell@ventrus.org.uk address.

Cleaner Vacancy

Diary Dates

Swimming Years R, 1 & 2 – Jan/Feb Monday

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.

Thursday 13th February – PTA Movie Night!

Friday 14th February – Non-pupil day

Thursday 6th March – World Book Day – we will be dressing up as book characters – I know this is a Holywell favourite and one of mine too!

Easter Service – date to be confirmed – last week of spring term

Piano/Flute/Recorder Tuition – Vacancies available from Spring Term 2025.

When we return to Holywell Ania one of our current music teachers will have some free slots for tuition if you would like your child to start lessons learning any of the above instruments.

Your child must be aged 6 years old or above.

If you/your child is interested in this, please contact Ania by email:

aniaflute@gmail.com

Ania will then liaise with you via email to arrange the lessons.

Admissions policy for 2026-27: Annual Consultation

Along with all other schools and academies in Devon, we are consulting on an admission policy for 2026-27. The Local Authority is also consulting on its admission arrangements. You are invited to look at the proposals and have your say. Our proposed policy is on our admission page [link to school website](#) and you can see all policies at <http://devon.cc/schoolpolicy>. Further information is here: www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements

The formal consultation runs until 10th January 2025. Policies will be determined on 29th January 2025 and published in the same places by 15th March 2025.

The events below will be available on Arbor from the 1st December

Year 5/6 Swimming – Now overdue.

Year 3 /4 Swimming – Now overdue

Year R 1 & 2 Swimming – Contribution now due.

Year 3/4 Residential to the Calvert Trust – Final instalment.

Year 5/6 Residential to Bristol – Deposit of £50.00 now due.

School Meals

Breakfast Club – to be booked on Arbor either daily, weekly, monthly or termly.

After School Clubs – as above.

School Shop

PE t-shirts – size 7/8 and 9/11 on order

Useful Links and Information:

Here are some useful links that may assist you with your query

In Year Admission Information - [Apply for an in-year place - Education and Families \(devon.gov.uk\)](#)

School Catchment Area Checker - [School designated \(catchment\) areas - Education and Families \(devon.gov.uk\)](#)

Admission Advice for international arrivals [Admission advice for international arrivals - Education and Families \(devon.gov.uk\)](#)

Guide to School Appeals [School admission appeals Archives - Education and Families \(devon.gov.uk\)](#)

School Term Dates [School term dates - Education and Families \(devon.gov.uk\)](#)

School Admissions Team

Telephone – 0345 155 1019 (Education Helpline)

SAFETY ALERT

[opss-issues-safety-alert-to-warn-of-the-risks-of-water-beads](#)

Links you may find useful.

[Devon Family Hub - Monthly Newsletter.](#)

[HANDi Paediatric app: advice for common childhood conditions - One Devon](#)

Online Safety

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

Term Dates

A full list of dates for the 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 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. These will now be available for you to purchase from the ARBOR shop. Currently we do not have any size 7/8 or 9/11 in stock.

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 '[pupil premium](#)' 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 [Devon Citizens Portal](#). 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/>

[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>