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9th October, 2020

Autumn Term

Last day of the Autumn term will be 18th December, 2020

Training day Friday October 23rd, 2020

Half term Monday 26th October, 2020 – Friday 30th October, 2020 inclusive

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

A message from Mrs. Denham

Today we held our first virtual celebration assembly on Microsoft Teams where we celebrated all the super things children had been doing in school and in their learning. It was so wonderful to see all the children together – even if it was on a screen! We have all really missed seeing them altogether in the hall. Well done to those children who received a certificate today – we are very proud of you.

We would like to inform all parents and carers that Linda Watt has resigned from her role as Chairperson of our Governing Body. Linda has been involved as a Governor for many years first with Bratton Fleming and then with Holywell and has been a very determined, organised and dedicated chair for the last 7 years. We cannot thank her enough for all she has done. We wish her well as her and her family move onto pastures new.

We are thrilled to be able to welcome Mr Tim Baker to the role as our new chair of governors. Tim is a parent governor having two sons at Bratton Fleming. He is an instrumental part of the Governing Body and we are very grateful to him for stepping into the role of chairperson. We all look forward to working closely with Tim.

Our PTA is working very hard to think of ways to help fundraise this term. Their usual events can't be held due to COVID 19 restrictions so if any parent has any ideas please let the members of the PTA know. The PTA want to fundraise to help us have more ipads and laptops in schools – we are desperate. The PTA do an amazing job raising vital funds for the school. Without them, your children would have far fewer resources to use on a daily basis. I really do thank each and every member and know they are always very grateful to any parents who want to help and support them. If you can find any time to help, we would be thrilled.

We want to say a huge thank you for all of your support over the past few months with our online learning provision. As you are aware, last term we introduced SeeSaw across the school as a means of communication during lockdown and it was fantastic to see the wonderful work that was completed at home. You were all superb at getting on board with it so quickly and efficiently and we really enjoyed communicating with your child in this way.

Now the Government have advised all schools to have a secure contingency plan to ensure they are ready for all eventualities during the pandemic. Therefore, in order to further improve our home learning and provide more opportunities within class, we will be implementing Microsoft Teams across the school. This will be rolled out at different stages across the school and you will be contacted by your class teacher when they are ready to go. Microsoft Teams provides a wealth of opportunities to develop our home learning and in-school provision. This form of blended learning will be implemented gradually across the school, in place of SeeSaw.

Thank you

We would like to say thank you to Mrs. Broad, a parent and local Usborne Book co-ordinator, who has kindly arranged for the school to receive a set of books which have been kindly sponsored by Bob Tucker Motor Services as part of a project organised by The Right Book, aiming to get a mental health pack into every school in the area.

Walking or cycling home from school

If you wish you child to wither cycle or walk home from school alone, without another adult present can you please notify the school in writing. Thank you.

School Lunch reminder.

Can you please let your child know what menu choice you have chosen for them each day. This week there has been a lot of waste as some children would not eat what you ordered for them.

If you have **not** returned you child's **monthly** menu choice to St Michaels, email address office@stmichaels-nursery.org they will always serve the 1st choice. Meals need to be ordered for the month ahead rather than weekly, although they are of course happy to accept **weekly payments** (by BACs or phoning to pay by card 01271327074

After School Care – Wraparound Care.

We have successfully held our first four after school care sessions this week.

However, both of these sessions are just viable with the minimum number of children attending. If you haven't yet confirmed that you would like a place or in the future realise that this care would be convenient, please phone the office to book a place. They run on Tuesdays and Thursday – 3.15pm to 5.15pm until half term, initially.

The cost is £8.50 per child, per session which **MUST** be paid for on ParentPay before your child attends.

WOW day sponsorship money.

We would like to send off the sponsorship money we collected for Shelter box when the children took part in a sponsored event on Wednesday 16th September. If you have not yet sent this money into school can you, please do so using a small envelope marked WOW day – sponsorship. Thank you.

Head Lice

We have had a case of head lice reported in school this week and would be grateful if you could all check your child/ren's hair over the weekend and treat appropriately. Please find attached an information sheet regarding head lice.

Year 6 application for Secondary School

If you have not yet applied for a secondary school place for your year 6 child, you must do so before the 31st October. The easiest way to apply is online by visiting www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline If don't wish to or can't apply online, you can contact the customer service centre on 0345 155 1019 or you can use the copy of the application form that is attached to this email.

Devon is entering into a period now where a lot of secondary schools in Devon will be experiencing growth, so it is essential that they get as many applicants applying on-time. Late applications may be disadvantaged, so it is essential that you make an on time application to give yourself the best chance of securing a place at one of your preferred schools.

COVID 19 - Useful links and phone numbers:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

<https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/>

Phone NHS on 111, or the Covid kit delivery helpdesk on 119

Safely arriving and leaving school

We have been informed by some very concerned and anxious parents that some parents congregate on or around the school site before and after school. It is essential that all children arrive and leave at their designated start or finish time. All adults must always maintain social distancing to reduce the chance of the transmitting the virus. Please leave a clear and wide pathway for children to safely through to get to their class. Please do not block any of the area near the gate.

Please can we remind that the children in Robins and Hedgehogs start school at 9.00am and Foxes and Squirrels at 8.45am. Please can children in Robins and Hedgehogs wait until 9.00am to enter unless they have a sibling in Squirrels or Foxes. We are trying to desperately avoid all the school being in the car park and at the gate at one time. Please do not arrive too early or too late if possible.

Uniform orders

We are very aware that some of you have been waiting a while now for your uniform order. We have again been in contact with our supplier who have informed us that they are also having difficulty with their suppliers, due to the covid lockdown etc. Please bear with us.

We do know that the PTA have a wide stock of used uniform so if you would like to try them please do so. We are able to give refunds through ParentPay but this may take a couple of weeks.

IMPORTANT

Free Nasal Childhood Flu Vaccination

We have been made aware that a letter is being sent to all parent/carers of children eligible for the flu nasal vaccination. Parents have already started to receive these letters and it is causing some confusion around the process of consent. Please can we reassure you that at this time you don't need to bring this letter and as long as you have completed the consent link provided by Virgin Care Services then your child will be vaccinated at the planned school session.

Any changes to this process will be clearly communicated from the Devon Immunisation Team if/when changes are made.

This is not something that the Devon Immunisation Team have control of locally, it is a national NHS drive to ensure parent/carers of all eligible children are aware of the flu vaccination programme.

Free Nasal Childhood Flu Vaccination

Your child is due to be in Reception to Year 6 from September 2020 and they are therefore eligible for a Free Nasal Childhood Flu Vaccination.

It is anticipated that this will be delivered in schools between October 2020 to December 2020, this will be administered adhering to all up to date Infection Control, PPE and social distancing guidance at the time.

Flu vaccination is one of most effective interventions we have to reduce pressure on the health and social care system which is going to be more important than ever this year. For this reason, it is essential we deliver the vaccine to as many children as possible to prevent the spread of infection to those most at risk in society.

In light of the above we are expecting demand to be high and therefore we urge you to follow the below link to consent to your child's vaccination now. You will also find answers to your FAQ's on this link.

<https://schoolimms.virgincare.co.uk/flu/2020/devon>

If you have any difficulties with completing the consent form, please contact the Immunisation Team on our Single Point of Access (SPA).

Dates for your diary

5th November 2020

12th November 2020

30th November 2020

PTA - Bags2School collection.

Tempest Photographer (individual school if possible)

Flu Immunisation

News from the PTA



We have been busy sorting out through our stock of pre-loved uniform and soon we will publish a list that will make it easier for you to order items. In the meantime, if you need anything you can contact Hazel on 07974208835.

We would be very grateful for any donations of prizes for our Christmas Raffle, so if either yourself or someone you know is able to donate a prize please let us know!

Dates for your diary:

October half term - scavenger hunt photo competition - details to follow shortly

5th November 9am - Bag2school collection of unwanted clothes for resale, see information below.

10th November 7.30 pm - PTA meeting online, everyone is invited!

BAG 2 SCHOOL FREE FUNDRAISING FOR SCHOOLS

In partnership with your school Bag 2 School is a company that specialises in the reuse and recycling of good quality second-hand clothing and we have arranged to make a collection from your school.

All the bags will be weighed and you will be paid for the total weight collected. Remember, the more you collect the greater the benefit to your school. Please use your own bag or bags (there is no limit). When the clothes have been removed from the bag the plastic will be packed and sent for recycling.

Your own clothes Your own bags.

We are collecting good quality items for RE-USE: Men's, ladies' & children's clothing, paired shoes, handbags, belts & accessories.

(No uniforms, work wear, pillows, duvets or pieces of fabric please).

Please return your Bag2School on Thursday 5th November 2020 - 9.00am – No earlier.

Remember you can follow us on Facebook Instagram or email friendsofholywell@gmail.com with any questions or suggestions.

Easyfundraising: Please share this link with friends and family and remember to use it the next time you shop online!

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofholywellschool/?invite=qxe9k8&referral-campaign=s2s>