



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

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

24th March 2023

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

Non-Pupil Day – Monday 17th April 2023

No Tiddler and Toddler Group over the Easter break – it will re-open on 19th April.

Message from Mrs. Lowrey

By now, you will of course have heard the news of Mrs Hammond's departure from Holywell and I must take a moment to reflect on her hard work, dedication and sheer passion for the job that she has done for the last 23 years. I know that she will be sorely missed by the school, but acknowledge the excellent opportunity that has been offered to her at Kingsley school. I have no doubt that she will excel in her new role and know that Kingsley will value her work equally as we have done through the years. I will just add on a personal note that among all staff, including myself, Mrs Hammond is considered a highly valued member of staff and we will miss her as a trusted colleague and friend. We do wish her all the best and know that she will stay in touch.

I am also delighted to be able to share with you the news that we have been able to appoint Emma Dart as our new kitchen manager for Holywell! Emma has worked so hard over the past few weeks, ensuring the smooth delivery of our school meals. It is a pleasure to be able to have Emma as part of our permanent staff team and I know she is relishing the opportunity of cooking and sharing her love and passion for food. We have many ideas for our menu moving forward and I know that Emma is keen to welcome all parents to speak to her direct with any menu or allergy queries. Congratulations, Emma, we are delighted for you!

This week, our children have outdone themselves in the way that they have represented the school both on site and out and about. The trip to **Paignton Zoo** was a huge success! Congratulations to all of the children who were incredibly well-behaved – a real credit to Holywell School! Thank you to Miss Boundy and Mrs Coulam, all of the staff and parent helpers that attended on the day. And of course, thank you again to the PTA who secured an incredible donation towards the trip and made it possible.

After Easter, we will be letting the children know who has been selected in the **cross-country team** in May! Congratulations to all the children who tried their very best during the trials. I was so impressed that everyone took part and was not afraid to get a little bit muddy! Mr Day will be announcing the teams in worship in the first week back.

We have had such a fun week in school, with Easter fast approaching. Spring is in the air (despite a lot of rain!) and it is a pleasure to see the children enjoying a range of Easter activities – we have planned egg-hunts for all of the children and there may be a special surprise for them during the day! (thank you PTA for the generous donation, again!)

Finally, as it is nearly the end of my first term with you at Holywell, can I just take the opportunity to thank each of you for the time and generosity that you have shown me throughout. It has been a pleasure getting to know you all as families and I value the fact that many of you have felt able to come and talk

to me and address any concerns that you have. I do hope that you feel able to continue to do this moving forward and look forwards to the summer term!

I do hope that you all enjoy the disco if you are going and that you all have a very relaxing break! We return to school on Tuesday 18th April.

School News

HAF Activities for the Easter Holidays

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/document/haf-providers-easter-2023/>

30 hour codes for the Summer Term

In order to access 30hour funding for the Summer Term 2023 (which for funding purposes starts on 1st April 2023) parents need to have applied to HMRC through their Government Gateway Account and received a code by 31st March 2023. Any codes with an eligible date of 1st April onwards will not be funded in Summer 2023 term. We encourage parents to apply in plenty of time incase HMRC require any additional information.

Sadly, a number of families across Devon did not reconfirm their details and missed the 31st of December deadline for Spring Term, moved settings in the Grace Period or had a gap in eligibility meaning they could not claim 30 hours funding in the Spring. Please make sure this doesn't happen to you.

School Uniform

We are in the process of moving our school uniforms sales from school to Daw's at Daw's Clothing Company Ltd, Unit 2 Affinity Devon, (Atlantic Village) Clovelly Road, Bideford.

As we sell out of items they are taking them on and can be purchased on-line at:

<https://schoolthreads.org/collections/holywell-c-of-e>

PE T-shirts will still be available to purchase from school.



ParentPay

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

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

Parent Pay Debts.

We currently have **18 children** showing debts on their ParentPay school meals account. Can we please ask that you check your accounts over the weekend and pay these off as soon as possible?

Charity Walk

One of our Teaching Assistants in Robin's class is raising vital funds for 'Children with Cancer UK' charity by walking a hilly 40km along the Jurassic Coast on May 13th. If you feel able to help Jemma raise her target of £220, the link to the JustGiving page is <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jemma-lowin>

Diary Dates

25th April – PTA Jumble sale in the Village hall - 2:30pm – 4:30pm

9th – 12th May – KS2 STAT's week

Term Dates

Easter Holidays – 3rd – 14th April 2023 - inclusive

Non-Pupil Day – Monday 17th April 2023

May Day Bank Holiday – Monday 1st May 2023

Celebratory Bank Holiday for the King's Coronation – Monday 8th May 2023

KS2 SATS week – Tuesday 9th May 2023-Friday 12th May 2023

Summer Half Term – 29th – 2nd June 2023 – inclusive.

End of Term – last day Friday 21st July 2023.

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>

Community News

West Buckland School is holding an Open Day on Monday 1st May. Click on the link for more details or to register your interest: <https://westbuckland.com/open-day-registration-2023/>