

## School News

### A message from Mrs. Denham

I hope you all had a wonderful Easter break. Thank you so much for all the good wishes for a speedy recovery from my second knee surgery. I'm slowly getting stronger and hope to be back in school properly in a couple of weeks.

#### Driving

Please can we all remember to drive carefully and keep our speed down when travelling on the lanes around the school, especially on the bends. We have families living near the school who walk their children to school every day and we must also all be respectful of other car drivers. Remember our children are precious to us all.

#### Morning drop off

Please could parents and children stay out of classrooms (except Robins) until 8.50am, unless you have an appointment with the teacher, as this is an important time for the staff to prepare for the day. If you require an appointment please arrange with the teacher after school or with the office. Thank you.

#### Free School Meals Legislation

With effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 some changes have been made in Free School Meals Legislation.

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, if in receipt of one of the following benefits listed below, as this can help the school to attract additional pupil premium funding to support learning.

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 (IBSJA).

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 as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs 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).

Children who receive a qualifying benefit in their own right can also get free school meals.

To check your eligibility, please visit [devon.gov.uk](http://devon.gov.uk), education and families, school meals, where you will find more information on how to claim.

#### DBS Checked Parent Helpers

If you help in school and have had a Disclosure and Barring check. Ofsted guidelines now require the school to keep a copy of your right to work in the UK. We therefore need to keep on file a copy of your passport; if you do not have one the school can guide you as to what information we will need sight of. Please bring your passport in to show the admin staff as soon as possible so that the necessary information can be recorded.

## Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

**E-Schools** - Thank you; to those parents who managed to log onto eschools and have said how much easier it was to book their appointments this way. We know a few parents have had some problems with their passwords not working or that they have mislaid their password and username, if this is you, can you please email [adminh@gatewayfed.org.uk](mailto:adminh@gatewayfed.org.uk) and we will reset your username and/or password. We can see that some of you have never logged on.

### **House Group Morning**

As Green team (St Patrick) were the house team winners at the end of the Spring term, they will be allowed to wear non-school uniform on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April. If you are not sure which colour team your child is in please ask them as they should know.

### **Pupil Achievements**

During the Easter holidays Bella and Emilia have raised over £30 for the school by having their very own cake sale. Well done girls and thank you.



### **Op Shop Sale**

There will be a second hand uniform sale before and after school on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April. All items will be sold for £1 and there will be lots of summer dresses in all sizes available.

### **Music Lessons**

On Thursdays we have a Clarinet, Saxophone and Flute teacher come into school to run private lessons during school time. They have been coming into school for many years now and have taught many of our talented musicians in these instruments which you may have heard play at various times including the Christmas performances and Christingle service.

They now have vacant slots, so if your child is interested in starting to learn to play one of these instruments, please give your details to Mrs. Palmer

### **Preschool**

We are encouraging parents who want to take up a 30 hour place in the Summer Term to apply now – and no later than the **end of APRIL** to get their code in good time. HMRC sometimes needs more information from the parent to check whether they're eligible, so parents should allow time for this.

If you already have an eligibility code, you will need to reconfirm your eligibility for 30 hours and / or Tax-Free Childcare every 3 months.

Please note: the summer term runs from 1st April to 31st August. Any parents who do not take up a summer place will need to wait until September to take up 30 hours. You will find all the childcare options, including Tax-Free Childcare, via the Childcare Choices website.

**We still have places available in Pre-school on all days.** Pre-school is a valued part of our school community and is an important link to the success of the school which we are very keen to keep as a thriving asset to the school. If you know of anyone who has not been able to find a place or would like some extra hours, please ask them to contact Mrs. Denham or Elaine at [adminh@gatewayfed.org.uk](mailto:adminh@gatewayfed.org.uk) or (01271) 345908.

Further information regarding funding can be found here

<http://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

### **NEW LINK**

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/eycs/the-parent-customer-journey-tax-free-childcare-and-30-hours-free-childcare/>

You can apply for your 11 digit code from the HMRC at

<https://childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk/par/app/applynow>

### **Devon Early Years and Childcare Service**

Website: <https://new.devon.gov.uk/eycs/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/devoneycs>

## News from the PTA



### Holywell Rocks

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July – 2 pm – 8 pm.

### Shop

If you have or require any good quality, secondhand school uniform please contact Emma Barstow on 07976 269525

### After school clubs

All clubs finish at 4:15pm.

Netball club has now finished.

Monday	Football	Mr Dymond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5 & 6	
Tuesday	Pottery	Mrs Coulam	YR, R, 1 & 2	
Wednesdays	Athletics	Mrs. Hammond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5 & 6	
Thursday	Cricket	Mr. Anderson	Yrs., 3,4,5 & 6	
Thursday	Staff Meetings			
Friday	Rounder's	Mrs. Hammond	Yrs., 3,4,5 & 6	

### Diary Dates – forthcoming events

#### Term Dates

Easter Holiday - 30th March to Monday 16th April.

**Summer term** - 17th April

May Day Bank Holiday - Monday 7th May

May half term - Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June

End of Summer term - Thursday 26th July

**Autumn term 2018** - 5th September

Half term first day Friday 19th October

Return Monday 29th October

End of Autumn term Thursday 20th December.

**Spring term 2019** – 8th January

#### Diary Dates

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 – Sports Day – Take 1.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 – Sports Day – Take 2.

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 – The year 6's assembly will start at 2.15pm in the village hall.

### Community News

#### **North Devon Taiko Project**

**In collaboration with Kagemusha Taiko**

**ndtaiko@gmail.com**

#### Adult Taiko Sessions

Are you a school based adult who would like to play Taiko?

Friday evening WORKSHOPS

Fridays, 5.30-6.30pm

(Apr 20, 27 and May 4, 11, 18)

£10 for five sessions

Centre Stage, Unit 2, Riverview Commercial Centre, Pottington Business Park, Barnstaple, Devon, EX31 1QN

Free parking

Email: ndtaiko@gmail.com to find out more or book on.

Try it out on 20th April!!

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Do you like rhythm and making music in a group?

Years 5 to 8

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**Biznet - Parenting Support Training**

Autism support for parents

<http://www.bis-net.org.uk/services-autism-challenging-behaviour/northdevon/>

Other parenting support for parents and carers can be found on the link below, these include;

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/d/united-kingdom--bideford/family-and-education--classes/>

**Tawstock Tiddlers and Toddlers**

Bumps, babies and all preschoolers welcome

Snacks provided Guest speakers and Messy play.

Monday from 9.30 – 11.00 at Tawstock Village Hall

For more details contact Mel:

07866783740

**Circuits**

Every Tuesday

9 – 9.45 am, in the village hall.

£4 pay as you go

All fitness levels welcome!

Children welcome to come along and play whilst mum/dad get fit.

Contact Estelle Liepa for more info or just turn up.

07973 533668

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St. Michael's Nursery **Wrap around service; Breakfast Club and After School Club.** For many years we have offered wrap around care exclusive to Holywell and we are proud to have strong links with your fantastic school. To ensure the service is viable we need to be sure of high level of demand to meet increasing costs of running the nursery and additional services.

Many families at other primary schools have asked us to consider drop/collection at their schools and, should numbers remain low at Holywell we are looking at the logistics of their requests.

We are offering our breakfast and afterschool to Holywell parents before other schools and these places are on a first come first served basis. Katie loves her daily trips to Tawstock!

**Wellbeing Nature**

**Hakeford Woods**

Kick off your slippers and take some time out. Come and experience the woods with all of your senses.

Whittle a spoon, listen to the birds, cook on the campfire and learn some new skills.

Come and gain a well-deserved dose of nature.

At Hakeford Woods

(10 mins from Barnstaple)

Thursday 11 am – 2.30 pm

**For adults in the North Devon area currently experiencing challenges with their mental health or for unpaid carers.**

For more details please see our Facebook page or contact Stuart Young at Hakeford Woods Forest School on 10271 817880/[hakefordwoods@gmail.com](mailto:hakefordwoods@gmail.com) or Georgie Bailey on 07526734064/[geogie.bailey67@gmail.com](mailto:geogie.bailey67@gmail.com)