

School News

A message from Mrs. Denham

Pre-School – as you may be aware we have been covering Pre-School with casual staff due to the long term sickness of Naomi. We would like to thank Mrs. Shirley Lewis who has been one of our main recruits for her hard work and dedication which she has shown whilst covering. Unfortunately Mrs. Lewis is unable to continue at present due to other work commitments, also Mrs. Bellew is now covering at Bratton Fleming. We would now like to introduce you, and give a warm welcome to Mrs. Natalie Curtis who has joined us from today. Natalie will be with the children for at least the next two weeks.

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

PTA op shop

The PTA will be selling second-hand uniform in the village hall after drop off on Monday 22nd January and also at the end of the day. All uniform will be £1 per item.

Pupil Achievements

Devon Gymnastics Squad

Huge congratulations to: **Lara Heywood** and **Madison Wilson** who have again trialed and successfully made it in to the Devon gymnastics squad. **Lara** was the highest scoring gymnast on the day and has made the elite squad; **Maddie** was the 6th highest scoring gymnast on the day and has been chosen for the development squad. They will join **Felicity Ayres** and **Lannah Barrow** who were automatically selected for the elite squad this year. Well done to you all!

North Devon Cross Country League

A huge well done to the Holywell runners who ran in the North Burrows cross country run on Sunday. The weather overhead was great, but the footing was very rutted and boggy! The children were once again amazing, taking on the challenge of a longer and very exposed course. Special mentions go to Madison Wilson and Aidan Milton for falling in their races, but getting back up and fighting to get back into the run. Also Lottie Perfect who managed to run the last few metres of the race with only one shoe!

Results were:

U9 girls: Madison Wilson 11th, Lottie Perfect 40th

U11 girls: Leah Smith 31st, Isabelle Westaway 45th, Holly Perfect 46th

U11 boys: Aidan Milton: 42nd

Sadly I will not be able to attend the last meeting at West Buckland on the 4th February, I hope you all have an amazing run and look forward to seeing all of your medals!

Preschool

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 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



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.

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|------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Monday | Netball | Mrs. Hammond | Yrs, 3,4,5&6 | |
| Monday | Maths Club | Mrs Turner | Yr. 2 signed up children only. | |
| Tuesday | Pottery | Mrs Coulam | YR, R, 1 & 2 | |
| Tuesday | Football | Mr Dymond | Yrs. 3,4,5&6 | NO CLUB UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE |
| Wednesdays | | | | |
| Thursday | Staff Meetings | | | |
| Friday | Cross Country | Mrs Hammond | Yrs, 3,4,5&6 | |

Diary Dates – forthcoming events

Term Dates

February half term - 12th Feb to 16th Feb

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 2017 – 8th January

Diary Dates

Year 1 & 2: Gymnastics 16th, 23rd, 30th January & 6th February inclusive. Please remember to collect your child from Tarka Tennis (Falcons Gymnastics).

Year 4 Tennis Festival: Wednesday 17th January, 2017.

Photographs Tempest: Vista Group class photos, Thursday 8th February.

Year 3 & 4 Residential: Monday 26th March to Wednesday 28th March.

Community News

Biznet - Autism Parenting Support Training

The sessions are for parents and there is a small cost associated with them.

Follow the link to see the details of how to book on:

The courses that are being run are:

Supporting a Child with Challenging or Aggressive Behaviour

Understanding and supporting an Autistic Child

Understanding and Supporting Autistic Individuals with Demand Avoidance

Understanding and Supporting Individuals with Attention Difficulties (ADD/ADHD)

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

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!

Scomis' Online Safety Newsletter for Early Years – January 2018

For Parents and Carers:

Welcome to the Scomis Online Safety Newsletter for parents and carers of 0-5 year olds.

We know that parents and carers are concerned about their children's safety 'Online', i.e. what to do about it and where to find help and information. Published each term, this special section for parents and carers will proactively provide advice - for example, signposting resources, the risks of using technology at an early age and much more!

Did your child receive an Internet connected toy at Christmas?

Don't forget that Internet connected toys also present risks and challenges!

- ☐ Do you know what information the toy collects?
- ☐ Do you know where the information collected is stored?
- ☐ Will the toy take pictures and/or store recordings of the child?
- ☐ Does the toy require location services to work?
- ☐ Can location services be switched off?
- ☐ Does the toy require a password?
- ☐ Who can interact with the toy?
- ☐ Are parental controls available?
- ☐ How are parental controls accessed?

Find out more:

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/tech-gifts-christmas>

<https://iconewsblog.org.uk/>

Review the checklist from 'Which'

To help keep your family safe the consumer organisation **Which** has compiled a smart toy checklist of the things you need to be aware of before buying a connected toy and once you've brought one home. Access via the link below:

<https://www.which.co.uk/documents/pdf/connected-toy-safety-469632.pdf>

Have you heard of YouTube for Kids?

YouTube Kids gives your family an easy way to watch favourite programmes and explore. It's free, simple to use and full of family-friendly videos:

<https://kids.youtube.com/>

Play and use the internet together

The internet has lots of exciting things to see and do – why not resolve to spend some time as a family exploring the online world together? You could play some of your child's favourite games or research a topic you both find interesting. This is a great opportunity to make sure that everyone is aware of the safety features offered on different games or to talk about what information we can trust online.

(UK Safer Internet Centre – Jan 2018)

Take a look at the following website for advice:

Designed specifically for parents internetmatters.org website offers a wealth of up-to-date unbiased information and advice:

<http://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/interactive-guide/>

Review Childnet's Online Safety advice for parents and teach your child/children about Smartie the Penguin

☐ Use the Childnet resource 'Smartie the Penguin' and teach your child/children the rhyme:

<http://www.childnet.com/resources/smartie-the-penguin>

For more information contact Scomis:

E: scomis@devon.gov.uk T: 01392 385300