



LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

www.primaryschoolsbarstaple.co.uk
holywell@ventrus.org.uk

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

13th January 2023

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

Message from Mrs. Lowrey

Well, what a week it has been! It is certainly a very quick way to get to know you all - I do sincerely appreciate all of your efforts, whether that has been managing to get into school, informing school of your absence or providing us with information. It reminds me very much of the reasons working in a small school such as ours is such a privilege to be part of a strong community.

On a positive note, we have been informed that there is progress in regard to working on the chapel and that the road could be opened soon, so we will hopefully see a return to more normal procedures soon. I will continue to keep you updated and try to communicate any changes as soon as I can.

This week, we have been so impressed with the concentration of the children and the effort that they are putting into their learning. The year 6 children have been doing further testing and SATs boosters have now started with Mrs Hammond. Keep going children, the effort is paying off.

We have now also been given a date for the commissioning service, held with Reverend Gary at St. Peter's church in order to welcome me into my new role. The children will walk to the church on Wednesday 25th January to start at 2.45pm. We are inviting parents to join us and also to collect the children from the church on that day. This is a brief service where I will be able to explain a little about my values and my hopes for the school moving forward as well as an opportunity to build links with our church and school community. It will be wonderful to see you there if you can make it.

Finally, a huge thank you to the PTFA, who have met already this term, despite the inclement weather and have planned some exciting events and activities for the coming term. Dates to be confirmed, however, a cinema evening and disco are on the list... watch this space!

Many thanks for your efforts again this week, have a wonderful weekend - Mrs Lowrey

New School News

Robins Class's Stunning Start

Our Stunning Start this term will be on Friday 20th January where we will become GMD's (Geographical Map Detectives) Special Agents, we will dress up as Special Agents ready to investigate Maps. (you may need: a hat, note pad and other Special Agent accessories)

Fizz Pop Science



What a very exciting Collective Worship we had on Thursday of this week. Milly, from Fizz, Pop Science, came and engaged the children in many experiments about bubbles. There were small bubbles, big bubbles, heads in bubbles, on fire bubbles and erupting bubbles - it was a truly exciting time for the children. Your child should have come home with a flyer about Fizz, Pop Science and the club they will be running, at school, as from next Thursday (19th January). If you would like your child to attend the club please can you follow the details on the flyer or use this web address: www.fizzpopsience.co.uk

[Science Party](#) | [Science Workshop](#) | [Science Parties](#)

Science Parties With The WOW Factor
www.fizzpopsience.co.uk



September 2023 intake

Children born between 01/09/2018 and 31/08/2019 are entitled to start full time Primary Education in September 2023. The application facility opens on 15th November 2022 and closes at midnight on 15th January 2023. **Should you have friends or family that are looking for a place in school, I would be delighted to show families our school. Please ask any interested friends to contact the school for a tour!**

St Peters' Church Tawstock – Sunday 15th January 2023

This Sunday is Plough Sunday at Tawstock church. Everyone is welcome to an all-age service at 11.00am to bless the parish plough and pray for this year's agricultural work. Everyone is invited to bring a symbol of the work they will do on their farm or garden in the year ahead, such as soil, seeds, tools etc.



ParentPay

Parent Pay Debts.

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 – See below

Swimming and Gymnastics – Reception & yrs. 1, 2, & 3.

Residential – Calvert Trust – Yrs. 3 & 4

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

Reminders

Tax Free Childcare

If your child attends or may attend at some time our Breakfast or After-School Club may be entitled to tax free childcare. The link below will take you to the site where you can check if you are entitled and also register with the scheme.

https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/?utm_source=Search+&utm_medium=RSA&utm_campaign=CC&gclid=CjwKCAiAyfybBhBKEiwAgtB7frB3iIr0Z9xEIGZQa9F68icank8Swoc1RZIOp1kjRQzL18xoapp2hoC2RwQAvD_BwE

After-School and Breakfast Clubs

We are able to run both Breakfast and ASC Clubs every day this term, and although we no longer require a weeks' notice for Monday Breakfast and Friday after-school clubs we still ask that you book in advance as the places are limited to 8 per session. If we are over this number, we require an extra member of staff which we may not be able to provide at short notice. The clubs are now being run by Ms. Scott, Mrs. Lowin and Mrs. Mullen

The cost for Breakfast club is £4.50 per child - can drop off from 8am.

After School Club starts - pick-up 4.15pm (£4.50) or 5.15pm (£9.00).

If you are going to be late collecting or if you need to collect at an alternative time, please can you phone to school by the end of the school day (3.15pm).

After 3.15pm, please email myka.scott@ventrus.org.uk jemma.lowin@ventrus.org.uk

charlotte.mullen@ventrus.org.uk

Diary Dates

10th January – 21st March inclusive. - Gymnastics and Swimming Years R, 1, 2 & 3 – **Please remember to collect your child from the Tarka Leisure centre at 3:00pm.**

28th February to 2nd March – Calvert Trust Residential – Years 3 & 4.

28th March – Easter service at St Peter's Church

9th – 12th May – KS2 STAT's week

Term Dates

Spring Half Term – 13th – 17th February 2023 - inclusive.

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

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

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

A FANTASTIC OPPORTUNITY TO ACCESS A FREE RESOURCE FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND THEIR WORRIES:

Our Mental Health Support Team are able to offer a new digital therapeutic intervention "Lumi-Nova - Tales of Courage", available free until January 31st 2023.

This is an app aimed at Children aged between 7-12 years old and uses a Low Intensity -Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (LICBT) graded exposure model to help children overcome their worries. There is more information on the BFB-Labs website below.

<https://www.bfb-labs.com/luminova>

You can gain Open Access to the app by clicking on the link below:

<https://childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk/lumi-nova/>

Our MHST clinicians are also offering a “practitioner sign-up” model across North Devon, offering supportive calls throughout the intervention. Contact your school (Mrs. Hammond – samantha.hammond@ventrus.org.uk) to complete a Request for Help form to access this service

Ventrus Job Vacancies

<https://ventrus.current-vacancies.com/v?id=VENTRUSMUL&t=Ventrus-Careers>

Including vacancies at local schools.

BIZZY BEEZ Coffee and Play –

This as closed temporarily but will be opening up again very soon.

Free School Meals

If you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals please go to the [Citizen Portal](#) which is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in an instant decision.

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-notice/>

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>



News from the PTA

Thank you so much for all of your support in the run up to Christmas. We are working with the school to decide on how they want to spend the PTA funds in the pot and also what we're working towards in 2023 so we will update you on the plans in coming weeks.

Coming up!

Next week the **PTA Black box** will be making an appearance out by the benches once again. We welcome you to drop off...

- Outgrown Christmas clothing (jumpers, nativity outfits) - we will store them and do another sale next winter!
- Outgrown clothes in good (saleable) condition - we plan to arrange a swish shopping event later in the year
- Unwanted Christmas presents
- Any Toys, soft toys, books, games cleared out over Christmas
- Any outgrown uniform
- Used Christmas and Birthday Cards (for crafting with)

Can you help us?

If you can donate an hour or two of your time this year, to help the PTA run fun events for the children then please email friendsatholywell@gmail.com to arrange a DBS check with the School.

We only have a handful of parents with a valid school DBS (externally organised DBS cannot be used) that we can call upon and this can be restrictive when organising events. The process is FREE but takes a while to complete so we're trying to get organised as we have some big ideas for this year - but need helpers! Please get in touch - and then we will pop you a message when we have a big event coming up to see if you're free to give us a hand. This can be parents/grandparents/friends.