







http://www.holywell.devon.sch.uk www.primaryschoolsbarnstaple.co.uk adminh@gatewayfed.org.uk 9th October, 2015

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Dear Parents

We had a Full Governing Body Meeting this week and were very sad that Mrs Val Worms has stood down from being Chair of the Governing Body. Val has been a wonderful Chair and so supportive of the whole federation. The Governing Body and I are really going to miss her dedication and enthusiasm but she is going to stay on the Committee for the next year. We welcome Mrs Linda Watt in as the new Chair and Mrs Chris Pratt as vice chair. We look forward to their support and leadership in the coming years.

Year 5 and 6 pupils from both schools in our Federation had a wonderful week in London. The children were a credit to you and were true ambassadors for the school. They learnt so much and gained such amazing experiences – highlights were working with a real actor from the West End, the yummy food at the hotel, enjoying the business and excitement of London, playing in a high rise playground at a school we visited in the Barbican, visiting a dance studio where Strictly dancers practise and being very brave going up the Shard and visiting the loo with a view!

Huge thank you to all the staff that went – Mrs Curtis, Mrs Ashton, Mr Pettifer and especially Mr Day for all his organisation of such a wonderful trip.

Thank you so much for supporting our ideas of changes at the end of the day for KS1 and KS2. The different pick up times seem to be working well and we appreciate all your efforts. However, we have had several parents come to us and say they are worried when they leave school just after 3pm as many other cars are being driven towards school for 3.15pm and the road is busier. Can we please remember to drive at a reasonable speed along the lanes and be aware that cars are coming in both directions!

Also, if you are collecting your child late from school for any reason they must wait in the office as there will be no member of staff on duty to take care of them. Please do not ask them to remain on the playground. We ask all late pick-ups to be collected from the school office.

Mrs Baker and Mrs Archer are continuing to teach in Hedgehogs for the next couple of weeks. We are very grateful that they are able to provide stability and continuity for their class. We have also had a little reorganisation of some support staff to ensure we give the best possible chances to our children. Mrs Scott will be working in Robins, Mrs Carlyon will be in Hedgehogs, Miss Purchase will be working on interventions and Mrs Buck will be covering Mrs Carlyon's hours with pre-school. Mrs Buck worked so well with our pre-school children last year that we are pleased to be able to welcome her back.

Can I finally request that if any parent has any concerns or issues about their child or the school that they come and see me asap? I know I cannot be at the school for 5 full days, but I try to be at the school for at least half a week (unless I have a meeting or need to attend a course) and I am always contactable my phone or e mail. Many thanks.

School News

Head lice

There has been a reported case of Head lice in school today so could you please all check your children's hair over the week end and treat as necessary. This is an on-going issue which all schools face so if your child has long hair we would prefer if it was tied back or up.

Letters sent home this week:

Year 1 & 2 (Hedgehogs) — Letter for trip to Lynton and Lynmouth on Tuesday 13th October - £11.70 Permission slip to be returned.

Year 1 & 2 (Hedgehogs) – Update on the teaching arrangements.

School Meals

Next week's menu will be week 3 and the weeks will continue as follows:

12th October Week Three

19th October - Week One

2nd November - Week Two

If anyone would like to amend their order form, please contact Donna at St Michael#s or contact the school office to collect an amended form.

Year 3 and 4 Cross Country Event

Well done to all of the children in years 3 and 4 who participated in the learning community cross country event at Park Community School last week. With fields of **over 70** children Holywell once again not only showed just how well we can run, but also how we support and encourage each other – Holywell children are certainly special and the care and enthusiasm they showed for each other at this event was truly a pleasure and delight to see. Our results were amazing and with two of our girls finishing in the top three within races and ensuring medals made the afternoon even more special.

Results were:

Year 3 girls: Tiana Comer 3rd, Isabelle Westaway 9th, Anastasia Evans 10th, Katy Pullen 12th, Holly Perfect 13th, Kodie Harmer 17th, Emily Peart 18th.

Year 3 boys: Szymon Cicharski 21st, Dan Doyle 26th, Monty Andrews 27th, Charlie Wileman 31st, Cooper Vine 37th, Jai Greenwood 49th.

Year 4 girls: Felicity Ayres 1st, Francesca Lewis 18th, Leah Smith 23rd, Jacey Cook 41st, Amelie Masters 51st.

Year 4 boys: Charlie Marshall 12th, Adam Rashid 13th, Archie Matthews 32nd, Aidan Milton 37th, Reegan Fowler 39th, Tyler Cook 40th, Billy Dudden 41st, Finley Ellis 45th, Jared Green 52nd.

A big thank you to; Mrs. Garland, Mrs. Pullen, Mrs. Harmer, Mrs. Cook (Jacey's mum), Mrs. Ayres and Mrs. Andrews for supporting with transport and supervision at this event.

Visitor to Foxes class this week

On Thursday Foxes class had a visit from Sophie Evans, a member of the Plough Arts Theatre in Torrington to run a drama workshop based on the Egyptian story 'The Prince and the Sphinx' to support our Literacy work around Myth writing. The work Sophie did with the children was amazing. We thoroughly enjoyed her time with us and can't wait to see the impact it will have on our creative writing!

Out of school Clubs

Just a reminder that if your child is part of an out of school club e.g. tennis, rugby, gymnastics etc but are unable to attend our school clubs (if they exist), there may be opportunities to join our competition squads, so please let Mrs. Hammond know.

Help with reading

If you or a family member (grandparent, older siblings) are available to support with listening to children read each week (mornings or afternoons), please speak to Mrs Hammond. As long as you have a DBS check (which we can do for you free of charge!) we would love you have you share the wonder of reading with our children.

<u>After school clubs</u> - All clubs finish at 4:15pm except Recorders which finish at 4pm but if your child wishes to also do Computer Club they can leave at 3.45 to join that club.

Monday	Netball	Mrs Hammond	Y3, 4, 5 & 6	
Monday	Pottery	Mrs Coulam	YR, 1 & 2	
Tuesday	Cross Country	Mrs Hammond	Y3,4,5 & 6	
Wednesday	Computer	Mrs Curtis	Y5 & 6	
Wednesday	Recorders	Mrs Archer	Y4,5&6	
Thursday	Staff Meetings			
Thursday	Tag Rugby	Mrs Vine	Y3,4,5&6	

Diary Dates – forthcoming events

Half Term – Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October inclusive.

Non Pupil (Staff Training Day) Friday 23rd October.

End of Autumn Term (Last Day) – Friday 18th December.

Start of Spring Term – Tuesday 5th January.

Wednesday 16th December – Whole School Pantomime, Queens Theatre.

Thursday 17th December – Christingle Service at St Peter's Church 2pm. The PTFA will be serving mine pies and teas after the service so please stay and join them.

PTFA

PTA – AGM

The new date for the AGM has been set for Wednesday 14th October at 7.30pm in the school.

Bags2School

The PTFA have arranged a collection from Bags2School on Friday 16th October. Please start collecting and filling your bags but do not bring them into school until the day of the collection as there is no here for them to be stored.

Community News

St Michaels Nursery Tawstock

We have vacancies at the after school club on Tuesdays and availability in our breakfast club every day. If you are interested call the nursery on 01271 267038 or email office@stmichaels-nursery.org