

A message from Mrs. Denham

I want to say a huge thank you to all our parents who have helped in any way with the school activities in the run up to the end of term. Your help and support is very much appreciated by all the staff. To our wonderful PTA for their support to the school over the festive period, we are very grateful. I thank every one of them for all their hard work, support and energy.

Foxes and Squirrels classes sung, danced, performed and played their hearts out last week in the performances of 'Superstar' whilst Robins and Hedgehogs classes performed magnificently in their Nativity 'Jesus' Christmas Party' at the church yesterday. All the children took part in these wonderful Nativity plays and I know these performances were enjoyed by everyone who watched them. All the children had a scrummy Christmas dinner (thank you to the St Michael's team), worn gorgeous Christmas jumpers and had the swap shop and parties to enjoy! What a wonderful busy end to the term.

We are very grateful to everyone who sent in gifts for the Swap Shop. The children REALLY enjoyed choosing something to wrap and bring home to you, so we hope you enjoy them on Christmas morning!!

Thank you to Mrs Andrews for all the work she has put into the music for the school and the art work, especially the scenery for the Christmas performances. We are very grateful for her commitment to the school.

And finally a massive thank you to the whole school staff team. Everyone has worked so hard to bring a wonderful Christmas to your children and I am so grateful to each and every one of them. However, we have had to say goodbye to Mrs. Stacey Crockford, as she is moving on to work in another school nearer to home, but would like to thank her for all the work she has done supporting our children.

I wish you all a happy and merry Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year. See you on Tuesday 8th January, 2019!

Children in Need

Another thank you, this time for your generosity in supporting the School Council with their 'Children in Need' day, with your support they raised £146.58.

CHRISTMAS PRESENT SWAP SHOP

Thank you all so much for the wonderful swap shop gifts, the children had a great time choosing and wrapping the gifts that they have chosen for family members.

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

School News

Robin's Class

Please can the year 1 children in Robin's class stay in the playground with the year 1's from Hedgehogs until the bell is rung at 8.50 am. Then can they line up with the other year 1's in hedgehogs before proceeding into class. Thank you.

Past pupil achievement: Congratulations to eleven year old Felicity Ayres (Fliss) who has been selected for the GREAT BRITAIN GB Women's Artistic Gymnastics Performance Pathway Squad for 2019. This is an outstanding achievement, and we are so very proud of her. (Fliss suffered a major head trauma injury only 18 months ago, so her come back is particularly phenomenal.)

Fliss writes a blog and uploads videos and photos. If you'd like to follow her journey, here is the link <https://mygymnastics.blog>

Use of Pupil Images

All parents have signed the consent form for Use of Pupil Images by Holywell C of E Primary School. Now that we are part of Ventrus Multi Academy Trust we would like to expand that permission to enable the Trust to use images for publicity and marketing purposes. If you have any concerns regarding this please contact the office.

Admission September, 2019 – closing date 15th January, 2019

Children born between: 1st September, 2014 and 31st August, 2015.

If you have family or know of friends who have children due to start school in September 2019, please promote Holywell and inform them to call Holywell. (01271) 34908 and Mrs. Denham will be delighted to show them around and discuss their child starting school.

Even if you have already given details to school, you must apply for a place through the Admissions Team at Devon County Council. This is the only way to apply; other forms or lists held by schools will not count.

How to apply for Primary School place in Devon:

You can apply online at:

www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline : from 15th November 2018 to 15th January 2019. Or

If you cannot access the school admissions website you can get more details by calling our Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019 or email: admissions@devon.gov.uk

Cool Milk

Our school milk scheme is administered by Cool Milk. To register your child for school milk, please visit <https://www.coolmilk.com/register> "

If you have already registered your under 5s using our bulk registration process, **parents are still able to register using the form/website**. This provides them with the opportunity to make payment for milk when their child turns 5, in line with School Food Plan legislation.

More promotional material is available on our website - <https://www.coolmilk.com/promote/>

If you need any help with any aspect of your school milk scheme, please don't hesitate to contact us - we're here to help!

Preschool vacancies and free taster sessions

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 is looking for a place please ask them to contact Mrs. Denham or Elaine Palmer at adminh@gatewayfed.org.uk or (01271) 345908 who will be very happy to show them around.

Cheques

If you have paid any money to the school this week by cheque made payable to Devon County Council, please can you call in and see Elaine, as we now need cheques to be made payable to Ventrus Ltd. Cheques will only be accepted for a short period as new procedures will be in place shortly.

Free School Meals

If you are eligible to claim for free school meals we advise you to do so. Not only does your child benefit from receiving a meal, the school has additional funding for your child. This is in addition to the Universal Free School Meal Scheme. Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 & 2 we ask you please to still apply.

Guitar Lessons

Alex Rogozinski has a space for either a group of 2 or 3 children or an individual lesson. If your child is interested please call into the office to collect the relevant letter. As there are few spaces available they will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

News from the PTA



Op Shop

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

Clubs

Please see the information above.

Monday	Netball	Mrs Hammond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5 & 6	No Netball club until January
Tuesday	Pottery	Mrs Coulam	YR, R, 1 & 2	No Pottery until January.
Wednesdays	Handball and Bench ball	Mr. Day		No Handball and Bench ball until January
Thursday	Football	Mr Dymond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5, & 6.	Football club is cancelled until further notice.
Thursday	Staff Meetings			
Friday	Cross Country	Mrs Hammond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5, & 6	No Cross Country until January

Diary Dates – forthcoming events

Term Dates

Non Pupil Day – Monday 7th January, 2019.
 Start of the Spring term, - Tuesday 8th January, 2019.
 Spring half term starts, - Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February, 2019.
 End of the Spring term, Friday 5th April, 2019.
 Easter holiday starts, - Monday 8th April to Monday 22nd April, 2019.
 Start of the Summer term – Tuesday 23rd April, 2019
 May Bank holiday, - Monday 6th May, 2019.
 Summer half term starts; - Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May, 2019.
 Non Pupil Day – Monday 3rd June, 2019.
 Last day of the Summer term, – Wednesday 24th July, 2019.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 19th December, - Whole school **Christmas lunch** - 11.50 am.
Wednesday 19th December, - **KS1 Nativity** and whole school Christingle service at Tawstock Parish Church starting at 2 pm.

Community News

The Greatest Journey

Family Christmas Service
 St Peter's Church, Tawstock
 Sunday 23rd December, at 3.00 pm
 Children are encouraged to come dressed as their favourite nativity character (optional)
 Tea, Coffee & Mince Pies
 Served after the service
 ALL WELCOME

St Michael's Nursery

St Michael's Nursery operates a breakfast club open from 8am, and after school club 3.15 - 6pm. We still have a limited number of spaces available so please phone us 01271 327074. office@stmichaels-nursery.org

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 Sue on 07890 046033.

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

Links you may be interested in?

West Buckland School Activity Day

<https://www.westbuckland.com/prospective-parents>

Early Help for Mental Health

<http://eh4mh.co.uk>

Early Help

<http://devon.cc/earlyhelp>

Courses for Parents and Children

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

These events are only open to parent/carers this time around.

<https://20novemberdpcv.eventbrite.co.uk> - Buckfast Abbey Conference Centre

<https://27novemberdpcv.eventbrite.co.uk> - Cullompton Community Centre

The Plough Torrington

<https://www.facebook.com/StAnnesArtsCommunityCentre/>

Devon Library Services (including Barnstaple)

<https://www.devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena/events>

Royal Albert Memorial Museum - (Exeter)

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKGCC/bulletins/20a0199>

Barnstaple Library

<http://devonlibraries.org.uk>

On-line Safety

Online safety is an ever expanding area and you can find further valuable information on the CEOP website
'Think you know' has produced some useful conversation starters and advice to help you talk to your child about staying safe online <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk> and the NSPCC website
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventingabuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety>

Some good sources of information and advice for parents:

- <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers>

The Professionals Online Safety Helpline is available Monday to Friday 10am – 4pm

Call 0344 381 4772 or email enquires@saferinternet.org.uk

<https://parentinfo.org/>

Parent Info is a free web service providing information to parents and carers.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/ShareAware>

Advice from NSPCC on social networks, apps and games.

<https://www.childnet.com/parents-and-carers>

A non-profit organisation working with others to help make the internet a great and safe place for children.