

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

14th February, 2020

A message from Mrs. Denham

Well what a lovely week we have had. Last Friday our lovely PTA committee organised a fabulous cinema night for your children and was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended. Thank you to the PTA for giving up your time for this.

We had a very special time on Thursday morning, when the Archdeacon came in to present our "Excellent" Siam's Inspection certificate. The children sang beautifully and helped Archdeacon Mark to act out a story. We all celebrated how well the whole school community lets our light shine and it was a very happy occasion. Look out for our photo in the Gazette in the next couple of weeks!

This was followed in the afternoon by years 1, 2, 5 & 6 children having a Fire Safety session with members from the Devon & Somerset fire and Rescue service. The children learnt how to: 'Stop, Drop, Roll,' 'Don't leave your iPad or mobile phone charging overnight,' that you should put smoke alarms in your hallway and upstairs corridor as well as many other tips. Perhaps you could ask them what they remember!

**Have a lovely half term break and we look forward to seeing you all back in school on
Monday 24th February.**

Prayer Afternoon

Thank you to the parents who came along to our school prayer afternoon with Reverend Gary. We felt that it was a special time for the children to be community together, feel thankful for our school and support others. If you would like to join a prayer group for parents and carers, please contact Mrs Turner or let Mrs Palmer know.

Many thanks to the Children's Ethos Committee who helped with both events.

Skern Lodge – Parents Meeting

Mr. Day has rearranged the meeting for the parents of children in years 3 & 4 who are attending the Skern Lodge residential for **Tuesday 25th February at 3:30 pm**. The meeting will be held in Foxes class.

Tempest orders

Can all orders please be returned to school by Wednesday 26th February. Thank you.

IMPORTANT

Parent Conference Week.

Appointment can now be booked by emailing holywell@ventrus.org.uk
by phone (01271) 345908 or by calling into the office. The days and times are as follows: -

Mrs. Coulam

Tuesday 3rd March – 3:30 to 7:00 pm and Thursday 5th March – 3:30 to 7:15 pm.

Mrs. Hammond

Tuesday 3rd March – 4:30 to 7:00 pm and Thursday 5th March – 3:30 to 7:15 pm

Mrs. Turner & Mrs. Shapland

Tuesday 3rd March – 3:30 to 7:45 pm and Thursday 5th March – 3:30 to 7:45 pm

Mrs. Curtis

Tuesday 3rd March – 4:30 to 7.30 pm and Thursday 5th March – 3:45 to 7:30 p

School News

Spring Term

The last day of the Spring term will be Friday 27th March, 2020.

The half term will be from Monday 17th February – Friday 21st February, 2020 (inclusive).

Summer term

The first day of the Summer term will be Tuesday 14th April, 2020.

Please remember that the May Bank Holiday will now be on Friday 8th May, 2020.

The half term will be from Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May, 2020 (inclusive)

The last day of the Summer term will be Friday 17th July, 2020.

Holywell is a NO NUT Zone.

Dates of this year's Yr. 2 & Yr. 6 SAT's, the new multiplications check for yr. 4 pupils and the phonics check for yr. 1 pupils.

Please can we ask that if you are considering an exceptional absence request, that you speak with Mrs. Denham before you book anything and please avoid the dates below and the lead up to these.

Yr. 6– 11th – 14th May (inclusive).

Yr. 2 – 18th – 22nd May (inclusive).

Yr. 1 Phonics check - 8th – 12th June (inclusive)

Yr. 4 Multiplication check - 8th June for 3 weeks (until Friday 26th June).

Church News and current Christian Value

Value: The current Christian Value for this month is; **Love & Compassion**

Our Easter service will be on the 25th March at St Peter's Church, Tawstock, starting at 9 am. We will be asking you to drop your children at the church on this morning at from 8:50 am. If you don't have to rush off please stay and join us for the service. All welcome.

Parent Pay.

If you have not yet logged on and you have mislaid your username and password, please speak to Mrs. Palmer. This system has been very well received and it has been great to hear the positive comments from those of you who already signed up and have used it. Thank you.

Items on Parent Pay

Skern Lodge Residential – Yrs. 3 & 4 – The 3rd and final instalment of £42.00 is now overdue for the residential. If you still haven't made your final payment can you please do so on Parent Pay as soon as possible or pay cash into the office on our return to school, Monday 24th February.

Swim & Gym – Years 1 & 2

Gymnastics Competition - If you have not yet paid and given permission can you please do so by Monday close of day. You are able to pay by Parent Pay or cash into the office.

Uniform – When you purchase items on parent pay please remember to email elaine.palmer@ventrus.org.uk stating the item and size/s you require.

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.

Saxophone/Clarinet/Flute Lessons



Clarinet, saxophone, flute and toot lessons are available for your child and take place during the school day. If you would like your child to take lessons on these instruments please can you contact the IMS office on 07974 849303 or email imsnorthdevon@gmail.com

A letter giving full details of these lessons have been attached to the email with this newsletter.

News from the PTA



HOLYWELL ROCKS NEEDS YOU!!!

This year's Holywell Rocks will take place on Saturday 4th July 11-4 pm. Save the date! We are incredibly lucky to be able to use the grounds of Tawstock Court again this year. We would still love to hear from anyone who would like to contribute in any way and help raise money for the school and put on a great day for the community.

There are many ways you help, whether it is working on the day, running a stall or sourcing sponsorship. If you want to do your bit please speak to a member of the PTA or email friendsofholywell@gmail.com

Thanks to all the supporters that have already helped raise money through easyfundraising.com. We are now also signed up to Amazon Smile, so if you shop on Amazon you can now also help raise money for the school.

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support a charity of your choice every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.co.uk, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as amazon.co.uk, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your selected charity.

Amazon donates 0.5% of the net purchase price (excluding VAT, returns and shipping fees) of eligible purchases to the charitable organisation of your choice. Click on the link to find out more!

https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1045040-0?fbclid=IwAR3u_yURx84Z8klWInbirASN43oIHfHEgij3fTlsAofu8T31k7pt0nrn8RE

EasyFundRaising

Please remember to use easyfundraising every time you shop online! Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate, so you can raise FREE donations for us no matter what you're buying. These donations really help us out, so please sign up if you haven't yet. It's easy and FREE! You can get started at:

1. <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/friendsofholywellschool/?invite=HP2SQV&referral-campaign>
2. Every time you shop online, go to easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.
3. After you've checked out, the retailer will make a donation to Friends of Holywell School - Tawstock at no extra cost to you whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and Friends of Holywell School, Tawstock will be really grateful for your donations.

PTA Diary Dates:

February Half term - sponsored read

5th March - Book fair (World book day)

9th March- Coffee morning and uniform shop: 9-11 am Tawstock Village Hall

26th March - Easter Egg Hunt. – After school 3 & 3.15 pm

4th July - Holywell Rocks 11-4 pm Tawstock Court

Op Shop

If you have or require any good quality, secondhand school uniform please contact Hazel Malin on 07974 208835
Thank you for your support.

Club

Please see the information above.

Monday	Netball	Mrs Hammond Miss Ryder-Green	Yrs., 3, 4, 5 & 6	
Tuesday	Singing Club	Miss Shapland	Yrs., 3, 4, 5 & 6	
Tuesday	Pottery	Mrs Coulam	YR, R, 1 & 2	
Wednesdays	Goal Getters	Goal Getters	Yrs., R, 1, 2 & 3	Letter attached to your email.
Thursday	Football	Mr. Dymond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5 & 6	No club until notified
Thursday	Staff Meetings			

Friday	X County	Mrs. Hammond	Yrs., 3, 4, 5, & 6	Cancelled for the rest of the spring term due to year 2 booster classes.
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Diary Dates – forthcoming events

February 4th, 11th & 25th – Gymnastics Competition children will be going to Falcon's. Please collect your child from the Tarka Tennis Centre at 3 pm. If you have not yet paid for this event can you, please do so by the close of day on Monday. Thank you.

Parent Conference – Please see notice above.

March 3rd, 10th and 24th, 2020 – Yrs. 1 & 2 Gymnastics.

March 18th to 20th, 2020 – Skern Lodge Residential for Yrs. 3 & 4

March 25th, 2020 – Easter Service at St Peters Church, Tawstock. On this morning can you please drop of at the church from 8.45 pm. Everyone is welcome to stay and join us for our school family Easter Service.

March 26th, 2020 – PTA Easter Egg Hunt. – After school 3 & 315 pm.

Community News

Barnstaple Town Youth Marching Band

We are currently recruiting new members and would like for as many young people to be aware as possible.

No previous experience is necessary and all instruments, uniforms, tuition and transport are provided (with a very low cost membership & subscription)- all the young people need is an interest in music, spare time and a willingness to make a commitment to attend as many practices / performances as possible.

We'll be in Green Lanes shopping centre on Saturday 22nd to let people know what we're all about and how they can join; alternatively our contact details are on the enclosed flyer and we have a page on Facebook.

I would be happy to provide any additional information you might need.

Louise Wheavil

On behalf of Barnstaple Town Youth Marching Band

Pilton Theatre Productions present '**Treasure Island - The Pantomime**' in Pilton Church Hall, Barnstaple, during the February Half-Term Holiday.

There are performances on Thursday and Friday at 7.30pm, and on Saturday at 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Tickets are available in The Reform Inn or by calling Chris on 01271 373621. Adults £7.50/under 16s £5.00, Family Ticket for 2 adults and 2 children £20.

Village Hall Hire.

The cost of hiring the village hall for a 3 hour children's birthday party is now £45.00.

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 Friday

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 53366

Links you may be interested in?

The Plough Theatre – Great Torrington

<https://www.theploughartscentre.org.uk/whats-on/diary>

Romarsport

A letter was sent home attached to the newsletter today from this company if you would like to find out more this is there website and the parent booking link.

www.romarsports.com link for parents to book is <https://www.romarsports.com/Holiday-Camps>

HappyMaps

www.happymaps.co.uk

New website for parents on children's mental health problems now launched. Funded by Health Education England, HappyMaps is designed to help parents find useful resources on behaviour and mental health for their children – from babies to young adults. It is hoped that this will be really useful for parents whose children don't meet the specialist referral thresholds or are perhaps on the waiting list. There is good general information (national) and also local information on counselling, charities, local CAMHS and parenting groups for the South West. Take a look at the website.

Outdoors Group

<https://www.outdoorsgroup.co.uk/forestschoollactivities/>

Riverdart.co.uk – event 30th March

<http://riverdart.co.uk/news-and-events>

Easter Holiday Club – Tawstock Court

<https://sciencedipity.co.uk/school-holiday-science-club/>

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>

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 the NSPCC: on social networks, app and games.

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

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

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/>

The above events are constantly being updated and there are many new courses available which may be of interest.

Devon Library Services (including Barnstaple)

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

Royal Albert Memorial Museum - (Exeter)

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

Barnstaple Library

<http://devonlibraries.org.uk>